

## **Amber Alert Issued!!**

This one is not so much a scam as it is a hoax. Perhaps you've seen it: A friend in your network updates their status to read "Amber Alert issued in Anytown, U.S.A. 3-year-old girl taken by a man driving a silver truck with plate# 72B 381. Post this in your status update. You could save a life! "

The details vary, some include names. But many of them are simply untrue and can often be quickly checked out on sites such as [fbi.gov](http://fbi.gov) and even the urban-legend-debunking site [snopes.com](http://snopes.com). While you may not be at risk for something serious like identity theft with this hoax, many law enforcement officials have come out against the fake Amber Alert joke because it desensitizes users to the severity of a real alert. If enough hoax Amber Alerts make the rounds, people are more likely to ignore a real one.

*Source: <http://www.csoonline.com/article/print/500998>*