

1 AN ACT relating to the Kentucky Ashanti Alert System.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 16.010 is amended to read as follows:

4 As used in KRS 16.010 to 16.199, unless the context requires otherwise:

- 5 (1) "Board" means the Department of Kentucky State Police Personnel Board;
- 6 (2) "Cabinet" means the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet;
- 7 (3) "Cadet Trooper" means an applicant for employment as an officer who is selected
8 by the commissioner to attend the department training program, and who is
9 employed as a trainee;
- 10 (4) "Civilian" means experts, statisticians, clerks, and other assistants who are not
11 peace officers;
- 12 (5) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Kentucky State
13 Police;
- 14 (6) "Continuous service" for participation in and eligibility for the promotional process
15 for each rank of officer commissioned under this chapter means:
- 16 (a) For sergeant, service as a commissioned Kentucky State Police officer that
17 has not been interrupted by actual separation from the department, whether in
18 the form of resignation, retirement, or termination;
- 19 (b) For lieutenant, service in grade as a sergeant that has not been interrupted by
20 actual separation from the department, whether in the form of resignation,
21 retirement, termination, or by demotion in accordance with KRS 16.140; and
- 22 (c) For captain, service in grade as lieutenant that has not been interrupted by
23 actual separation from the department, whether in the form of resignation,
24 retirement, termination, or by demotion in accordance with KRS 16.140;
- 25 (7) "CVE R Class" means any retired Kentucky State Police commercial vehicle
26 enforcement officer commissioned under KRS 16.187 who has become reemployed
27 with the department on a contractual basis pursuant to KRS 16.196 to 16.199;

1 (8) "Department" means the Department of Kentucky State Police;

2 **(9) "Missing adult" means an individual who is:**

3 **(a) At or above the age of majority pursuant to KRS 2.015; and**

4 **(b) Identified by law enforcement as a missing person who may be in immediate**
 5 **danger due to circumstances which indicate an abduction or kidnapping;**

6 **(10)**~~(9)~~ "Officer" means any member of the Department of Kentucky State Police,
 7 other than an individual employed as a Trooper R Class or CVE R Class, who
 8 possesses the powers of a peace officer;

9 **(11)**~~(10)~~ "Secretary" means the secretary of Justice and Public Safety Cabinet; and

10 **(12)**~~(11)~~ "Trooper R Class" means any retired Kentucky State Police officer
 11 commissioned under this chapter who has become reemployed with the department
 12 on a contractual basis pursuant to KRS 16.196 to 16.199.

13 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 16.010 TO 16.199 IS
 14 CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

15 **(1) The Department of Kentucky State Police, in cooperation with the Transportation**
 16 **Cabinet, the Division of Emergency Management, and media providers, shall**
 17 **create and operate a system to notify the public when any individual is**
 18 **determined to be a missing adult and the department determines that public**
 19 **notification might aid in the recovery of the individual. The system shall be**
 20 **known as the Kentucky Ashanti Alert System.**

21 **(2) The system shall utilize existing resources, including but not limited to electronic**
 22 **highway signs, the Amber Alert System, the emergency broadcast system, law**
 23 **enforcement communications systems, and local, regional, and statewide media**
 24 **providers, as authorized and under conditions permitted by the federal**
 25 **government.**

26 **(3) No public alert using the system shall be issued unless the department, in**
 27 **consultation with the law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction where the**

1 missing adult was reported, has determined the geographic area in which the
2 notification shall be made, and has reasonable cause to believe:

3 (a) That the disappearance of the missing adult may not have been voluntary,
4 including an abduction or kidnapping, or that the physical safety of the
5 missing adult may be endangered; and

6 (b) That public notification is the most appropriate method of recovering the
7 missing adult in a safe and efficient manner.

8 (4) If it is determined by the department that public notification shall be initiated, the
9 department shall notify and provide the public and private agencies and
10 organizations that will provide the notification with the information that the
11 department deems necessary.

12 (5) All law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth shall cooperate with the
13 department in the provision and dissemination of information regarding any
14 missing adult.

15 (6) No law enforcement agency, other than the department, shall activate the
16 notification system specified in this section without the authority of the
17 department.

18 (7) The system shall be operated by all agencies of the Commonwealth within
19 existing budgetary appropriations.