

OHIO AMBER ALERT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Live In-Person Meeting
2855 W. Dublin-Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235
April 17, 2025

Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee member, Brent Currence, called to order the April 17, 2025 meeting of the Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee at approximately 10:01 am. The first order of business was the roll call taken by Jackie Bonner.

I. ROLL CALL - PRESENT

IN-PERSON

Ohio AG's Office/Ohio Missing Persons' Clearinghouse	Brent Currence
Ohio State Highway Patrol	Captain Ron Raines
Community Member	Harry Trombitas
Ohio Emergency Management Agency	Brian Castner
State Emergency Communications Committee	Paul Jellison
Victim's Advocate	Kathryn (Ryn) Wolfe Farmer
Ohio Department of Aging	Erin Pettegrew
Ohio Department of Transportation	Leslie Prater
Ohio Association of Broadcasters	Chad Budreau
Local/Regional AMBER Plan	Jacquelynn (Jacque) Costa
Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police	Chief Matt Delp

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ohio State Highway Patrol	Staff Lieutenant Melanie Provenzano
Ohio State Highway Patrol	Adrienne Sheffer
Ohio State Highway Patrol	Arin Smith
Ohio State Highway Patrol	Alex Armitage
Ohio EMA	Jacqueline (Jackie) Bonner
Ohio DODD	Jeff Greene
Marion County Sheriff's Office	Russell Blank
DAS 911 Program Office	Lydia Frey
	Patrick Brandt

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE (via Bridge Call)

FBI Ret.	Sandra Berchtold
Marion County Sheriff's Office	Lydia Frey

II. APPROVAL OF THE January 16, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Brent Currence asked the Ohio Amber Alert Advisory Committee to review the minutes from the January 16, 2025 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Ryn Wolfe Farmer, Paul Jellison seconded. Motion carried by all. Minutes approved.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. 2025 Committee Appointment Renewals:

Captain Raines asked the committee of what their appointment status was. He informed them of the announcement of their approval to be appointed, but the paperwork they had received still needed to be submitted. Copies of their paperwork, oath, and appointment are to be sent to Jackie Bonner for record keeping.

B. Review of AMBER Alerts:

Staff Lieutenant Provenzano reported there were three (3) AMBER Alert activation requests in the first quarter, but none of the requests were activated as they did not meet the alert's criteria. There was however, one (1) AMBER Alert activation at the start of the second quarter. Staff Lieutenant gave a brief summary of the incident.

1. April 1, 2025 – requested by Trotwood Police Department

Captain Raines informed the Committee that the child was recovered safely before the AMBER alert was fully activated. Due to the WEA being activated before the child's recovery, the NCMEC advised Captain Raines to include this incident in the State's statistics as an activation.

Captain Raines informed the Committee of an incident that occurred in Toledo, Ohio. This incident was reported by local news networks and involved an abduction of a child that resulted in their death. At the time of the incident, the investigating agency did not believe the incident met the criteria of a missing persons alert. Therefore, no alert was activated as they did not notify the Bureau of Criminal Investigations or the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

C. Review of Blue Alerts:

There were no Blue Alerts for the first quarter of 2025.

D. Review of Endangered/Missing Child Alerts:

There were no Endangered/Missing Child Alerts for the first quarter of 2025.

E. Review of Endangered/Missing Adult Alerts:

Brent Currence advised the Committee that the summaries and statistics of the Endangered/Missing Adult Alerts for the first quarter were unavailable at this time.

F. Alerts Training Update:

Captain Raines advised there was (1) regional training session in the first quarter of 2025 that was held at the Ohio State Highway Patrol Training Academy. Fifteen (15) people were in attendance. The number of attendees for the training was below the anticipated amount for the central Ohio region. This may have been a result of the delay to announce the date of the regional training and distribute the training flyer to local law enforcement agencies. There are seven (7) additional training sessions scheduled throughout the State in the remainder of the year.

G. New MEP Code – Subcommittee Update:

Paul Jellison reminded the Committee of the newly proposed EAS code for Missing/Endangered Persons and which population groups would qualify under this new code.

The subcommittee is currently discussing potential solutions to prevent desensitizing the public, and which entity would be responsible to send out the WEA.

H. Governor's Missing Persons Workgroup:

Captain Raines gave a brief summary of the Governor's Missing Persons Workgroup and their goal. He notified the Committee that the workgroup is in its final stages of reviewing potential solutions to improve Ohio's resources and responses to missing persons. The Ohio Department of Public Safety will then present their recommendations to the Governor's Office.

I. Ohio Alerts Plan Revision:

Captain Raines informed the Committee of the status of the revision to the current Ohio Alerts Plan. Some sections have been revised while others are still under discussion. He is hopeful to have the revisions completed for the Committee's review by the next quarterly meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ohio AMBER Alert Symposium Subcommittee Establishment:

Jackie Costa has been selected for the 2025 AMBER Alert Symposium Subcommittee Chairperson. Brent Currence asked for volunteers to serve on the Subcommittee. Volunteers include: Brent Currence, Captain Raines, Staff Lieutenant Provenzano, Arin Smith, Chad Budreau, Leslie Prater, and Ryn Wolfe Farmer. The first subcommittee meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2025.

B. New Business from Committee Members:

There was no new business from the committee members.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Ryn Wolfe Farmer and seconded by Harry Trombitas. Meeting was adjourned.


Brent Currence, Chairperson


Date