

Practice Alert



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STAT INVOLVEMENT WITH MISSING YOUTH

The purpose of this Practice Alert is to inform staff of the role and function of the Missouri State Technical Assistance Team (STAT) when youth go missing. STAT is a resource for workers to utilize in their efforts to locate youth. More information on STAT can be found at <https://dss.mo.gov/stat/>

In order for STAT to become involved in the search for a youth, there must be a missing person's report made to law enforcement and a current/active Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System (MULES) listing. The MULES entry allows information about the missing youth to be distributed throughout law enforcement agencies within Missouri. The MULES listing provides law enforcement the authority to use their resources to locate a missing youth and to take the youth into custody once found. STAT is a law enforcement agency and therefore, also requires the MULES entry to initiate their work.

STAT has unique resources to help locate missing youth. STAT searches may include, but are not limited to, contacting other law enforcement agencies and obtaining information about the youth's potential location and employment.

STAT may also be able to research a person's associations and interests that may lead to a youth being located. STAT must have a direct request from CD staff via email or phone at the numbers listed below, in order to run those types of queries.

This Practice Alert also serves as a reminder to check with law enforcement regarding transportation for the missing youth, as law enforcement typically expects CD or the party reporting the youth missing to make transportation arrangements. It is important that law enforcement is provided with a contact number that can be reachable 24/7 when the youth is located.

Workers are free to call or email STAT by utilizing their phone numbers and email addresses within Outlook:

Frank Tennant, STAT Chief/Director
Frank.Tennant@dss.mo.gov
573-751-5437

Cheryl Morgan, STAT UFC Manager/MULES TAC, Non-Commissioned Investigations Manager
Cheryl.M.Morgan@dss.mo.gov
573-751-1856

Connie Heckerman, Non-Commissioned Investigator
Connie.Heckerman@dss.mo.gov
573-522-1730

Katie Folsom, Non-Commissioned Investigator
Kaitlyn.J.Folsom@dss.mo.gov
573-522-9176

If you have questions regarding this practice alert, please contact Jenorey Wood, Senior Program Development Specialist, at Jenorey.Wood@dss.mo.gov

