

THE SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION



Jennifer Timmons
Communications Director
jtimmons@sled.sc.gov
Office: (803) 896-7056
After Hours: (803) 737-9000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 5, 2009

CANCELLATION OF FIRST 2009 SC AMBER ALERT; RECOVERY OF ALLEGED KIDNAPPING VICTIMS

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) announces the successful recovery of two alleged kidnapping victims from West Columbia, S.C. 29-year-old Eva Arce-Perez and 7-month old Allim David Dietz are safe with Georgia law enforcement.

SLED investigators believe that they were abducted at gunpoint Saturday, from their West Columbia home by 25-year-old David Dietz.

He was taken into federal custody in Georgia this morning.

Law enforcement says 17-year-old Jamie Lynn Burgess was with Dietz at the time of the alleged abductions.

Investigators are trying to determine her connection to this case.

SLED activated the AMBER Alert Saturday at the request of the West Columbia Police Department.

Its cancellation followed Sunday, after it was confirmed that Dietz was no longer in S.C.

SLED extends its gratitude to S.C. citizens for their helpful tips and vigilance during this AMBER Alert.

Numerous SLED agents, The S.C. Information and Intelligence Center (SCIIC), West Columbia Police Department, Columbia Police Department (CPD), S.C. Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services (SCDPPS), Madison Police Department, Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI), The Georgia State Patrol, and The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) worked diligently on this investigation.

South Carolina's AMBER Alert program was started in 2002 and is a voluntary partnership with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, (NCMEC) the S.C. Broadcaster's Association, (SCBA) the S.C. Department of Transportation, (SCDOT), The S.C. Department of Public Safety,

(SCDPS), SLED, The S.C. Law Enforcement Officers' Association,(SCLEOA), The S.C. Department of Social Services, (SCDSS) The S.C. Education Lottery, The S.C. Emergency Management Division,(SCEMD) and the National Weather Service.

Since its activation in 2004, The SC AMBER Alert has been issued 31 times.

As a result, numerous agencies in S.C. and other states have helped with the successful recovery of 39 children.

For more information on Dietz' arrest, contact the FBI.