

crossed State lines or territorial borders of an Indian Tribe;

(D) actions States and Indian Tribes have taken to protect the privacy and dignity of the missing adults for whom Ashanti Alerts are issued;

(E) ways that States and Indian Tribes have facilitated and improved communication about missing adults between families, caregivers, law enforcement officials, and other authorities; and

(F) any other information the Coordinator determines to be appropriate.

(Pub. L. 106-468, title II, §203, as added Pub. L. 115-401, §2(5), Dec. 31, 2018, 132 Stat. 5337.)

§ 21904. Minimum standards for issuance and dissemination of alerts through Ashanti Alert communications network

(a) Establishment of minimum standards

Subject to subsection (b), the Coordinator shall establish minimum standards for—

(1) the issuance of alerts through the Ashanti Alert communications network; and

(2) the extent of the dissemination of alerts issued through the Ashanti Alert communications network.

(b) Limitations

(1) Dissemination of information

The minimum standards established under subsection (a) shall, to the maximum extent practicable (as determined by the Coordinator in consultation with State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies), provide for the dissemination of appropriate information relating to the special needs of a missing adult (including health care needs) to the appropriate law enforcement, public health, and other public officials.

(2) Geographic areas

The minimum standards established under subsection (a) shall, to the maximum extent practicable (as determined by the Coordinator in consultation with State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies), provide that the dissemination of an alert through the Ashanti Alert communications network shall be limited to the geographic areas that the missing adult could reasonably reach, considering—

(A) the circumstances and physical and mental condition of the missing adult;

(B) the modes of transportation available to the missing adult; and

(C) the circumstances of the disappearance.

(3) Other requirements

The minimum standards established under subsection (a) shall require that, in order for an Ashanti Alert to be issued for a missing adult, the missing adult—

(A) suffers from a proven mental or physical disability, as documented by a source determined credible by an appropriate law enforcement agency; or

(B) be missing under circumstances that indicate, as determined by an appropriate law enforcement agency—

(i) that the physical safety of the missing adult may be endangered; or

(ii) that the disappearance of the missing adult may not have been voluntary, including an abduction or kidnapping.

(4) Safety, privacy, and civil liberties protections

The minimum standards established under subsection (a) shall—

(A) ensure that alerts issued through the Ashanti Alert communications network comply with all applicable Federal, State, Tribal, and local privacy laws and regulations;

(B) include standards that specifically provide for the protection of the civil liberties and sensitive medical information of missing adults; and

(C) include standards requiring, as appropriate, a review of relevant court records, prior contacts with law enforcement, and other information relevant to the missing adult or the individual reporting, in order to provide protections against domestic violence.

(5) State, Tribal, and local voluntary coordination

In establishing minimum standards under subsection (a), the Coordinator may not interfere with the system of voluntary coordination between local broadcasters and State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies for purposes of regional and local search efforts for missing adults that was in effect on the day before December 31, 2018.

(Pub. L. 106-468, title II, §204, as added Pub. L. 115-401, §2(5), Dec. 31, 2018, 132 Stat. 5340.)

§ 21905. Voluntary participation

The minimum standards established under section 21904(a) of this title, and any other guidelines and programs established under section 21903 of this title, shall be adoptable on a voluntary basis only.

(Pub. L. 106-468, title II, §205, as added Pub. L. 115-401, §2(5), Dec. 31, 2018, 132 Stat. 5341.)

§ 21906. Training and educational programs

The Coordinator shall make available to States, Indian Tribes, units of local government, law enforcement agencies, and other concerned entities that are involved in initiating, facilitating, or promoting Ashanti Alert plans, including broadcasters, first responders, dispatchers, public safety communications personnel, and radio station personnel—

(1) training and educational programs related to the Ashanti Alert communications network and the capabilities, limitations, and anticipated behaviors of missing adults, which the Coordinator shall update regularly to encourage the use of new tools, technologies, and resources in Ashanti Alert plans; and

(2) informational materials, including brochures, videos, posters, and websites to support and supplement the training and educational programs described in paragraph (1).

(Pub. L. 106-468, title II, §206, as added Pub. L. 115-401, §2(5), Dec. 31, 2018, 132 Stat. 5341.)