

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



# FLORIDA'S **SILVER ALERTS**

A quick guide to report and recover missing older adults with cognitive impairments like dementia or Alzheimer's.

**YELLOW 2021  
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**BECAUSE EVERY  
MOMENT MATTERS**

**[SAFEMOBILITYFL.COM](https://www.safemobilityfl.com)**

# What is a Silver Alert?

Similar to Amber Alerts, which are used to locate missing children, Silver Alerts help locate missing older adults suffering from Alzheimer's or other related dementias and have wandered off on foot or become lost while driving.

The three requirements to activate Silver Alert's public notification system:

## 1 Age-Based

- Age 60 and older, or
- Age 18-59
  - only if law enforcement has determined the person lacks capacity to consent and that the use of dynamic message signs (DMS) may be the only possible way to rescue the person.

## 2 Cognitive Ability

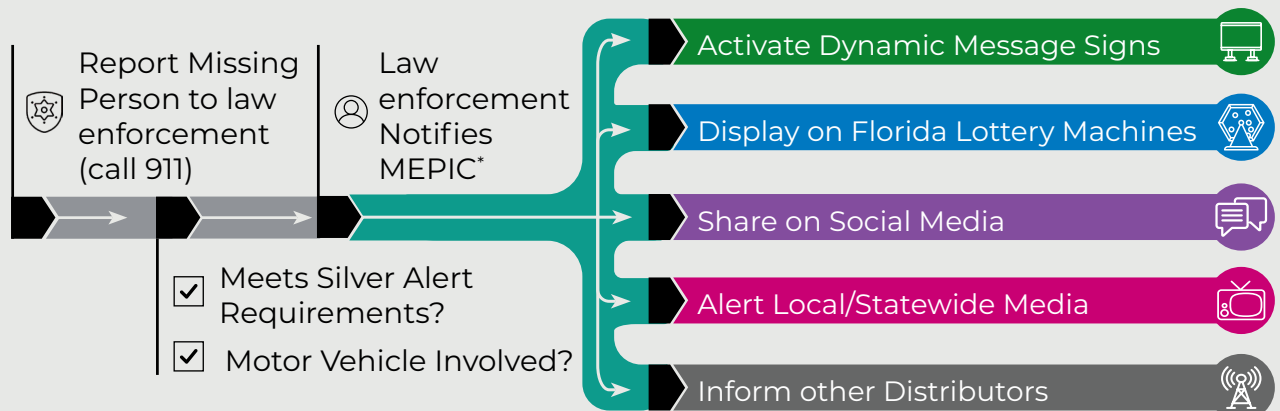
- Must have a cognitive disability (e.g., Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia).

## 3 Threat Assessment

- Local law enforcement has determined the disappearance poses a credible threat to the person's welfare and safety.

# Silver Alert Activation

What happens when law enforcement activates a Silver Alert?

