



VICTORIA POLICE

## WHAT POLICE MIGHT SAY

Police may use expressions such as 'non-suspicious disappearance' or 'non-suspicious death'. These expressions may mean that the person you are looking for is not missing as a result of a crime. The reason a person is missing may remain unexplained until there is evidence to explain the cause for disappearance.



## YOUR VICTORIA POLICE

- If you know the whereabouts of a person who has been reported missing, or you have any information about a missing person, call Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000**.
- Victoria Police provides a free community service.
- Victoria Police assistance is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Police in Victoria wear blue uniforms or plain clothes.
- Members of the public can attend police stations to report incidents or seek advice.
- Victoria Police can provide interpreters, where practicable.
- Addresses and telephone numbers for local police stations can be found at [www.police.vic.gov.au](http://www.police.vic.gov.au).



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## REPORTING A MISSING PERSON

GETTING HELP FROM POLICE  
IF SOMEONE YOU KNOW  
CANNOT BE FOUND

If you are worried about the safety of a person who you cannot find, you can report them as missing to your local police by making what is called a 'missing persons report'.

**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WAIT 24 HOURS  
TO REPORT SOMEONE AS MISSING.**

**YOU CAN REPORT A MISSING PERSON  
STRAIGHT AWAY.**



## HOW TO MAKE A MISSING PERSONS REPORT

In order to report a person as missing, attend at your local police station.

### THE POLICE WILL ASK YOU THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- What does the missing person look like?
- Does the person have anything unusual about how they appear?
- Do you have a recent photograph of the missing person?
- Where and when was the person last seen or heard from?
- Are there places the missing person may visit often?
- Does the person have any medical problems or need any medications?
- What are the names and contact numbers of relatives and friends associated with the person?
- Can the missing person speak English?



## WHEN IS A PERSON CONSIDERED 'MISSING'?

### A PERSON IS MISSING WHEN:

- they are reported to police and their whereabouts is unknown; and
- there are fears for the safety or welfare of that person.



## DO YOU NEED HELP TO MAKE A REPORT?

Where practicable, you can request the presence of an officer of the same gender as yourself when making this report.

Police will ask you for your name and address so they can keep in contact with you about the missing person.

If English is not your first language, police can provide a professional telephone interpreter to assist you with making this report. This is a free service. The telephone interpreter can also help you to understand particular expressions the police may use. An onsite (face-to-face) professional interpreter can also be provided if required, however, this is a pre-arranged service at a date and time suitable to all parties being the police, interpreter and person making this report.

**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WAIT 24 HOURS TO REPORT SOMEONE AS MISSING. YOU CAN REPORT A MISSING PERSON STRAIGHT AWAY.**