

Genealogy Pathfinder

for Finding Missing Persons

Prepared by the Genealogy Specialists in The Special Collections Department
Central Library, Fifth Floor
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The Special Collections Collection contains only limited resources for individuals seeking missing persons. Here are a few suggestions:

• **We have a number of books on the subject** To identify and locate books on this subject owned by our library system, use our [library catalog](#) search feature and type in "missing" and "persons". Some suggested titles:

- *How to Locate Anyone in the Information Age* by Joanne Kerr et al. (1998).
- *Find Anyone Fast* by Richard S. Johnson (1995) Available in Ga. Local & Family History; ask at service desk.

- *1-800-DeadBeat: How to Collect Your Child Support* by Simone Spence (1999).

- *How to Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Ever Been in the Military* by Richard S. Johnson (1999) Available in Ga. Local & Family History; ask at service desk.

- *Locating Lost Family Members and Friends* by Kathleen W. Hinckley (1999) Available in Special Collections Department; ask at service desk.

- *Missing Persons USA: How to Hunt Down and Find Anyone, Anywhere* by Roger Willard (1994).

• Many books about **genealogical research online** also contain information about "people-finding".

• **Our vertical files contain some useful articles, such as:** "Find Missing People on the Internet," by Richard S. Johnson. *Reunions Magazine*, Winter 1997, p. 15.

• If you suspect **the person lives in a particular area** ask your librarian about how to use online telephone directories.

• If you know **what kind of work the person does, or what her/his hobby is**, you might contact the interest group or professional association of that field to learn whether he/she is a member. For addresses and phone numbers, see the *Encyclopedia of Associations*, available on the second floor of the Central Library.

• If you know the **religious affiliation** of the person, contact churches in the area where he/she last lived. Ask whether he/she is a member, or whether the letter of membership has been transferred elsewhere. Online telephone directories and Internet sites such as *Anywho.com* may be of use in locating addresses and phone numbers.

- If you know **where the person went to high school or college**, contact the school or alumni association to see if he/she is a member. Addresses are available in *Patterson's American Education*, available on the second floor of the Central Library.

- The following **organizations** offer help with missing persons searches. Please bear in mind that the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System cannot endorse the services of anyone who charges a fee. The following list is offered only as a source of information. As always, use your best judgment in dealing with any fee-based service.

American Association for Lost Children 6413 W. Sam Houston Parkway, Houston TX 77241. (713)-466-1852.

International Soundex Reunion Registry P.O. Box 2312, Carson City NV 89702. (775)-882-7755

Find People Fast (800)-829-1807. Assists in identifying current addresses and phone numbers.

Association for Children for Enforcement of Support, Inc. (ACES) (888)-310-2237 or ACES National, P.O. Box 7842, Fredericksburg VA 22404.

National Association of Investigative Specialists P.O. Box 82148, Austin TX 78705. (512)-719-3595. Offers referrals to reputable investigators.

The *Salvation Army* provides a search service. In Atlanta contact: Missing Persons Services, 1424 Northeast Expy., Atlanta GA 30329. (404)-728-1300.

- Some **professional researchers** specializing in missing persons are listed in the Association of Professional Genealogists' *APG Directory of Professional Genealogists*, shelved with *APG Quarterly* in Genealogy Periodicals.

- If you know the missing person's **social security number**, the *IRS* will forward a letter to him/her. Contact your district office. In Atlanta: 401 West Peachtree St., Stop 200D, Atlanta GA 30365. (404)656-4156.

- In some states, the **Department of Motor Vehicles** will provide information on an individual's driving record. If you know the license plate number, the DMV might give you his/her address. In Georgia, the Department of Motor Vehicles is at 270 Washington St. S.W., Atlanta GA 30334. (404)656-4156.

- If a person has moved within the past year, send \$3 to the **U.S. Post Office** and request the new address. Or mail an envelope to the old address; on the front boldly write **Do Not Forward -- Address Correction Requested**.