



When someone is missing

Project LINK (Linking Individuals Not Known) at the Ohio Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) offers free assistance to those searching for a loved one who has been missing for more than 30 days. Project LINK can help even if the person has been missing for decades.

What to do

- File a missing person report with the local police.
- Contact BCI at 855-BCI-OHIO and be prepared to offer as much information as you can about the missing person so analysts can begin searching.
- Share photos of the missing person with BCI.
- Offer items such as the missing person's toothbrush, razor, hairbrush or article of clothing for use in creating the DNA profile.
- Be prepared to donate a DNA sample (using a BCI-provided collection kit) if you're biologically related to the missing person. Parents, siblings and offspring are the best candidates for creating a genetic profile.

What will happen

- Analysts at BCI will perform online and database searches for the missing person.
- Information and photos of the missing person will be posted at www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/MissingPersons and other websites devoted to finding missing people.
- Relatives' DNA samples will be added to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) so that they can be compared to DNA taken from unidentified human remains.
- If a DNA match is made, law enforcement officers will contact you with information and answer your questions.
- As long as the case is open, the DNA stays in the system and is regularly checked against new DNA entered in the database.