

Harris County To Host 2017 Missing in Harris County Day

12 Missing Persons Identified since event's inception in 2015

Bryan Kirk Patch | Staff Posted Fri, Jun 9, 2017 at 1:04 pm CT



HOUSTON, TX — Families and friends of people who've been reported missing in Harris County have been invited to participate in Harris County's 3rd Annual Missing In Harris County Day.

The event, which will be held on Saturday, June 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Houston Food Bank Conference Center, was started in 2015, and is spearheaded Houston-based Texas Center For The Missing, a 501(c)(3) organization.

The event allows families looking for their loved ones to connect with local officials and agencies to help them search for their missing loved ones.

"Since we started this event in 2015 in Harris County, we have been able to successfully identify 12 missing persons," said Sharon M. Derrick, Ph.D., Forensic Anthropologist, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences. "With this event, we're able to bring all the elements of a missing persons search, from filing a Missing Person's Report to submitting a DNA sample for identification, to one location providing a more successful environment for reconnecting families."

At the 2017 Missing in Harris County Day, families and friends of the missing can:

- Learn how to file a missing person's report or file a missing person's report on-site
- Speak to representatives from different agencies that can provide assistance
- Voluntarily submit a DNA sample with a cheek swab to be entered into missing persons databases for identification purposes.

Participate in small-group discussions on the following topics:

- 11:30 a.m. - Missing Children and Exploited Person's
- 1 p.m. - Safekeeping of Loved Ones with Alzheimer's

Families searching for a loved one should bring the following to 2017 Missing in Harris County Day:

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- Your photo ID
- Photos of the missing person - helpful photos will include the person photographed with any identifying features, such as tattoos or birthmarks, or personal items, such as favorite earrings
- Closely related family members from the mother's side for the voluntary submission of DNA. Bring two family members if possible
- X-rays, dental or medical records, police reports or other identifying documents that can be scanned and placed on file

Registration for the event is encouraged, but not required.

Register at: <https://online.centerforthemissing.org/missing-in-harris-county-day>

Image: National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

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