



## City of Nome Press Release

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The City of Nome and the Nome Police Department wish to express their gratitude to the volunteers helping in the search for Florence Okpealuk. Over one hundred residents turned out this past Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, joining Nome Search and Rescue (“SAR”) volunteers to search along the coastal area.

**Another coordinated community search will begin at 12 noon this Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are requested to meet at the Fire Hall to sign in and receive assignments.**

There have also been numerous volunteers from Nome and surrounding areas that have struck out on their own to find Florence. In order to map areas searched, Nome Search & Rescue requests that individual and group searches be coordinated with them. If you have a group interested in assisting in efforts to find Florence, please contact Nome SAR Chief Jim West through the City of Nome Dispatch Center at 443-5262. This line is manned 24 hours a day.

The investigation into finding Florence has been active since she was first reported missing, and is actively progressing. NPD requested and is receiving assistance from both state and federal law enforcement agencies, and is appreciative of air support from the Coast Guard as well as from local pilots, Bering Air and a local drone pilot.

With your support we will bring Florence home.

If you have any questions, please contact City Manager Glenn Steckman at 443-6600

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Release Date: September 10, 2020