

FLORIDA MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY

F O U N D A T I O N



April 2017

Greetings,

In 2016 there were 33,000 children in Florida reported missing or abducted. Many of Florida's long term missing include some we know may never return home to their loved ones. The Board of Directors of the Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation, Inc. (FMCDF) in support of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Missing and Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse Advisory Board (MEPICAB), would like to take this opportunity to ask for your help in making the **2017 Florida Missing Children's Day** a success. The event is held the second Monday every September and is scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2017 at the Capitol in Tallahassee.

Florida's Missing Children's Day is a day about *recognition, remembrance and inspiration*. Our state government and law enforcement leaders, victim families, school children and members of the public all unite in paying tribute to these children during a most touching ceremony at our Capitol. Our Missing Children's Day this year falls on September 11th, which will mark (or commemorate) the anniversaries of the abduction and murder of 9-year old Jimmy Ryce on 9/11/1995 in Redland, FL; 7-year old Amanda Brown on 9/11/1998 in Tampa, FL; and the disappearance under suspicious circumstances of 8-year old Zachary Bernhardt on 9/11/2000 in Clearwater, FL.

The event adds a network of support to the victim families as they are able to share their stories of heartbreak and hope with others going through similar circumstances during a victim family reception, breakfast with sponsors, the FMCD formal ceremony including the emotional *Time of Remembrance*, followed by a luncheon.

The occasion is used to salute Florida's heroes, some of which include: exceptional first responders and law enforcement members who work these cases; individuals who have made a difference through their words and actions, often without regard for themselves, to protect a child; those who bring child predators to justice; and, most heartwarming of all, children who acted heroically in the face of being abducted. We champion these heroes and are honored by their presence. Prior to the FMCD formal ceremony, a child identification/safety fair is held in which children are fingerprinted, photographed and provided with child safety materials for both themselves and their parents. Attendees get to meet many of the canine tracking teams that are on hand for the day.

The Foundation was established to financially assist with this annual event through the generous donations of law enforcement, individuals, businesses, and organizations. The Foundation is a statutorily created direct-support organization for FDLE and is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. The Foundation Board hopes you or your business will become a sponsor this year. Your support of this critical event will help Florida continue our efforts in the education and awareness of critical issues surrounding missing and endangered persons. If you are able to contribute, please complete the enclosed sponsorship form and remit it with your check payable to the *Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation*.

A short video of highlights from the 2016 FMCD Formal Ceremony can be viewed at <http://www.fmcdf.org/>

Thank you in advance for your consideration. We are grateful and most appreciative of the support of our sponsors for this unique event, and hope you will join us in Tallahassee in September.

Sincerely,

John Pitta

John Pitta
President

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2017 Florida Missing Children's Day Sponsor Form

I / We would like to be a sponsor for the 2017 Florida Missing Children's Day. The event will be held September 11, 2017 at the Capitol in Tallahassee, FL. Please accept my sponsorship at the level indicated below:

_____ **Gold** - \$1,000
_____ **Silver** - \$ 500
_____ **Bronze** - \$ 250
_____ **Other** (write in amount)

To receive your event invitation and recognition as a sponsor, please provide us with the following:

Individual or Company Name: _____

**The corporation or individual's name will be listed in event materials and on the Foundation website.*

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please return this form with a check made payable to the:

Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 15822
Tallahassee, FL 32317

Contributions must be received by Friday, August 25, 2017 to be included in the printed material recognizing sponsors for FMCD 2017.

The Florida Missing Children's Day Foundation is grateful for any and all donations. Thank you for your support.

Donations: Cash or in-kind donations, excluding donations from any governmental entity, over the amount of \$1,500 will include information as to the person or corporation making the donation and an affirmation indicating they do not do business with FDLE, attempt to influence FDLE policy or procurement, and are not otherwise attempting to obtain the goodwill of an FDLE official or employee. The Foundation is organized as a not-for-profit corporation in the public interest pursuant to Section 683.23, Florida Statutes, as a citizen support organization to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to provide assistance, funding, and promotional support for activities authorized for Florida Missing Children's Day. FEIN #: 26-4636458.

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Registration #CH49032, Expiration Date: August 10, 2017

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.