NEWS RELEASE Luther Strange Alabama Attorney General



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AG STRANGE PRESENTS CHALLENGER MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH 2013 SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

(MONTGOMERY) — Attorney General Strange presented Challenger Middle School in Huntsville with the 2013 Attorney General's Safe School Initiative Award of Excellence at a school assembly today. One school was selected as the winner from each of the Alabama State School Board of Education districts.

"I am honored to award Challenger Middle School with a 2013 Award of Excellence for School Board district 8," said Attorney General Strange. "Ensuring safe schools for our students has never been more important, and this program will help us identify the best practices that schools should be using. I look forward to sharing these best practices with other schools."

"We are honored and excited to accept this award for District 8 and Huntsville City Schools. The faculty and staff of Challenger Middle School are committed to providing our students with an excellent academic experience which includes a safe environment in which to learn," said Dianne Hasty, Principal at Challenger Middle School. "It is because our parents and community have placed their trust in us, that we are both humbled and obligated to provide an atmosphere where students feel safe and secure"

Attorney General Strange is personally presenting the awards for the 2013 Awards of Excellence winners at school assemblies during this fall to the eight winning schools. Attorney General Strange expressed special thanks to the Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance for their continued financial support of the Alabama Safe Schools Initiative.

*In April, Attorney General Strange announced that his office would be reinstituting the Attorney General's Safe Schools Initiative with a new emphasis on encouraging technological advances in school safety to deal with the challenges experienced by today's schools and students. Nominations were received between April and June, and in August a panel of judges reviewed the nominations to determine a winner from each of the eight state school board districts.