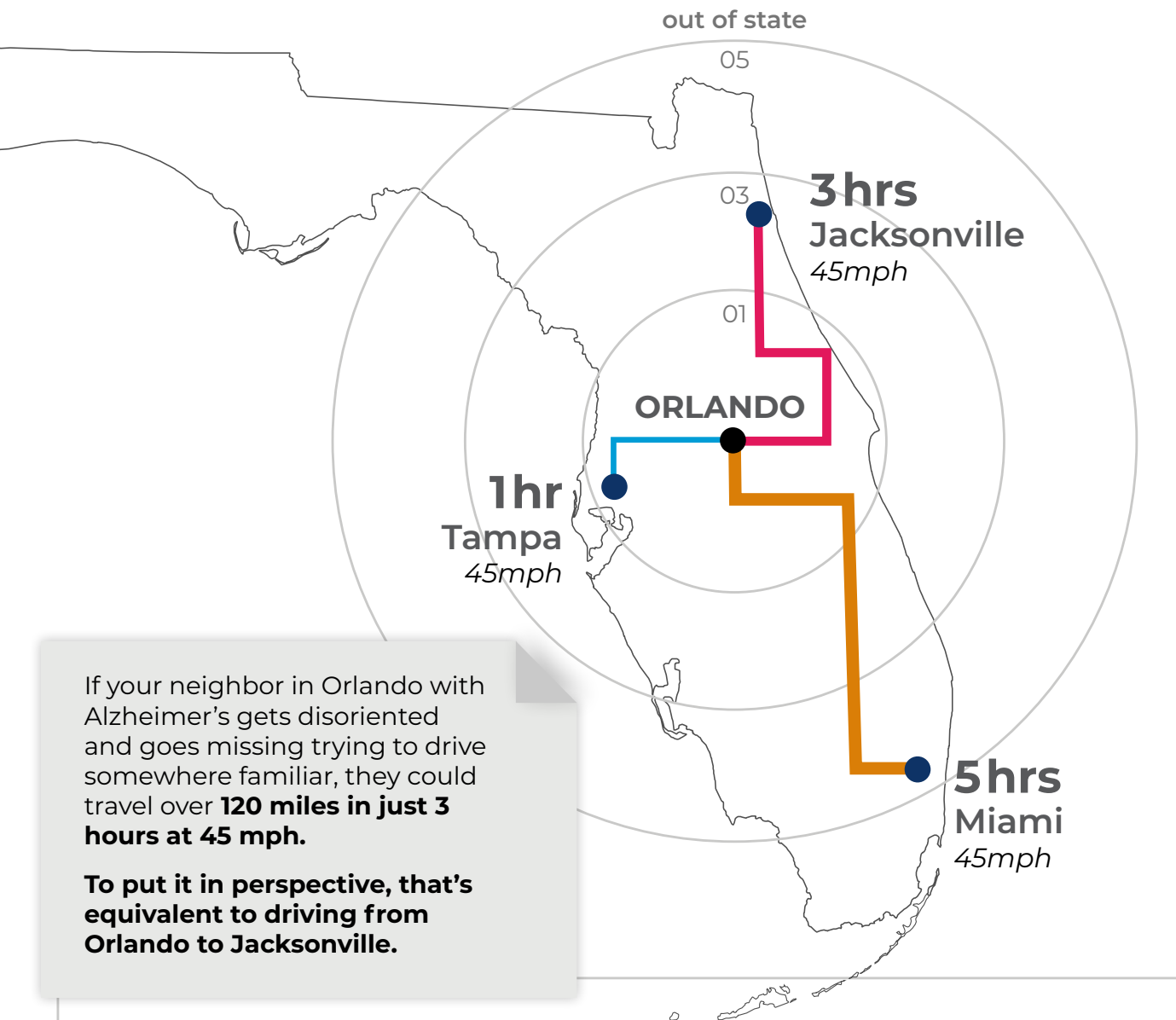


\*The Missing Endangered Persons Information Clearinghouse (MEPIC) is Florida's central repository of information for missing endangered persons. To learn more: [fdot.info/MEPIC](https://www.floridadot.com/MEPIC)

**DON'T WAIT: CALL 9-1-1**

## Understanding Silver Alerts A Map Every Caregiver Should See

**There is no need to wait 24 hours to report a missing person**, especially an older adult with a cognitive impairment, such as Alzheimer's or dementia. Immediate reporting to local law enforcement can activate Silver Alerts sooner, increasing the chances of a safe recovery.



If your neighbor in Orlando with Alzheimer's gets disoriented and goes missing trying to drive somewhere familiar, they could travel over **120 miles in just 3 hours at 45 mph.**

**To put it in perspective, that's equivalent to driving from Orlando to Jacksonville.**

## Prevent Future Wandering

**6 out of 10 people living with Alzheimer's will wander at some point—often, without warning.**

The words "lost" and "missing" are two words that carry a heavy burden on family, caregivers and law enforcement officers.

Here are some simple preventative measures to help reduce the risk of wandering.

- ▶ Maintain an updated list of favorite locations, addresses and phone numbers of family and friends they enjoy visiting or calling.
- ▶ Hide items that may trigger an instinct to leave, such as keys, wallets, coats, hats, and purses.
- ▶ Install bells above doors or use a device that signals when a door is opened.
- ▶ Consider using vehicle GPS or waterproof wearable location devices (bracelets, shoe inserts, etc.) that send alerts when the wearer leaves a certain area.
- ▶ Put hedges or a fence around the patio, yard, or other outside common areas as a barrier to wandering.

## If Missing, Here's What to Do

1. Don't wait, **call 9-1-1 immediately** and report the person missing. There is no required waiting period to report a missing person in Florida.
2. Inform local law enforcement that the person missing suffers from dementia or other cognitive impairments and is **considered at 'risk,' opposed to just 'missing.'**
3. Be prepared to **provide detailed information** about the missing person. Ask for a case number.

### ✔ Checklist What to have ready?

First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (age): \_\_\_\_\_

Any known routines, likes or habits that might help local responders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle Information:

License plate number: \_\_\_\_\_

Make: \_\_\_\_\_

Model: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_



Stay Informed. Stay Prepared.  
**Stay Connected.**



Scan here to learn more about Florida's Silver Alert Notification System.

You'll find additional resources, tools, and programs to help families and professionals.




## Safe Mobility for Life **Resource Center**

Safe Mobility for Life develops educational materials and resources that meet the safety and transportation needs of Florida's aging population.

All resources are free - available for download or to request printed copies by mail.

 Visit: [fdot.info/resourcecenter](https://fdot.info/resourcecenter)

 Email: [contact@safemobilityfl.com](mailto:contact@safemobilityfl.com)

 Call: 833-930-2952

