



# Minneapolis Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual

Number:  
8-200

## Volume Eight - Minors – Policies and Procedures

### Specific Call Procedures for Minors

#### 8-207 **Lost and Abandoned Minors**

(10/07/08) (10/10/22) (xx/xx/24)

##### I. **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to establish the actions to be taken upon discovery of a lost or abandoned minor.

##### II. **Definitions**

**Abandoned Minor:** Any minor left alone long enough to come to the attention of police, and minors left with a baby-sitter past the agreed upon return time of the parents, may be considered abandoned. An abandoned minor is present in their expected location, but without the expected supervision.

**Lost Minor:** Any minor who strayed from the supervision of the parent or guardian and is not considered abandoned, may be considered lost.

##### III. **Procedures**

###### A. **Found Minor**

1. Members shall immediately contact MECC upon finding a minor who would be considered lost.
2. If MECC receives a report of a found minor, a squad shall respond to recover the minor.
3. If the minor's parent or legal guardian is unable to be located or the home address is not known, members shall contact Child Protective Services (CPS).

###### B. **Abandoned Minor**

1. Upon discovering an abandoned minor (in a location where the minor was expected to be), members must use discretion and consider the totality of the circumstances in deciding what actions to take.
2. Members shall contact CPS if there is reason to believe the minor was abandoned.

**C. Health and Welfare Hold**

Should members become aware of underlying circumstances which necessitate placing the minor on a 72-hour Health and Welfare Hold, members shall place the hold in accordance with P&P 8-205 Health and Welfare Holds for Minors.

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