

(5) ENLIST THE AID OF THE STATE POLICE, WHEN APPROPRIATE, IN LOCATING THE MISSING CHILD.

(C) IF THE CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION DO NOT EXIST, THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SHALL:

(1) IMMEDIATELY SEEK TO DETERMINE THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE MISSING CHILD; AND

(2) IMPLEMENT THE PROCEDURES SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION WITHIN 12 HOURS OF THE FILING OF A REPORT REGARDING A MISSING CHILD, IF THE MISSING CHILD HAS NOT BEEN LOCATED.

(D) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY, IF A MISSING CHILD HAS NOT BEEN LOCATED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE FILING OF A MISSING PERSONS REPORT AND EITHER THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR THE STATE POLICE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE MISSING CHILD MAY BE LOCATED IN A JURISDICTION OTHER THAN THE JURISDICTION WHERE THE MISSING PERSONS REPORT WAS FILED, THE MARYLAND STATE POLICE SHALL ENTER THE INVESTIGATION AND, IN COOPERATION WITH THE APPROPRIATE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, COORDINATE ASSIST STATE AND NATIONAL EFFORTS TO LOCATE THE MISSING CHILD.

(E) (1) A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY MAY NOT ESTABLISH A MANDATORY WAITING PERIOD BEFORE BEGINNING AN INVESTIGATION TO LOCATE A MISSING CHILD.

(2) A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY MAY NOT ADOPT RULES, REGULATIONS, OR POLICIES THAT PROHIBIT OR DISCOURAGE THE FILING OF A REPORT OR THE TAKING OF ANY ACTION ON A REPORT THAT A CHILD IS A MISSING CHILD OR THAT A CHILD IS BELIEVED TO BE A MISSING CHILD.

(F) EVERY PERSON FILING A REPORT OF A MISSING CHILD SHALL BE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND THE STATE POLICE IMMEDIATELY UPON THE LOCATING OF THE MISSING CHILD IF IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR THE STATE POLICE HAVE KNOWLEDGE THAT THE MISSING CHILD HAS BEEN LOCATED.

9-404. 9-403.

(A) ~~THE STATE POLICE--SHALL--ESTABLISH~~ THERE IS A STATE CLEARINGHOUSE FOR MISSING CHILDREN TO BE OPERATED BY THE STATE POLICE THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

(1) THE RECEIPT, COLLECTION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF GENERAL INFORMATION AND ANNUAL STATISTICS REGARDING MISSING CHILDREN; AND

(2) COORDINATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS OR GROUPS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE STATE