TO: ALL CALIFORNIA LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Senate Bill (SB) 388 (Stats. 2020, ch. 288) mandates that if a missing person has not been found within 30 days and is also determined to be at-risk pursuant to Penal Code (PC) section 14215(b), and if the missing person’s dental and/or skeletal X-rays and treatment notes have not otherwise been obtained by investigators, the lead investigating agency shall execute a written declaration, stating that an active investigation seeking the location of the missing person is being conducted and that the dental or skeletal X-rays, or both, and treatment notes, are necessary for the exclusive purpose of furthering the investigation.

This declaration shall be taken to the dentist, physician, and surgeon, or medical facility in order to obtain the release of the dental or skeletal X-rays, or both, and treatment notes, to secure those records. Applicable records shall be submitted to the Attorney General’s office to code and enter the dental or skeletal X-rays, or both, into the center’s database, which shall serve as the statewide database for those X-rays, and shall forward the information to the National Crime Information Center pursuant to PC section 14212(f).

This mandate will go into effect on January 1, 2021.

The California Department of Justice Authorization to Release Dental/Skeletal X-Rays/Treatment Notes/Photograph of Missing Person (BCIA 4048) form is included for reference.

For questions about this bulletin, or any other Missing Person Investigation related concerns, contact the Missing & Unidentified Persons Section at missing.persons@doj.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

JOE DOMINIC, Chief
California Justice Information Services Division

For XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General