



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 27, 2010

For More Information Contact:

Jeanette Miller

813-786-6977, jeanette.jm@verizon.net

MEDIA ADVISORY

**Attorney General Bill McCollum and Senator Victor Crist
Share Pilot Program on February 9 in Tallahassee at
Strategies for Safe and Sustainable Communities Symposium**

**Program Model Can Be Adapted in Any Neighborhood to Address Challenges That
Are Precursors to Criminal Activity**

WHAT: **A Symposium: Strategies for Safe and Sustainable Communities**
The symposium reviews the efforts and impact of the Coordinated Community Anti Crime Initiative pilot program as it was developed and implemented in the University Area of Tampa/Hillsborough County, an urban, economically distressed, culturally diverse neighborhood with the highest crime rate in Hillsborough County. The purpose of the symposium is grounded on the principle that the pilot program model can be adapted and implemented in any neighborhood faced with challenges which are often precursors to criminal activity such as unemployment, poor housing conditions, little or no access to social services, and many others.

WHEN: Tuesday, February 9, 2010, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Registration begins at 8:45 a.m. with program at 9:30 a.m.
Lunch included.

Special Guest Speaker: 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.
Senator Victor D. Crist, (R) District 12

Keynote Speaker: 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum

WHERE: The FSU Conference Center
555 West Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, FL 32306

-more-

WHY: The full-day event details strategies implemented in the pilot program focused on a community building process that lays the foundation for transforming high crime communities into safe and sustainable neighborhoods over time. Each speaker was actively involved in the pilot program and will present a component of the strategy during the symposium. By utilizing an holistic approach to bring about community change, the symposium educates attendees on the process and importance of engaging the skills and resources of local residents, businesses, community organizations, government agencies and educational institutions to promote the development of a safer environment.

Benefits of Attending:

- Learn how to create a vision for change through a coordinated community effort.
- Hear about workable steps that help transform a community using the strategies implemented during the pilot program.
- Understand that strategic efforts are most effective when residents, diverse cultural groups, leaders, businesses and key stakeholders mobilize to create positive change.

WHO: This free event is being presented by the University Area Community Development Corporation, Inc. and the State of Florida Office of the Attorney General Bill McCollum. Audience attending includes:

- Elected state and local government officials
- Law enforcement agents including federal, state and US attorneys
- Key leaders at universities and school districts
- Professional associations
- Neighborhood associations and advocacy groups
- Community stakeholders including faith-based organizations

HOW: Online pre-registration required at www.uacdconline.org/symposium
Seating is limited. No charge to attend.

###