



BURKE COUNTY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, we recognize that all Burke County law enforcement agencies, The Burke County Board of Education, the Office of the District Attorney, Juvenile Justice and the 25th Judicial District share responsibility for school safety and must work together with complementary policies and procedures to ensure a safe learning environment for Burke County students. Collaboration between these major institutions and the professionals who represent them is essential; and

WHEREAS, the parties acknowledge and agree that this Agreement is a cooperative effort to establish guidelines for the handling of school-related minor criminal acts which are defined herein as the Focused Acts; and

WHEREAS, students should be held accountable for their actions through a graduated response to Focused Acts that provides a continuum of services and increasingly more severe sanctions for continued Focused Act violations; and

WHEREAS, the parties further acknowledge and agree that the guidelines contained herein are intended to establish consistency in the handling of students who have committed a Focused Act as defined herein with simultaneously ensuring that each case is addressed on a case by case basis to promote a response proportional to the various and differing factors affecting each student's case; and

WHEREAS, Students under 18 years of age or older, actively enrolled in a Burke County school, who commit a Focus Act should be diverted under special circumstances after the review of the appropriate officer; and

