



MEDIA RELEASE

Gloucester Township Police and Pine Hill Police are first in the United States to become participating members of the Missing Kids Readiness Project

On Tuesday January 7, 2014 the Pine Hill and Gloucester Township Police Departments became the first two police departments in the country to become participating members of the Missing Kids Readiness Project. Pine Hill Chief of Police Christopher Winters and Gloucester Township Police Chief of Police Harry Earle accepted the Missing Kids Readiness project certifications on behalf of their police departments at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) in Alexandria Virginia.

The Missing Kids Readiness Project promotes best practices for responding to calls of missing, abducted, and sexually exploited children. All members of the Pine Hill and Gloucester Township Police Department have completed essential training required by NCMEC in responding to a missing child or sexual abuse incident. Additionally, both police department's policies on handling a missing person incident which include the initial response by officers, investigation, search, reunification, and follow-up social services have been reviewed and approved by the NCMEC.

Chief Winters and Chief Earle received their department's certificate in becoming a partner with NCMEC before the 150th NCMEC Missing Children Seminar for Chief Executive Officers. The award was presented by Kristen Anderson, NCMEC Executive Director of Training. NCMEC Board Chair Patty Wetterling whose son Jacob was abducted at gunpoint in 1989 and not yet found, and IACP Executive Director Bart Johnson were also present to congratulate the Gloucester Township and Pine Hill Police Departments.

NCMEC's Facebook Post: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/national-center-for-missing-exploited-children/two-nj-law-enforcement-agencies-become-first-to-join-missing-kids-readiness-proj/10151830040272027>

NCMEC's Website: <http://www.missingkids.com/MKRP>

GTPD's Website: <http://www.GloTwp.com/Police>

PHPD's Website: <http://www.PineHillPD.com>

Date of Release: 1/11/14