



WHAT DOES MUPS DO?

MUPS is tasked with assisting all law enforcement agencies throughout the State in locating missing persons and identifying unidentified persons. This is done through the comparison of physical characteristics, fingerprints, dental scans and body x-rays. We also function as the California Missing Children's Clearing House.

WHO IS MUPS?

The MUPS team is comprised of non-sworn Crime Analysts.

HOW CAN MUPS ASSIST YOU?

MUPS can assist with a variety of questions you may have, including how to report someone missing. We can also work with local law enforcement to potentially have your missing loved one posted to the California Attorney General's Missing Persons Website. Additionally, we can recommend resources based on your loved one's case.

WHAT DOES MUPS NEED FROM YOU?

If you have a missing loved one please submit any photos (facial, tattoos, etc.), dental and medical records, fingerprints, and military records to MUPS at missing.persons@doj.ca.gov. These are kept safely with us and will not be made public.

AREAS OF WORK:

PHYSICAL IDENTIFICATION

The physical identification process cross-references reports of missing individuals with unidentified persons based on traits like hair color, eye color, height, weight, and identifiers such as clothing, jewelry, scars, or tattoos. The team also searches various governmental and private databases for information to help locate missing persons, sharing relevant findings with the reporting law enforcement agency.

DENTAL IDENTIFICATION

In 1979, California took a pioneering step by launching the first-ever statewide Dental Identification Program. This initiative was designed to handle dental records provided by law enforcement and coroners from California and beyond. The program's team meticulously classifies, indexes, and cross-references dental records of missing individuals and those whose identities remain unknown, searching for potential matches. When a possible match is identified through these dental records, the relevant agencies are promptly informed.

MISSING CHILDREN CLEARINGHOUSE

The California Missing Children Clearing House (MCCH) operates a 24/7 toll-free hotline (1-800-222-FIND) for reporting and seeking information on missing children, forwarding details to law enforcement. They can also be reached at (916) 210-3119 or missing.persons@doj.ca.gov. In partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the MCCH aids in the search for abducted children, producing monthly posters and quarterly bulletins on missing individuals, which are distributed to various agencies and organizations. The MCCH provides free fingerprint cards for voluntary child fingerprinting to help identify and recover missing children and is involved with the Missing Persons DNA Database and emergency alert systems.

HOW CAN MUPS BE CONTACTED?

E-mail: missing.persons@doj.ca.gov

Phone: 916-210-3123

Website: <https://oag.ca.gov/missing>



Interested in receiving the California monthly missing children's poster?

Subscribe here: <https://oag.ca.gov/subscribe>

Additional Resource: National Center for Missing & Exploited Children <https://www.missingkids.org/home>

