



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

### News Release

**LINDA LINGLE**  
GOVERNOR

---

Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General  
Phone: (808) 586-1282  
Fax: (808) 586-1239

---

No. 2002-17 May 13, 2002

#### **"National Missing Children's Day Raises Awareness"**

Honolulu, Hawaii - May 25th is National Missing Children's Day. It is a special day in which we join as a nation to draw attention to the hundreds of thousands of American children who go missing each year, to give renewed hope to the families who have missing children, and to remember those who have not returned home.

On May 25, 1979 six-year-old Etan Patz kissed his mother goodbye and started off for school. He vanished from the streets of New York City never to be seen again. There are thousands of horrifying stories like this from all across our nation. Although the passing of time can cause these tragic events to become distant in our minds, we must never forget our missing children.

In commemoration of all missing children, the Missing Child Center-Hawaii a program within the Criminal Justice Division of the Department of the Attorney General and the Missing Children Clearinghouse Advisory Board will be hosting various events to draw public attention to this special day.

The kick-off to our week of events will be a luncheon on May 21st at Washington Place to present the Governor's proclamation for Hawaii's Missing Children Day and to bring together families of missing children and those who are dedicated to their recovery.

A lunchtime Aloha Concert will feature the Waikiki Sons at Tamarind Park on May 22nd and highlight the Missing Child Center and other programs that provide resources to aid in the recovery and prevention of missing children.

--MORE--

Stop by the State Capitol on Beretania Street on Friday, May 24th between 11:30 to 1:30 to get your "Sow Seeds of Hope" seed packet and show your support for families of missing children.

The Missing Child Center and the Clearinghouse Advisory Board are asking everyone to help "light the way home" for missing children by joining us on the evening of May 25th at Kakaako Waterfront Park amphitheater from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a candlelight vigil to commemorate

all missing children and "offer a renewal of hope" to those families who are still searching. For the families of missing children, this day helps to signify the hope we all share for the safe return of our children.

###

---