Salt Lake City- In May of 2000, Riverside California County Superior Court issued a felony child abduction warrant for a mother charged with fleeing with her infant after sole custody of the child was denied.

The case was unsolved for eight years until investigators found the mother had ties to people in Utah and were referred to Sarah Houser, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS). House r worked with the Riverside Child Recovery Unit and found that the child, whose name was changed, had been placed for adoption in Utah in 2002.

She provided investigators with court documents that corroborated the adoption and assisted in confirming the child's real identity.

In March, 2008 with the help of the National Center for Exploited and Missing Children, the U.S. Marshal's Office arrested the mother who was sentenced to two years in state prison; although legal matters prevented Riverside from recovering the child. "The District Attorney's Office would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Houser for the outstanding efforts she provided to our Child Recovery Unit," said Victor Green, Chief of Investigators at County Riverside District Attorney's Office, "I am certain that the successes that we experienced were in part because of Houser's dedicated support and advocacy".

With children's safety being a first priority, it is good to know that Utah has caseworkers with a desire to help all children even those that extend beyond our state borders.