## **Helping Families Initiative**

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## SCOTT ANDERSON

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

8TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF ALABAMA

MORGAN COUNTY

Rebecca L. Bearden Director

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## Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Morgan County District Attorney's Office has implemented a new program called Helping Families Initiative (HFI). The purpose of the program is essential to prevent crime by providing resources to improve student behavior and attendance which decreases the risk of suspensions, juvenile arrests, student dropouts and/or substance abuse.

Our goal is to help students with truancy and/or behavioral problems to build productive futures while improving the safety and learning environment for all.

HFI seeks to address any underlying issues associated with a student's lack of school success and not just the outward symptom that is manifesting itself through poor school attendance and/or out of school suspension. By addressing a family's deeper needs, it is possible that we can change that family's circumstances and break the cycle of repetitive poor school performance for the child.

Our mission at the District Attorney's Office is to ensure that every child between the ages of six and seventeen has regular school attendance and proper conduct and to hold the parent, guardian or other person in charge or control of a child responsible and liable for their child's nonattendance and improper conduct as a pupil.

Code of Alabama 1975, §16-28-12(c) states that the District Attorney will vigorously enforce truancy and Code of Conduct violations within the school system. This program, in addition to helping you fulfill your responsibilities as a parent/guardian, will assist me in that effort.

Sincerely.

Scott Anderson
District Attorney

8<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit

