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Littleton, Colorado [2]

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4/27

Mickey Ibarra
Bruce Reed
Benny Toiv
Fred Duval

A copy of the Colorado Gov's
Exec Order naming Fed
liaisons.

Mickey ~~to~~ are we supposed
to formally name liaisons?
(I noticed that they included
DOL too. why?)

KRIS

STATE OF COLORADO

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

128 State Capitol
Denver, Colorado 80201-1792
Phone (303) 866-2471

RED



Bill Owens
Governor

B 006 99

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Governor's Task Force on Victims' Support for the Columbine High School Tragedy

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order creating the Governor's Task Force on Victims' Support for the Columbine High School Tragedy ("the Task Force").

1. Background & Need.

Yesterday's violent rampage at Columbine High School in Jefferson County will stand as one of the darkest in Colorado history. At this time of statewide grief and mourning, the thoughts and prayers of all Coloradans go out to the victims of that tragedy. Providing effective assistance for those victims - including Columbine students, teachers and administrators, as well as their friends and families - must continue to be a Statewide priority.

In the short term, it is imperative that the victims of the Columbine High School tragedy receive the immediate counseling, financial assistance and other support they need to help cope with the tragedy. Looking forward, State Government must make every effort to help secure long-term victims' services and compensation from both public and private sources. Securing such assistance and compensation demands effective coordination within Colorado State Government; between State officials and their counterparts at the federal and local level; and between Government and the private and non-profit sectors.

By signing this Executive Order, I am creating the Governor's Task Force on Victims' Support. The role of this Task Force is to ensure that Government, private companies and institutions, and non-profit organizations work together effectively and expeditiously to secure assistance and compensation to the victims of the Columbine High School tragedy.

2. Mission and Scope

The mission of the Task Force is:

- A. To strengthen coordination among the principal departments of State government in assessing the needs of victims of the Columbine High School tragedy.
- B. To coordinate efforts between State officials and their counterparts from federal, county and local government to assess victims' needs, and to secure appropriate assistance and compensation for those victims from public and private resources.

C. To undertake such other responsibilities and duties as the Governor may from time to time determine.

3. Membership:

Initial members of the Task Force shall include:

- The Executive Directors of the Colorado Departments of Public Safety, Public Health and Environment and Local Affairs.
- A member of the Governor's Senior Staff.
- The Attorney General of Colorado.
- The District Attorney for the 1st Judicial District.
- The Jefferson County Sheriff.
- The Superintendent of the Jefferson County R-1 School Board.
- The Chairman of the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners.
- A representative from each of the following Federal departments: Justice, Health and Human Services, Labor, Education and Housing and Urban Development.
- Not more than five members of private or non-profit companies or organizations.

The Governor shall appoint one member of the Task Force to serve as Chairman. All Task Force members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Task Force membership may be revised at any time as determined by the Governor.

4. Duration

The Task Force shall sunset on April 20, 2002 unless otherwise extended or terminated by the Governor.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado the 21st day of April, 1999.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Owens".

Bill Owens
Governor

→ Higgins

4/26

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

FEMA
HHS
Treas
Educ

12.30

Riley at event

Treasury - investigation continues

Riley to Supt (Modlawski - Springfield, OR) Supt
- OR City →
- LA United Sch

- informed + long term steps
- they have done a tremendous job.

→ church on Sunday

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 20, 1999

As of: 11:58 AM

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: THURGOOD MARSHALL, JR. *TM*
KRIS M. BALDERSTON *KMB*

SUBJECT: Agency Efforts on behalf of Littleton, Colorado School Shootings

INCIDENT UPDATE

According to Sheriff Steve Davis, there are fifteen (15) confirmed fatalities; two of which include the suspects. Of the fifteen, eleven (11) are male and four (4) are female. One of the victims is reported to be an adult. In addition, thirty (30) explosive devices were found in the school, one suspect's vehicle in the school parking lot, and in the suspects' residence. Investigators will enter the school this morning and early afternoon to conduct a search and to take photos. After the photos and first search is complete, local officials will commence a major investigation involving agents from several jurisdictions. Sheriff Davis also reported that he will update the press every hour on the half hour. His last statement was at 10:30a.m.

