

# Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on MISSING CHILDREN & MISSING ENDANGERED ADULTS

**Quarterly Directory** 

December 2023

## Kids are home for the holidays, but are they safe?

It's the most wonderful time of the year! The kids are home from school enjoying extra sleep, lots of sweet treats and probably a little too much time online playing games or chatting with their friends. It feels like a holiday movie, filled with cheer. We know exactly where our children are, and they've earned that extra online time with great grades and a positive attitude. But sometimes that story can take a dark turn.

We want to assume their online time is innocent and fun. And in their eyes it may be...until it's not.

On the following page, we feature a blog from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children that highlights some of the harsh realities of our kids spending too much time online, and the potential for things to go wrong. The full article is available on their website by following the link provided.

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Growing crisis: Financial Sextortion
- CyberTipline
- Silver Alerts
- Indiana Missing Children Posters
- Helpful resources / Links



### **Pop Quiz**

\*The most likely place a predator will target children is while they're:

- A) hanging in the food court at a busy shopping mall.
- B) shooting hoops at a playground.
- C) riding their bike through a neighborhood.
- D) chatting on their computer at home.

\*Source: Missingkids.org

Find the answer in the article on the following page.

### **OUR PURPOSE**

To provide healthcare and educational communities resources to aide in the recovery of unidentified or missing persons. There are over 1,000 missing persons in Indiana's Law Enforcement database. Together with hospitals, Vital Records, State Department of Health, Family and Social Services, and other agencies, we can greatly reduce the number of missing persons in Indiana.



Financial Sextortion December 2023

### Teenage boys the target of financial sextortion

The following excerpt is taken from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's blog site:

The answer [to the pop quiz on the previous page], by far, is D.

Chances are much greater that a predator will gain access to children inside their homes — not outside. Predators are increasingly preying on children through their computers and phones. They don't need a key to get in, just a digital device. Those same parents who know how quickly panic can set in when they lose sight of their child while out in public are often immune to the dangers lurking under their own roofs.

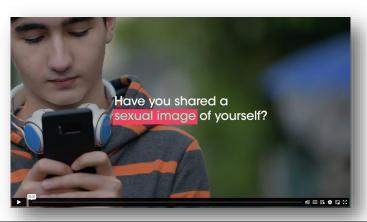
Last year at the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC), our CyberTipline received more than 80,000 reports of online enticement of children, including an alarming and relatively new type of crime: financial sextortion. Already this year, the number of reports of financial sextortion have more than doubled to 20,000 despite a rare National Public Alert in late December last year made jointly by the FBI, Homeland Security Investigations and NCMEC.

"This is a growing crisis, and we've seen sextortion completely devastate children and families," said Michelle DeLaune, NCMEC's president and CEO. "As the leading nonprofit focused on child protection,

we've seen first-hand the rise in these cases worldwide. The best defense is to talk to children about what to do if they or a friend are targeted online. We want everyone to know help is available."

These online predators, who often have multiple victims, are targeting teenage boys because it's an easy – and fast – way to get money. But the crime has taken an enormous toll on victims, often causing acute stress and shame. Tragically, it's already resulted in more than a dozen suicides that law enforcement has been able to link to sextortion.

Read the full article at missingkids.org.



### Get Involved: CyberTipline

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) <u>CyberTipline</u> is the nation's centralized reporting system for the online exploitation of children. The public and electronic service providers can make reports of suspected online enticement of children for sexual acts, extra-familial child sexual molestation, child pornography, child sex tourism, child sex trafficking, unsolicited obscene materials sent to a child, misleading domain names, and misleading words or digital images on the internet.

NCMEC staff review each tip and work to find a potential location for the incident reported so that it may be made available to the appropriate law-enforcement agency for possible investigation. We also use the information from our CyberTipline reports to help shape our prevention and safety messages.

If you know of a child being sexually exploited online, report it at <a href="CyberTipline.org">CyberTipline.org</a> or 1-800-THE-LOST.





### Indiana's Active Silver Alerts

December 2023



STEVEN BRYAN is a 3-yearold white male, 3 feet 5 inches tall, 32 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes. He is believed to be with CALEB BLEVINS, a 30year-old white male, 6 feet tall, 225 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes.

The pair is missing from Mooresville, Indiana which is 18 miles southwest of Indianapolis and were last seen on July 20, 2022.

They may be in the company of Deborah Bryan, a 29-year-old white female, 5 feet 8 inches tall, 135 pounds with brown hair and hazel eyes, driving a Silver 2020 Toyota Rav4 with Indiana plate VSH490.

If you have information, contact the Mooresville Police Department at 317-831-3434 or 911.





