

Concerns of Police Survivors National Campaign to Implement the Blue Alert

Based upon the success of the Amber and Silver Alerts and using the same notification system, Concerns of Police Survivors is asking law enforcement officers, agencies, and survivors to help put the “Blue Alert” into effect nationwide. As you may know, the Amber Alert is in effect for missing children and the Silver Alert is for missing senior citizens. These alerts function in many states across the nation. **The Blue Alert will provide the means to speed the apprehension of violent criminals who kill or seriously injure local, state, or federal law enforcement officers.**

Below are the states that currently have the Blue Alert and the date implemented:

Florida- May 5, 2008 (Officer Down Alert)

Texas- August 18, 2008

Oklahoma- February 10, 2009

Alabama- April 16, 2010

Maryland- June 25, 2010

Georgia- July 1, 2010

Delaware- January 1, 2011

California- January 1, 2011

Virginia- March 3, 2011

Mississippi- July 1, 2011

Tennessee- July 1, 2011

Montana- October 1, 2011

Colorado- November 1, 2011

The Blue Alert would be a cooperative effort between State Departments of Public Safety, State Departments of Transportation, the Governors’ Divisions of Emergency Management, broadcasters, law enforcement agencies, and the general public. Using media broadcasts and Department of Transportation messaging signs, each Blue Alert would cover the state with information identifying a detailed description of the offender, the offender’s vehicle, and license plate information which will inevitably hinder the violators ability to flee the state and facilitate a speedy capture, helping eliminate the threat they would pose on other communities and law enforcement personnel.

State Blue Alert Criteria

All four criteria must be met in order to activate the network.

- A law enforcement officer must have been killed or seriously injured by an offender.
- The investigating law enforcement agency must determine that the offender poses a serious risk or threat to the public and other law enforcement personnel.

- A detailed description of the offender's vehicle, vehicle tag, or partial tag must be available for broadcast to the public.
- The investigating law enforcement agency of jurisdiction must recommend activation of the Blue Alert to the State Operations Center (Governors' Divisions of Emergency Management).

The C.O.P.S. National Office has written letters to every state governor asking for the implementation of the Blue Alert. **C.O.P.S. wants to encourage you to write your state governor asking that the Blue Alert be put into effect in your state.** C.O.P.S. feels the Blue Alert would be a valuable addition to the Amber and Silver Alerts already in place. Working together, we can show our support for the brave men and women who protect our great Nation and ensure that those who do harm to our protectors are quickly captured, fully prosecuted, and appropriately punished.

For more information on Blue Alert or to secure contact information on the survivors pushing Blue Alert in their state legislatures, please contact Brooke McKay, C.O.P.S. Marketing Coordinator at brooke_mckay@nationalcops.org.