Topic: Missing Persons Alert	*Author:* Kevin Santiago Acevedo	*Date:* 08/29/2022

Problem Background

- In P.R. and in the United States there are still a large number of missing persons per year. As the hours of a person's disappearance increase, the possibility of being found decreases proportionally. In fact, the first 72 hours in a missing persons investigation are the most critical, according to criminology experts.
- According to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons database, more than 600,000 people go missing annually in the US and approximately 4,400 unidentified bodies are recovered each year. In addition to this, in August 31,2020, P.R. already had 314 reported cases of missing persons of which 46 had not been resolved.
- In addition to this, not all missing persons cases get the same media attention.

Target

- The goal to be achieved is to reduce the number of unsolved cases of missing persons in the best possible time, before the 72-hour mark, and to provide equitable attention to the different cases, without leaving behind the less popular cases on social media.

Causes

- Problem: There's a large number of unsolved cases of missing persons per year.

Why?

1) Some cases are not resolved promptly.

Why?

2) They do not have as much public support as other cases.

Why?

3) They are not as well known or famous on social media.

Why?

4) People tend to focus on the top news of their social media since they are more recurrent due to factors such as gender, age, or race; forgetting about the cases that do not tend to attract the eye of the masses.

Why?

5) People lack an accessible, organized, and unique platform dedicated to show all the missing persons in the various towns or states, and capable to notifying the user of all the missing persons in their area with the purpose of inspiring them to help their community and/or neighborhood in some way.

Countermeasures

- Let users report missing persons and provide all the data and key details for their identification.
- Let users provide the status of each of the missing persons they reported.
- Provide an ordered list of missing persons by country, state, or town, accompanied by their descriptions and photos.
- Let users select and place on their personal list the missing persons they think they can help identify.
- Send notifications to users about missing people in their area.
- Provide the map of Puerto Rico and the United States with pins on the locations where missing persons have been reported.

Check/Evaluate

- The project's success will be determined by the growth of registered users, and their active engagement, as well as the reduction of unsolved cases of missing persons.
- Project failure will be determined by the reduction of active engagement of the users and the increase of the unsolved cases of missing persons.

Act/Standardize

- We will make sure that the project continues to serve its purpose by adding more features that help in the search for missing persons, as well as involving, if possible, not only the community but the agencies in charge of the search.
- At the end of the project, we will have learned everything necessary in software design, as well as its implementation, deployment, operation, and the variety of tools that can be used to test the final product that will be released to the public. In addition, we will have gained the ability to solve a problem using the advantages that provide us a web-based application.
- The basic ideas of the Missing Persons Alert can also be applied to some similar areas such as crimes or traffic accidents.