



NATIONAL **Blue Alert** NETWORK

When to Issue a Blue Alert

Blue Alerts may be issued when¹

- a request has been made by a law enforcement agency having primary jurisdiction over the incident in question, and
- one of the following three sets of threshold criteria have been met:

1. Death or serious injury of a law enforcement officer in the line of duty

- The agency confirms that a law enforcement officer has been
 - killed;
 - seriously injured; or
 - attacked and with indications of death or serious injury.
- Any suspect involved has not been apprehended.
- There is sufficient descriptive information of the suspect, including any vehicle and license tag information.

2. Threat to cause death or serious injury to a law enforcement officer

- The agency confirms that the threat is imminent and credible.
- At the time of receipt of the threat, any suspect involved is wanted by a law enforcement agency.
- Any suspect involved has not been apprehended.
- There is sufficient descriptive information of the suspect, including any vehicle and license tag information.

3. Law enforcement officer missing in connection with official duties

- The agency concludes that the law enforcement officer is missing in connection with the officer's official duties.
- There is an indication of serious injury to or death of the law enforcement officer.
- Any suspect involved has not been apprehended.
- There is sufficient descriptive information of the suspect, including any relevant vehicle and license tag information.

1. The voluntary guidelines for issuing a Blue Alert are established by statute at 42 U.S.C. §§ 14165b(b)(2)(D)-(E).

For more information, go to www.cops.usdoj.gov/bluealert or email BlueAlert@usdoj.gov.



COPS
Community Oriented Policing Services
U.S. Department of Justice