



Mar. 2, 2009
PR# 09-027

First AMBER Alert Successfully Issued in Alaska

(ANCHORAGE, Alaska) – This past Saturday, the Anchorage Police Department initiated Alaska’s first ever AMBER Alert. While the case took some unusual turns, the AMBER Alert program considers the activation of the alert a success. The three week old child was located in good health and returned to safety.

“AMBER Alert is a tool for law enforcement to use in the most serious cases of child abduction. We hope there is never another incident that requires us to activate it, but we are certainly glad we have the system just in case,” said Lt. Barry Wilson, AMBER Alert Coordinator. “We have confidence in the system, and the alert this weekend just reinforces that confidence.”

The Alaska AMBER Alert program came online in 2003. The program is a collaborative effort between law enforcement, local broadcasters and the public designed to safely recover abducted children. This past summer was the first time a request for an AMBER Alert was made. However, before the alert was activated, that child was recovered.

Contact the Anchorage Police Department for information regarding the case that initiated the AMBER Alert. For more information on the Alaska AMBER Alert program and its activation criteria, contact Megan A. Peters at 269-5413.