



2011-4

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES MAY 25<sup>th</sup> AS NATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY AND SUPPORTS THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN® (NCMEC) TAKE 25 INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, in one year there were an estimated nearly 800,000 children missing;

**WHEREAS**, on average, there is an estimated average of 2,200 children reported missing to law enforcement agencies daily;

**WHEREAS**, 58,200 of these children are victims of non-family abductions and more than 200,000 are the victims of family abductions;

**WHEREAS**, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® (NCMEC) exists as a resource to help prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation; help find missing children; and assist victims of child abduction and sexual exploitation, their families, and the professionals who serve them. The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children's recovery rate has grown from 62% in 1990 to 96% of domestically missing children, but too many children still remain among the missing;

**WHEREAS**, this special day is a time to remember those children who are missing and give hope to their families;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Sheriffs' Association, in partnership with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and its collaborative organizations, recognizes May 25<sup>th</sup> of every year as National Missing Children's Day as a continuing effort to prevent the abduction and sexual exploitation of children.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the National Sheriffs' Association urges the participation of local government, law enforcement, schools, community-based organizations, and families in the protection and education of all individuals about child abduction and sexual exploitation, appropriate protective measures, and ways to respond and seek help from law enforcement, social services, and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the National Sheriffs' Association supports the Take 25 Initiative of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children which encourages all individuals nationwide to "Take 25" minutes to help children stay safer.

Adopted at a Meeting of the General Membership in St. Louis, MO on June 20, 2011.