### SILVER ALERT CRITERIA

- 1. The person must be a Missing Endangered Adult (I.C. 12-7-2-131.3), a Missing Endangered Child (I.C. 10-13-5-4.4), a High Risk Missing Person (I.C. 5-2-17-1), or have a mental impairment validated through a credible medical authority (Physician, Physician's Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner).
- 2. There must be enough descriptive information to believe the broadcast will help.
- 3. Request must be recommended by the law enforcement agency of jurisdiction.
- 4. Enter the person into IDACS/NCIC with message key EME.

\*No age restriction for Silver Alerts

### In the Spotlight



**NATHANIEL WOODS** is a 28-year-old male, 5 feet 7 inches tall with black hair and brown eyes.

Nathaniel is missing from Milltown, Indiana which is 120 miles south of Indianapolis and was last seen on December 4, 2021.

If you have information, contact the Crawford County Sheriff's Department at 812-338-3616 or 911.



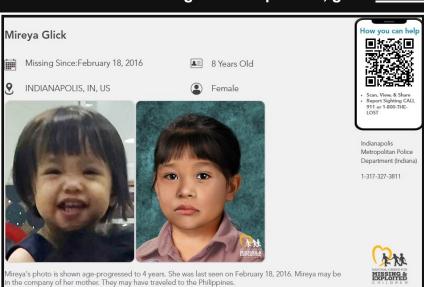
# MISSING CHILD

### **Posters**



For more Indiana Missing Persons posters, go to missingkids.org.

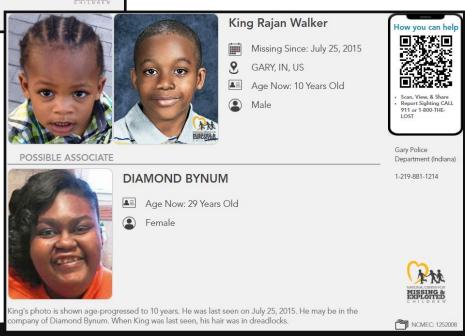
December 2023



Featured here are two of Indiana's youngest long-term missing persons. They are missed every day, especially by those who know and love them. Can you help bring them home?

These and all current missing child posters are available on the <u>National Center for Missing</u> and <u>Exploited Children's website.</u>





**Missing Persons Bulletin** 

Information for the Children above is accurate from the time of publication.

Please check the Missing Persons Bulletin for up to date listings of Indiana Missing Persons.

https://www.in.gov/isp/3187.htm

# Indiana Clearinghouse

# for Information on MISSING CHILDREN & MISSING ENDANGERED ADULTS

Address: 100 N. Senate Ave. N340 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Phone: 800-831-8953

Email: missingchildren@isp.in.gov Website: www.in.gov/isp/2333.htm



### Helpful Resources / Links

December 2023

#### **Indiana State Police**

in.gov/isp/3187.htm

The Missing Person Bulletin is a valuable resource available for you to check and confirm if a person is identified as missing in the State of Indiana. The bulletin is updated daily Monday through Friday with information from the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Indiana Data and Communication System (IDACS). Always check the date at the bottom of the page to confirm when the bulletin was last updated. If there is any doubt, feel free to call the Clearinghouse at 800-831-8953.

### National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)

1-800-843-5678 or missingkids.org

The mission of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is to help find missing children, reduce child sexual exploitation, and prevent child victimization. They operate a 24/7 national hotline (1-800-THE-LOST) for tips and reports related to missing and sexually exploited children, create and distribute missing child posters, redistribute AMBER Alerts, operate the CyberTipline for child sexual exploitation, help locate victims of child sex trafficking, assist law enforcement with tracking non-compliant sex offenders, provide crisis intervention and counseling referrals, and ensure that victims of child sex trafficking have access to the recovery services and support they need.

#### **National Runaway Safeline**

1-800-RUNAWAY or 1800runaway.org

The mission of the National Runaway Safeline is to help keep America's runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth safe and off the streets. The 1-800-RUNAWAY hotline and 1800RUNAWAY.org online crises services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year throughout the United States and its territories, including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam.

### National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs)

1-855-626-7600 or <u>namus.gov</u>

NamUs is a national information clearinghouse and resource center for missing, unidentified, and unclaimed person cases across the United States. Funded and administered by the National Institute of Justice and managed through a cooperative agreement with the UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas, all NamUs resources are provided at no cost to law enforcement, medical examiners, coroners, allied forensic professionals, and family members of missing persons.

### Who we are



The Indiana General Assembly established the Indiana Clearinghouse for Information on Missing Children and Missing Endangered Adults in 2009. The Clearinghouse is intended to serve as the state central repository for all information on missing children and missing endangered adults from Indiana or believed to be in Indiana. The program is designed to collect, store, and disseminate information on missing children and missing and endangered adults. The Clearinghouse provides liaison among citizens, private organizations, and law enforcement agencies regarding missing children information.