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Chief Ken Truver
President, ACCPA

Superintendent Coleman McDonough
Allegheny County Police

Chief Scott Schubert
Pittsburgh Bureau of Police

Gentlemen,

I recently was asked to discuss some issues which involve the handling of cases which initially are communicated as "Missing Persons" cases

Obviously not knowing the whereabouts of a loved one is a very traumatic event for people who care about that person, especially their families.

I have discussed the possibility of having an advocate available at the outset of these types of cases with Laurie MacDonald from the Center for Victims. Laurie, as she always does, has kindly agreed to respond to any request for assistance that the police community would make.

That being said, I thank you if you already involve the Center in these matters, or, if you haven't, I ask that you please implement protocols which involve a Victim's Advocate at the outset of your agency's involvement in these matters.

As always, your consideration and advice are appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Zappala, Jr.", written over the text "Very truly yours,".

Stephen A. Zappala, Jr.
Allegheny County District Attorney

Cc: Rebecca D. Spangler (for distribution to all Deputy and Assistant District Attorneys
Laurie MacDonald, Center for Victims
Inspector Tim Logue (for distribution to the Chief's Association members)