

**SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP
TWENTY-FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
THIRTY-SIXTH PROSECUTORIAL DISTRICT**

THIS SCHOOL-JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP (the "Partnership") is a partnership, by and between, the following Parties:

1. The NEWTON-CONOVER CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION ("the Board");
2. The SHERIFF'S OF CATAWBA COUNTY and the POLICE DEPARTMENTS of NEWTON & CONOVER (collectively "Law Enforcement Agencies");
3. The DISTRICT COURT of the *TWENTY-FIFTH* JUDICIAL DISTRICT ("the Court");
4. The DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE of the *THIRTY-SIXTH* PROSECUTORIAL DISTRICT ("the Prosecutor"); and
5. The NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, specifically the Juvenile Court Counselors working in the *Twenty-Fifth* Judicial District ("the Counselors"), (the Court, Prosecutor and Counselors collectively referred to as the "Judicial Agencies").

WHEREAS, the Board have a duty to create and maintain a safe and orderly school environment conducive to learning;

WHEREAS, removal of students from school, while sometimes necessary, can exacerbate behavioral problems, diminish academic achievement, and increase school dropout;

WHEREAS, the Board and their employees have the primary responsibility for maintaining order in the school environment and for investigating and responding to school disciplinary matters;

WHEREAS, the duty of Law Enforcement Agencies is to respond to and investigate imminent safety threats, uphold the law, and serve the population they are charged with protecting;

WHEREAS, the efficient use of judicial resources is desirable, and the jurisdiction of the Judicial Agencies does not extend to initial decisions of school personnel in disciplinary matters;

