



Bonneville County Sheriff

Press Release

For Immediate Release
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Bonneville County Sheriff Paul Wilde Implements Innovative Biometric Child Protection System in Idaho

The Child Project™ - First Iris Recognition Biometric Technology Implementation in Idaho

(Idaho Falls, ID) – Bonneville County Sheriff Paul Wilde announced the award of federal funding that his office and other Sheriffs' in Idaho will implement The Child Project™ and Senior Safety Net™ in the State of Idaho. The systems enable law enforcement agencies to enroll, identify and locate missing children and adults through the use of iris recognition biometric technology.

At a press conference held at the Bonneville County Sheriff's Office, 605 North Capital, Idaho Falls, Idaho at 2:00 PM on Friday, October 31, 2008, Bonneville County Sheriff Paul Wilde announced the \$44717 grant from the Department of Justice (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).

Sheriff Wilde said, "I am honored and pleased to announce the implementation and availability of this innovative technology for the citizens of Bonneville County and the State of Idaho. In particular, I want to thank Senator Larry Craig, Senator Crapo, Congressman Mike Simpson, Sheriff Byron Stommel, Bud Langerak and Lt. Kevin Cox for all of their hard work and determination to help us better protect the citizens of Idaho. Together, they successfully fought to get the funding we needed included in the federal budget. Thanks to their efforts, we are able to implement The Child Project™ and Senior Safety Net™ in Bonneville County today and make the technology available to other Sheriffs' Offices throughout the State of Idaho."

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Sheriff Wilde continued, "As sworn law enforcement officers, we do everything we can each day to protect the citizens of our communities – particularly those most vulnerable like our children and seniors. We constantly strive to embrace improved techniques and technologies to improve public safety. Iris biometric technology and The Child Project™ are excellent examples of this innovation. With the hard work of Senator Craig and Congressman Simpson, and our staff at the Bonneville County Sheriff's Office, we will be able to expand our capabilities."

Sean G. Mullin, president and CEO of BI2 Technologies, the creators of The Child Project™ said, "We are honored that Sheriff Wilde, Senator Craig, Congressman Simpson have taken such a leadership role in this effort. Through their hard work and determination, they have successfully accomplished what few other elected officials have been able to – they secured federal funding specifically earmarked to benefit the families, children and seniors of Bonneville County and Idaho."

Mullin continued, "The Child Project™ is a secure nationwide network and registry that enables law enforcement and social service agencies to enroll, locate and positively identify missing children and adults with iris biometric recognition technology. Through this network, The Child Project™ compares the unique features contained in the iris against a database of individuals who voluntarily enroll throughout the country to determine identity. Participation is entirely voluntary, just as it is now with fingerprint and photo ID card programs."

"Today I am very pleased to implement this innovative technology and important program," said Sheriff Wilde. "Thank you for joining me in our effort to help identify and locate missing children, as well as seniors who may wander due to Alzheimer's disease or dementia. I look forward to providing this added protection to the citizens of Bonneville County and the State of Idaho."

Iris recognition biometric technology positively determines the identity of an individual by capturing a high-resolution digital photograph of an individual's iris. The technology can tell the difference between twins or even an individual's right and left eye. The technology is non-intrusive. An image of the iris is captured by simply looking into the camera. The system was developed by Biometric Intelligence & Identification Technologies (BI² Technologies) of Plymouth, Massachusetts. For more information please visit The Child Project's web site at www.thechildproject.org

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