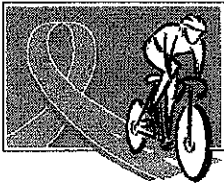


THE RIDE
FOR MISSING CHILDREN



THE AWARENESS
CONTINUES...

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December 15, 2002

Mr. Dennis Fitzpatrick
NYSCOPBA
194 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12210

RECEIVED
DEC 18 2002
NYSCOPBA

Dear Dennis:

As a Corporate Sponsor of The Ride for Missing Children 2002, we would like to share with you and the employees of NYSCOPBA a very special piece of good news. Enclosed with this letter is a bulletin describing how a NCMEC—Mohawk Valley missing child poster was directly responsible for the recovery a missing 7-year old girl that had been missing for 6-years.

I hope you will post this letter and bulletin in a prominent place of your business and distribute it for all you employees to see.

These posters, and the recovery of "Angel", were made possible by your support and contributions as a Corporate Sponsor of The Ride for Missing Children. Since we began our work in September of 1995, the Mohawk Valley office has distributed over 2,000,000 posters on 687 missing children. We are very proud to tell you that 400 of these children have been listed as "successfully recovered".

On behalf of all of our Riders and Volunteers, I would again like to Thank you for your support, and most importantly, Thank you for allowing us to continue our mission: *"to make our children safer ...one child at a time."*

Respectfully and gratefully yours,

Frank R. Williams

Frank R. Williams
Ride Chairman

NCMEC-Mohawk Valley Helps Recover "Angel" – Missing for 6-years



This is the story of "Angel" (*the child's real nickname*) abducted from her home in Arizona when she was one-year old, and how one poster from NCMEC-MV *made a difference*.

In late September 2002, NCMEC-Mohawk Valley received an assignment to send out 6,530 posters on 7-year old girl name "Angel" to targeted service stations and convenience stores in AL, GA, and AZ. The search for "Angel" had become more focused after a lead from two FBI agents in Arizona and Alabama working with NCMEC on "Angel's" case. The poster sent out from the NCMEC-Mohawk Valley office included a picture of Angel at the age of one, just before her abduction, an "age progressed" photo to show how she might look at age seven, and a picture of her abducting-father. A felony warrant had been issued for the abducting-father and the NCMEC poster included a caution that "the abductor may be armed".

A Police Officer in Alabama saw one of our posters in a BP gas station and recognized the abductor as a handyman who had been working in the area for the last four years. This was the crucial key that began the local investigation into "Angel". During this investigation it was learned that while "Angel" was actually seven, the abductor-father was claiming she was five, which is why she wasn't in school, telling everyone he was planning to home-school her. People who knew of the child noted that the child did not know her primary colors. The abductor-father let the child play with other children but wouldn't let the employers (who became baby-sitters and family friends) take her to church or do extra things for her, like buy her church clothes. The abducting-father had the child's hair in a bowl cut to keep her looking younger.

The Abductor had told the child, and everyone else, that the child's mother was killed in a car wreck.

In a coordinated effort, the Police and FBI set up a deception to have the abductor leave Angel briefly with a "safe adult". When he did he was arrested and taken into custody.

"ANGEL" IS ... "GLAD TO GET A MOTHER"

When "Angel" was placed with Child Protective Services, she cried briefly when told her father was arrested, but said she was ... "happy to get a Mother and a complete new family". "Angel and her Mother were reunited on Thursday, October 31, 2002.

NCMEC-Mohawk Valley sends out posters of missing children on a targeted basis to specific sites on assignments from the headquarters office of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. Funds to support the NCMEC-MV poster distribution are raised by the annual Mohawk Valley's Ride for Missing Children and a NCMEC federal grant. To all of the Riders and Volunteers, and Police Escorts in The Ride for Missing Children, we Thank you for making this recovery possible. This is an example of how your work fulfills our mission: "to make our children safer ... one child at a time".

To "Angel", her Mother, and her
"complete new Family",
we wish you a very Happy Holiday.



"Angel" - age One



"Angel" -age
progression photo

NATIONAL
CENTER FOR

MISSING &
EXPLOITED
CHILDREN
www.missingkids.com
December 16, 2002

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children
New York/Mohawk Valley Office
247 Elizabeth Street
Utica, NY 13501

Contact: Lisa Cook 315-732-7233
Frank Williams 315-624-3143
John Hemmel 315-768-8888

web address: www.rideformissingchildren.com