AGENCY EFFORTS

The Department of Education

Secretary Riley called the Jefferson County School Superintendent this morning to offer any assistance to the community. Specifically, the Secretary outlined joint efforts between the Department of Education, Justice, and HHS to provide crisis counselors and any other assistance that is needed. Additionally, Secretary Riley and the Department of Education (DOEd) provided local officials with contact names and numbers for those officials seeking federal assistance. The DOEd has made the following contacts:

- William Molonoy, Chief State School Officer, Colorado: Judith Johnson called Mr. Molonoy and offered assistance; DOEd will follow-up this afternoon.
- Susan Goren, President, National Association of School Psychologists: Susan offered help of NASP in providing assistance to the school system.
- Jenelle Kruger, Safe and Drug Free Schools Program Coordinator, Colorado: State Education Agency: Assistance of SDFS Program was offered.

- Marleen Wong, Director of Mental Health, Los Angeles Public Schools: Marleen has been instrumental in helping various communities that have experienced crisis similar to Colorado. Marleen offered her help in this effort.

- Kathryn Thurman, Director, Office for Victims of Crime, Department of Justice. OVC and SDFS have joint agreement with National Office for Victims of Crime to form crisis response teams and send those teams where they are needed. Kathryn has been working with community victim advocates and feels that the community is very well prepared to deal with this crisis.

Throughout this afternoon, DOEd is in contact with the Superintendent of Jefferson County schools and find out what assistance is needed. DOEd can offer the following:

- Identification of persons who can provide crisis counseling assistance and payment to get those persons to Colorado.
- Identification of persons who have experienced similar tragedies to provide "hands on" help in days immediately following incident. We can pay for travel and per diem of these persons.
- Identification of persons who can help the school district plan a long-term recovery effort which DOEd is currently working on in Springfield, Oregon. DOEd will pay the costs of getting people to Colorado.
- Identification of Security Experts. Often after such a shooting a school district wants to do a thorough review of its school safety plans, policies, etc. DOEd can help identify a person(s) to conduct such a review and will pay costs of getting person to Colorado.

The Department of Treasury

According to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF), 13 ATF investigators are on the scene in addition to two (2) canine handlers and two (2) explosive enforcement officers. ATF was asked by the County Sheriff to assist in clearing the scene of explosive devices and was concluded at 1:30am Denver time. Seven (7) destructive devices were found in the trunk of one suspect's vehicle and 12 small devices were found inside the school. ATF's crime scene mapping system has also been requested by the County Sheriff. ATF will also be involved in tracing firearms described as two (2) sawed-off shotguns, one handgun and one carbine. In addition, ATF will help canvass explosive licenses in an effort to determine who purchased explosives related to this incident. ATF will send a peer support team, including two chaplains, to provide services to the victims, witnesses and investigators.

The Department of Justice

Along with the ATF, FBI agents are on the ground providing technical assistance to local law enforcement officials. They are not active in the investigation as it is considered a local effort at this point. Additionally, these agents may provide added security to the local hospitals and funerals if requested and needed.

This is a local investigation

The Federal Emergency Management Agency

The FEMA State Director is contacting the local officials to assess needs in dealing with the ongoing community relations initiatives. FEMA officials involved in the Jonesboro incident have been put in contact with the county sheriff in Littleton. These FEMA personnel will provide guidance and expertise to those in Littleton. Two (2) FEMA Public Affairs officials will travel to Colorado to work with state and county officials.

The Department of Health and Human Services

HHS' Center for Mental Health Services has contacted the Colorado State Mental Health Director to offer assistance with crisis counseling if requested. In addition, the Surgeon General stands ready to provide assistance.

NOTE:

Secretary's Herman, Richardson and Glickman will be speaking to the Conference of Black Mayors tomorrow in Denver, Colorado.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

- DOJ Rick
- FEMA
- HHS
- ED
- Trans
- OND

DOJ → Counselors burning out Canda
pledged \$750,000 in support
Victims Assis Program

- no Federal counsellors

DOED - ~~do~~ school does not want ppl
outside the state.

- but will ~~pay~~ use \$ for
in-house counsellors.

Educ

Educ & DOJ

school is connected

- May close Columbus HS til end
of the year

- working w Springs ^{POK}
security title

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

linking or →

Print 100,000 cc of EW Guide?

Ideas

help local shorts must
cover

HHS MTV moving up broadcast
3.30 after sch

- Do not need counselors
(being overwhelmed w requests)

4.30
PM

High School Wednesday

TRACK | SOCCER | LACROSSE



Aaron Beck, left, Busayo Ojumu, Brandon Alexander and John Diamond won the 4x800 relay at Saturday's Allen Johnson Invitational in area-best 7:53.36.

Four Strong Legs Make Sturdy Relay Team

T.C. Williams Boys Set Sights on 4x800 At Penn Relays

By BRYAN TUCKER
Special to The Washington Post

As 800-meter runners go, the four that make up T.C. Williams's boys 4x800 relay team are not intimidating.

