

# Sheriff



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## **BOGUS EMAIL CIRCULATING REFERENCE CRYING CHILD SCAM**

If you get the following alert, it is a hoax. A bogus email is circulating attributed to the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office that references the dangers of giving a ride home to a crying child.

This bogus email can be traced on the internet back to 2005 and has been attributed to various agencies around the country.

For more information on this and similar bogus crime alerts, you can visit the website "Snopes.com" which deals with tracking down and verifying or discrediting urban myths, urban legends, scam emails and the like.

<http://www.snopes.com/crime/warnings/childlure.asp>

**THE BELOW WARNING CIRCULATING LOCALLY VIA EMAIL IS A BOGUS EMAIL AND NOT BASED ON ANY RELEASE FROM A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.**

"Warning - National Crime Alert: If you find a young person crying in public and they show you an address and ask you to take them to that address... DON'T DO IT. Use your cell phone or nearest phone and immediately dial 911 and request a police officer!! No matter what you do, DO NOT let the child get into your vehicle and you go to that address. This is a new way for gang members, particularly the MS13 gang, to rape women. This tactic could also be used to get men to an isolated location to be robbed. If child leaves the area DO NOT attempt to follow, get description of the child; clothing, hair color/style, race/color, speech dialect, height/weight, etc and report it to the police when they arrive."

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The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

"The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate"