

May 12, 2003

Mississippi Department of Education
Attn: Robert Laird
Director, School Safety Division
359 North West Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Dear Mr. Laird:

I am pleased to offer my support to the Mississippi Department of Education's application for a Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities grant from the Department of Public Safety.

My office has worked with both MDE's Division of School Safety and DPS' Division of Public Safety Planning for the last three years in a continuing effort to ensure that Mississippi students are afforded the most safe and orderly educational environment possible. The collaboration of our agencies has enhanced the services available to school districts so as to provide safe and effective learning environments for our students. MDE will continue this collaboration via the utilization of Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities funds for crisis response, DARE and SRO training.

I am pleased to offer support for this project.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:klr