Find Austin Davis

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<u>Find Austin Davis Rally</u> 1 p.m. Church of Argyle, 6823 Argyle Forest Blvd, Jacksonville

After Possible Sightings, Family Intensifies Search For Missing Jacksonville Man

- Plans Rally to Organize More Search Parties -

Jacksonville, Fla. – The family of a missing Jacksonville man is holding a rally this weekend to intensify their search for the 26-year-old who disappeared without a trace more than a month ago.

After receiving several reports of a man matching the description of Michael "Austin" Davis, who was last seen June 26 on the city's west side, family and relatives said they hope the rally, planned for this Saturday, August 11, at a Jacksonville church, will raise awareness about this missing person case.

Austin Davis is a 26-year-old white male, 5'8", 175 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes.

The family has a caravan of search teams who will depart Orange Park on August 12 for the High Springs and Ft. White communities. Relatives said they hope a strong turnout at the rally will bolster that search effort and spur other search parties to join them.

The "Find Austin Davis Rally" will be held August 11, 2007, a gathering of family and friends will bolster their efforts to locate their missing son. The rally begins 1:00 p.m. at The Church of Argyle, 6823 Argyle Forest Blvd., Jacksonville. Vicki Smith, mother of Joshua Smith who has been missing from his Jacksonville home for seven years, will attend the rally and speak on behalf of other Jacksonville families with missing loved ones.

Davis was last seen June 26 when he took a taxi from his sister's house to an unknown location. Family members said Austin, a computer technician, didn't show for work that

day and didn't take his laptop computer or other items, which he normally takes everywhere.

Jim Davis, father of the missing man, said his family has been encouraged by reports from several people who believe they have seen him. Davis said the family has received reports of someone matching his son's description in the High Springs and Ft. White areas. On Saturday, August 4, an officer with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and State Park Police led a search that produced some leads, Davis said.

"These possible sightings are giving the family hope and we pray that this rally will create the extra momentum we desperately need to bring Austin home," said Davis. "We've all been very worried, and we're looking hard and praying hard for Austin. We know someone out there knows something about Austin, and we won't rest until we know what happened to him. I believe there will be a good turn out of friends who will later fan out and post Austin's flyer in different parts of Northeast Florida and recruit help in a search of the High Springs and Ft. White areas on Sunday, August 12, 2007," Davis said.

"Every day that goes by without finding Austin is another day of worry and heartbreak. We worry constantly about Austin's safety. We do however have many friends, neighbors and co-workers who give us strength and are working hard along side us to find my son. Their help and prayers mean a great deal to us," Davis said, adding:

"Newspapers, television and radio stations have printed and broadcast numerous reports on Austin's disappearance as officers from numerous Northeast Florida law enforcement agencies pursue every possible lead. We're grateful for this and believe with the help of our community, we will find Austin soon."

The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office issued a missing person report on July 10 and the Alachua County Sheriff's Office issued a similar release on July 20. Press releases and other related material and information regarding this case are available at <u>www.FindAustinDavis.com</u>.

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