



Senator Cathleen Galgiani

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SENATOR GALGIANI ANNOUNCES MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS HEARING March 9, 2020

**Senate Select Committee on Missing and Unidentified Persons Hearing
Wednesday, March 11, 2020
State Capitol, Room 3191, 1 p.m.**

Sacramento – With a yearly average of 39,000 adults and 76,000 children reported missing in California, how these cases are handled will be the focus of the first hearing of the Senate Select Committee on Missing and Unidentified Persons, chaired by Senator Cathleen Galgiani (D-Stockton). The hearing will investigate how missing persons' case are responded to from the moment a call is received by law enforcement to the investigation and resolution of the case.

"Missing person cases are especially devastating for families and hard to forget for dedicated law enforcement officers who have led such investigations," noted Senator Galgiani. "I look forward to hearing from the people on the front lines working so hard to find our loved ones, to thank them, and to figure out ways to help them."

Guest panelists will include a representative from the California Peace Officer Standards and Training, a deputy from the Mariposa Sheriff's Department, a communications supervisor from the Citrus Heights Police Department, a criminal investigator from the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office, and representatives from the California Attorney General's office.

The committee will also focus on better understanding the various databases law enforcement use to list missing persons and how accessible they are to the public.

"It's hard for family members of missing loved ones to navigate the current maze of information available. Which database to search can be quite confusing and frustrating for the victim's families," Galgiani added.

Representatives from three government-sponsored databases -- Violent Crime Apprehension Program (ViCAP), National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs), and Missing and Unidentified Persons Section (MUP's) -- will also be on hand to address the committee.

Information learned at the hearing will be incorporated into at least three legislative proposals Senator Galgiani is current in the process of writing. "California law enforcement has a massive task in addressing so many missing individuals. I want to make sure they have the resources and processes in place to achieve the best possible outcomes," said Galgiani.