

# SOCA ALERTS

**A3A837N**

## **Anti Kidnap and Extortion Unit Personal Data Profile**

This Amber Alert is issued by the Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA). It is based on assessed intelligence and warns of dangers and threats from serious organised criminality. It is devised with the aim of bringing about preventative or remedial action. We recommend you use this Alert to complement existing knowledge and support ongoing improvements to your business processes and procedures.



SOCA is a Home Office Non-Departmental Public Body

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## Anti Kidnap and Extortion Unit Personal Data Profile

### Overview

The Anti Kidnap and Extortion Unit (AKEU) are seeking uniformity in the way in which information regarding at risk organisations or individuals is stored.

Crimes of kidnap can be difficult to investigate; Law Enforcement Agencies have to investigate in a covert manner because of the threat to life of the person who has been kidnapped. However the accompanying Personal Data Profile (PDP) has been created to highlight what the investigating officer will need to know. Private businesses may already record this information but often these details are in differing formats which can lead to delays in time critical situations. Additionally some essential information may not be currently held.

### Information Report

The accompanying Personal Data Profile aims to standardise the information held on companies or individuals at risk of kidnapping.

Completion of the PDP will help the investigating team to trace and recover a hostage, be they an employee or an employee's family, should the situation arise. Therefore the listed information is of high importance.

Personal data of a hostage is vital to the investigating officer, yet it has been identified that differing 'At Risk' companies or individuals complete some form of PDP but the variances between them are far ranging. This PDP seeks to address that issue by introducing a uniform document for use across the private sector. This will allow AKEU to be in possession of the right information, at the right time.

**What we would like you to do**

Please ensure that the accompanying PDP document is circulated to those employees that you deem to be 'At Risk' of kidnap. It should be completed in full, including a colour photograph as stated.

There needs to exist a confidential agreement between the employee and employer to safeguard the information within this PDP. It should be stored securely, yet be accessible 24 hours a day. It is recommended that responsibility sits with the relevant Security Department and NOT within HR.

It should be noted that the more information that can be provided on the PDP, the greater the chance of a successful outcome.

The SOCA Alerts process is the way in which SOCA provides information to the private sector. To help us to improve this service, we would welcome any feedback you have on both the Alert itself and the information provided to you. Please email all feedback to [alerts@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:alerts@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk) and include the reference **AA837AA** in the subject line.

**Disclaimer**

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### Protecting this document

This is a government document that has been graded as **NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**. There are no specific requirements for storage or disposal and it can be considered as safe for wide distribution within your organisation. This can extend to its use for training or awareness programmes for staff. However, unless otherwise specified, this information is not intended for general public dissemination and should not be included on public facing websites, external mailing lists, social media or other outlets routinely used by you to deliver information to the public without the prior and specific permission of the SOCA Alerts team. We therefore request that you risk manage any onward dissemination in a considered way.

### Alert Coloured Roundels

SOCA Alerts are marked with either a Red or Amber Roundel. This is designed to indicate the urgency of the warning. Red may indicate a more immediate or specific threat, whilst those marked Amber will provide more general information that may complement existing knowledge.

### SOCA Prevention Department

Recognising that the private sector is often the victim of serious organised crime and is engaged in its own efforts to prevent, deter and frustrate criminal activity, SOCA's Prevention Department seeks to forge new relationships with business and commerce that will be to our mutual benefit – and to the criminals' cost. By issuing Alerts that warn of criminal dangers and threats, SOCA seeks to arm the private sector with information and advice it can use to protect itself and the public. For further information about this SOCA Alert, please contact the SOCA Alerts team by email [alerts@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:alerts@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk) or by telephoning 020 7238 8167. For more information about the Serious Organised Crime Agency go to [www.soca.gov.uk](http://www.soca.gov.uk).

### Protecting the Public – Providing information back to SOCA

We would like to remind you of the provisions contained in Section 34 Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005. These provisions say that any information provided by you to SOCA, in order to assist SOCA to discharge its functions which include the prevention and detection of crime, will not breach any obligation of confidence which you may owe to any third party or any other restriction on the disclosure of information. S34 requires that disclosures of personal information about living individuals by you to SOCA must still comply with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA), but you may be satisfied that disclosure by you of such personal information to SOCA in order to assist SOCA to prevent and detect crime is permitted by the DPA. Please, therefore, submit all S34 information to [alerts@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:alerts@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk).

### Handling advice – Legal information

*This information is supplied by SOCA under Section 33 of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005. It is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. It may also be subject to exemption under other UK legislation. Except where permitted by any accompanying handling instructions, this information must not be further disclosed without reference to SOCA in accordance with Section 35(1) of the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005.*

*This report may contain 'Sensitive Material' as defined in the Attorney General's guidelines for the disclosure of 'Unused Material' to the defence. Any sensitive material contained in this report may be subject to the concept of Public Interest Immunity. No part of this report should be disclosed to the defence without prior consultation with the originator.*

*Requests for further disclosure which are **not** permitted by any handling instructions or handling code must be referred to the SOCA originator from whom you received this information, save that requests for disclosure to third parties under the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998 or the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and equivalent legislation must be referred to SOCA's Public Information Compliance Unit by e-mail on [picenquiries@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:picenquiries@soca.x.gsi.gov.uk).*