



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ABDUCTED 11 YEAR OLD FOUND DECEASED TODAY NEAR SHIPROCK

SHIPROCK, N.M.-According to the Shiprock Police Department, Ashlyne Mike, age 11, was found deceased today at 11:30 a.m. near the Shiprock pinnacle.

It was reported on Monday, May 2, that Ashlyne and her younger brother Ian, age 9, were abducted by a male driving a maroon van just north of Mile Marker 13 on Navajo Route 36 near the community of San Juan.

Mike's parents filed a missing person report with the Shiprock Police Department at approximately 6:53 p.m.

On Monday, May 2 at 7:15 p.m., it was reported that a motorist heading eastbound on Navajo Route 13, near the Shiprock Pinnacle, picked up Ian Mike as he was walking along the highway. The motorist took the boy to the Shiprock Police Department.

Ian Mike told the Shiprock Police that driver who abducted the two children had taken them toward the Shiprock pinnacle where he came upon a dead end road and let the boy out. The abductor released the boy from his vehicle then proceeded on with Ashlyne Mike.

The abductor returned without the Ashlyne Mike and told the young boy to go home.

The United States Federal Bureau of Investigation along with United States Criminal Investigation are handling the investigation. The individual who abducted the two children is in the process of being located.

According to a press release issued by the FBI, the suspect is described as a light-skinned Navajo male in his late 30s, with short dark hair. He had a tear-drop tattoo under his left eye, and wore earrings in both ears, a long silver chain necklace, a gold watch, a black shirt, and blue pants.

The vehicle he was driving has been reported to be a maroon van with a luggage rack. The van is said to have no hubcaps, black rims and a broken front bumper.

At this time, the Office of the President and Vice President send their condolences to the family of Ashlyne Mike and would like justice to prevail on behalf of the victim and her family.

"We want to reassure the family that the Navajo Nation Police are conducting a thorough investigation in this case and will be working with the FBI to apprehend the abductor and bring him to justice," said President Russell Begaye.

Anyone with information about the case is asked to contact the FBI at 505-889-1300.

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