



STATE OF FLORIDA

BILL MCCOLLUM
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Greetings Friends & Colleagues:

Representing the people of Florida is a privilege, and with that privilege comes responsibility to our citizens. As your Attorney General, nothing is more important to me than protecting our families and our neighborhoods. That is why my office has supported a pilot program to develop strategies for safe and sustainable communities.

As key stakeholders in your communities, you have an unparalleled opportunity to learn how the area surrounding the University of South Florida in Tampa, which carried the highest crime rate in Hillsborough County and was nicknamed Suitcase City for its high transiency rate, began to be transformed through a coordinated effort among invested community members like you.

Please be our guests at the **October 11 one-day conference in Tampa** showcasing this pilot program for possible replication in your community. Entitled, **A Symposium: Strategies for Safe and Sustainable Communities**, this event is best suited for elected and government officials, law enforcement, non-profit group leaders, social service providers, community development leaders and the business community.

Join Statewide Prosecutor Bill Shepherd, along with an exciting team of presenters, as they unveil how this pilot program was designed to empower and organize communities to address those issues which are often precursors to actual criminal activity - unemployment, poor housing conditions, little or no access to social services, and many others. This comprehensive program lays the foundation for transforming high crime communities into safe and sustainable neighborhoods over time.

You'll benefit from this event by:

- Learning how to create a vision for change through a coordinated community effort.
- Understanding that anti-crime efforts are most effective when residents, diverse cultural groups, leaders, businesses and key stakeholders mobilize to create positive change; and
- Receiving the guidelines to help transform your community utilizing the strategies implemented during the pilot program.

I encourage you to participate in this symposium opportunity. Seating is limited to this **free event**, so sign up now!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill McCollum".

Bill McCollum