



Recent Alabama Statistics:

188,550
serious crimes a year

331 homicides

19,486 violent crimes

169,064
property crimes

Almost all crimes take place in the communities where the victims live, work or go to school.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CANDIDATE JOHN TYSON, JR. BELIEVES FIGHTING JUVENILE CRIME STARTS WHERE CHILDREN ARE: IN SCHOOLS.

Alabama Attorney General candidate and Mobile County District Attorney John Tyson, Jr. has made creative use of a 1927 Alabama state law to discover and redirect the lives of students who are on the brink of criminal behavior.

An article in this week's *Education Week*, a national weekly newspaper for elementary and secondary educators (circulation 217,000), gives insight into the Helping Families Initiative and the reaction of Dr. Harold Dodge (Mobile County's Superintendent of Schools) to its implementation and success. Dr. Dodge, Alabama's School Superintendent of the Year, was initially concerned that the program might be perceived as "overly punitive." His concerns disappeared, Dodge said, when he saw the number and diversity of public and private agencies that had joined in to provide services to students and families referred to the program. And when 80 percent of the students who participated in the first year were not suspended again, Dr. Dodge said, he and other school leaders became convinced the approach was working.

The program is an example of Tyson's goal to make helping citizens and local authorities fight crime his number one priority. Tyson created the program in Mobile and is sharing it, other crime prevention programs and prosecution techniques including effective ways to prosecute child molesters, with citizens and local authorities throughout the state.

Tyson has promised to make helping citizens and local authorities fight crime through prosecution and crime prevention before there are victims the first priority of the Attorney General's Office. He is working at it already in order to save lives and property from crime now.

For a phone interview with Tyson on the importance of fighting crime with both prosecution and crime prevention programs, please call Kim at 251-472-9400.