

For Immediate Release
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Police Chief Praises Alabama Broadcasters for Assistance with Missing Child Media Alert

BIRMINGHAM -- The Alabama Department of Public Safety reports that 17-year-old Nancy Nieves of Blountsville was found Wednesday (1/25) morning in a wooded area in the community. She suffered cuts and bruising and was transported to a Birmingham area hospital for further examination.

Nieves, who may have been disoriented due to medical issues, was found in a wooded area, and Blountsville Police Department Chief C. Ray Baxley had praise for broadcasters who issued Missing Child Alerts.

“This morning the media on radio stations and TV stations were putting out the information every half hour, especially 105.5 (WERC-FM Birmingham),” Baxley said. “It put a lot of people on alert for her. If she had been in the public somewhere, people would have spotted her and recognized her right off the bat.”

Radio and television stations across Alabama issue alerts – Amber Alerts, Missing Child Alerts, Missing Senior Alerts and Blue Alerts -- originate from the Department of Public Safety.

- Amber Alerts are issued over the Alabama Emergency Alert System, automatically sending messages over all broadcast stations, when there is substantial information about an abduction of a child age 17 or younger.
- Missing Child Alerts are used when there is no indication of an abduction or not enough information to make use of the Emergency Alert System and electronic road signs.
- Missing Senior Alerts are used when adults who disappear have medical issues that may cause them to become disoriented or put them in danger.
- Blue Alert is activated when a local, state or federal law enforcement officer in Alabama has been killed or seriously injured, and the perpetrator is at large.

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