

November 8, 2001

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District School Superintendents

**FROM:** Mary Laura Openshaw

**SUBJECT:** **Technical Assistance Paper for CS/CS/HB 267**, Chapter 2001-125, Laws of Florida, Dealing with Student Crime Victimization and the Zero Tolerance Policy

The 2001 Florida Legislature enacted CS/CS/HB 267 (Chapter 2001-125, Laws of Florida), which requires school districts to adopt a policy of zero tolerance for victimization and prohibits any student, who commits certain specified **felony** violations against another student, from attending the same school or riding on the same school bus as the victim or the victim's sibling(s).

To assist districts in complying with this law, the Department has developed the attached Technical Assistance Paper (TAP). This paper deals with the law as it pertains to student crime victimization and the zero tolerance policy. A brief description of the role of the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) as it pertains to this law is included; however, specific DJJ questions should be addressed to Chuck Sanders, DJJ staff. Additionally, questions regarding cooperative agreements between DJJ and the school districts have been addressed in another Technical Assistance Paper (Bureau of Instructional Support and Community Services Memo #01-98), a copy of which is attached.

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Attached to this memorandum are the following:

- TAP describing major changes to the School Code and Roles and Responsibilities for school districts, school principals, violent offenders and their parent(s) or guardian(s), and the Department of Juvenile Justice
- Flowchart and Narrative: School Attendance and Transportation of Certain Felony Offenders
- "Frequently Asked Questions"
- Highlights of School Laws Relating to Student Suspension and Expulsion
- Memorandum #01-98 from Shan Goff, "Implementation of the New Provisions for District Cooperative Agreements and Contracts with the Department of Juvenile Justice," October 23, 2001, and Sample Cooperative Agreement
- A copy of the bill, CS/CS/HB 267 (Chapter 2001-125, Laws of Florida)

It is recommended that the district appoint a person to serve as a liaison between the Department of Juvenile Justice and the school principal. It should be noted that this act took effect October 1, 2001, and applies to specific **felony** offenses that occur on or after that date.

For questions, contact **Lorraine Allen** or **Judy Bishop**, Office of Safe Schools, DOE, at 850-245-0415, or at [lorraine.allen@fldoe.org](mailto:lorraine.allen@fldoe.org) or [judy.bishop@fldoe.org](mailto:judy.bishop@fldoe.org). For questions regarding cooperative agreements between DJJ and the school districts, contact **Mary Jo Butler** at 850-922-1360 (Suncom 292-1360), or **Cameron Dougherty**, DOE, at 850-487-3510 (Suncom 277-3510), or via e-mail at [butlerm@mail.doe.state.fl.us](mailto:butlerm@mail.doe.state.fl.us) or [doughec@mail.doe.state.fl.us](mailto:doughec@mail.doe.state.fl.us). However, for specific DJJ questions contact **Chuck Sanders**, DJJ, at 850-487-8989 (Suncom 277-8989), or at [chuck.sanders@djj.state.fl.us](mailto:chuck.sanders@djj.state.fl.us).

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Attachments

cc: District Contacts:

- Student Support Services
- Safe Schools
- Safe and Drug-Free Schools
- Dropout Prevention
- Student Transportation
- School Facilities
- Adult Education
- Chuck Sanders, DJJ