



# Department of Justice



## Office of Justice Programs

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

Friday, May 16, 2014

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Office of Justice Programs

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### **JUSTICE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES SEVEN CITIZENS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FOR RESCUING MISSING, ABUSED CHILDREN**

#### *Holds National Missing Children's Day Ceremony*

WASHINGTON – The Justice Department will recognize seven citizens and law enforcement officers from four states for their heroic and exemplary efforts to protect children, during the annual National Missing Children's Day commemoration 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, in Washington, D.C. The award recipients are from Idaho, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Washington, D.C. In addition, fifth-grader Dawson Mack from Athens Intermediate School in Athens, Ala., will receive the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Missing Children's Art Contest Award.

President Ronald Reagan proclaimed May 25, 1983, the first National Missing Children's Day to remember Etan Patz, a six-year-old boy who disappeared from a New York City street corner on May 25, 1979. Missing Children's Day honors his memory and the memories of children still missing.

**WHO:** National Missing Children's Day award recipients  
Holly Austin Smith, human trafficking survivor and author of *Walking Prey*  
Justice Department officials  
John Ryan, President and CEO, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

**WHEN:** WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2014  
2:00 p.m. EDT

**WHERE:** Great Hall, U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest (between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets)  
Washington, D.C.

**OPEN PRESS**

**NOTE:** All media must present government-issued photo I.D. (such as a driver's license) as well as valid media credentials. **Media must RSVP to Starr Stepp at [Starr.Stepp@usdoj.gov](mailto:Starr.Stepp@usdoj.gov) no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT, Tuesday, May 20, 2014.** Media must enter the department at the visitor's entrance on Constitution Avenue between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets. Media may begin arriving at 1:00 p.m. EDT. All cameras must be pre-set by 1:45 p.m. EDT. Press inquiries regarding logistics should be directed to Starr Stepp at [Starr.Stepp@usdoj.gov](mailto:Starr.Stepp@usdoj.gov).