
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PLANNING'S "SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS" AWARDS
DATE: 10/2/01
CC: FILE

The federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act provides federal funding to Mississippi for drug prevention programs in school and after school programs. These funds are split, with 80% going to the State Education Agency and 20% going to the Governor. The Division of Public Safety Planning, which administers the Governor's portion of the grant, received federal funds totaling \$1,061,957 for Fiscal Year 2001 activities. The Division of Public Safety Planning may use a maximum of 5% (\$53,098) of these funds for administrative costs and distributes the remaining funds through a competitive Request for Proposals process. Public Safety Planning has completed the RFP process and has submitted the attached recommendations for your review and approval. I participated in the review of proposals again this year on behalf of our office.

Public Safety Planning awards grants to two types of entities: 1) law enforcement education partnerships which utilize the DARE curriculum to promote drug abstinence among elementary through high school students and 2) community organizations which promote drug and violence prevention and also provide mentoring and life skills to students. These programs generally serve approximately 101,000 kids throughout the state.

Public Safety Planning is recommending \$106,500 of the funds be distributed to nine law enforcement education partnerships. These nine proposed awards include continuation funding for six existing programs and new funding for three programs.

Public Safety Planning is recommending \$788,642 of the funds be distributed to thirty-six community organizations. These thirty-six include continuation funding for twenty-nine programs and new funding for seven programs.

The far right column on the attached list shows what each project requested and the amount recommended, along with any stipulations that the grantee must abide by. I have starred the three programs for which Public Safety Planning is not recommending funding that Chelley Barnes of Public Safety Planning feels we might get phone calls about:

- Gulfport School District has experienced a decline in its program since the former administrator retired.
- The Lighthouse Foundation in Corinth will probably have Senator Little call on the program's behalf. The Foundation did not submit its letter of intent on time, the application was not in the

proper format, and the Foundation has had trouble submitting its paperwork and retaining employees. The Foundation's mentoring program has a strong biblical component.

- Noxubee County School District submitted a very weak proposal which did not receive favorable scores from the reviewers.

I have notified Chelley that we would like the final award notification letters to come from you to the successful applicants. I will also work with Jill and your schedule to identify opportunities in the future when you will be in these areas so that you can present the "big check" to some of the awardees.

Please review the attached list and notify me of any concerns or problems that you see.