Together, however, they could be one of the top high school relay teams in the nation.

Most elite high school 4x800 teams have one runner capable of finishing his leg in 1 minute 53 seconds. T.C. Williams doesn't have a runner quite that fast—senior Brandon Alexander is the fastest, with a best split of 1:55, according to Titans boys distance coach Rich Sardo.

The Titans—Alexander, classmates Aaron Beck and Jonathan Diamond, and junior Busayo Ojumu—make up for it with balance. They all are fast, and they will be one of the top seeds at the 105th Penn Relays, which start Thursday at Franklin Field in Philadelphia.

"Not every runner on the team is a great runner, but not all teams have four strong runners," Alexander said. "When we put it together, we usually have an advantage on other teams."

T.C. Williams won the boys 4x800 relay against national competition at the Nike Indoor Classic in March. But this spring Diamond has replaced junior Brant Snyder, who is on the

105th Annual Penn Relays

- **Where:** Franklin Field on the University of Pennsylvania campus.
- **When:** Thursday through Saturday.
- **Who:** The prestigious meet includes runners from at least 850 high schools—a new meet record—22 states, as well as the District, and 9 foreign countries.
- **Big Names:** Olympic gold medalists Michael Johnson and Allen Johnson will highlight the men's competition, while Marlon Jones, who was ranked No. 1 in the 100, 200 and long jump by Track and Field News in 1998, highlights the women's entries.

Titans' rowing team.

Running with Diamond for the first time in Saturday's Allen Johnson Invitational at Lake Braddock, the Titans rolled over a 14-team field in the event. T.C. Williams finished in an area-best time of 7:53.36, 17 seconds better than second-place Woodbridge (8:10.84) and 13 seconds faster than the second-best area time of the season (Ballou, 8:06.62).

No one has come farther in his running career than Beck, who transferred from Dixie High School in Due West, S.C., in the summer of 1996. He has improved his time in the 800 from 2:28 as a sophomore to running the first leg Saturday at Lake Braddock in a personal-best 1:56.9.

Beck "has done phenomenal work since he started in track," T.C. Williams Coach Mike Hughes said. "He got smarter in what he was doing and took care of himself and grew up in the sport. He never ceases to amaze me."

Beck is the track team captain

and may face the most pressure, since a slow first leg can preclude team success before three runners have even touched the baton.

"I usually go out there and go to my limit and [farther] if possible," Beck said. "If I give up the last 200 meters, I have given up on my team. . . . It is kind of crucial [to have] a good start."

Beck hands off to Diamond, who wrestled for T.C. Williams while his 4x800 teammates were running indoor track over the winter.

Diamond, who placed second at 140 pounds in the Virginia AAA Northern Region championships and will wrestle at George Mason next year, cut his 800 time from 2:04 last year to a personal-best 2:00.5 on Saturday.

"I don't think we were very shocked" about the performance at the Allen Johnson Invitational, Diamond said. The team "knew I was as fast as [Snyder], and outdoor track is a lot faster than indoor."

Ojumu, who runs the third leg

for the Titans, finished in 1:58 on Saturday. His other team required less running, but almost as much sweating—he was a member of the school's "It's Academic" television quiz show team.

Ojumu "does not cheat himself in workouts, and he is getting stronger every month," Sardo said. "He realizes he has not run the perfect 800 yet."

Alexander, who also ran the anchor leg during indoor season, is the speediest Titan on the 4x800 team. He ran his leg in 1:56 on Saturday, but his highlight this winter was tracking down Oakton All-Met senior Andrew Macleod in the last 55 meters to win the Northern Region 4x800 title.

Alexander "is the guy who likes to go with fortitude," Hughes said. "I think [in outdoor season], that will be an asset for us. At the Penn Relays, to have that tenacity will be good."

The Titans' 4x800 relay team finished 14th last year at the Penn Relays, but the hopes are much higher this season.

The top 12 teams from Friday's heats advance to the 4x800 Championship of America final, scheduled for 3 p.m. Saturday.

"The fact is everybody shows up on race day," Alexander said. "There's a lot of teamwork, and everyone can hold his own. My teammates can rise to the occasion. . . . We are going up there and trying to win it, and have fun doing it."



Sean P. O'Shea

04/21/99 02:47:09 PM



Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc: Kris M Balderston/WHO/EOP@EOP, Thurgood Marshall Jr/WHO/EOP@EOP

Subject: FW: Secretary Riley's Statement regarding the Columbine High School shooting

I am told Secretary Riley's Office put this out this afternoon at 1:30pm. FYI

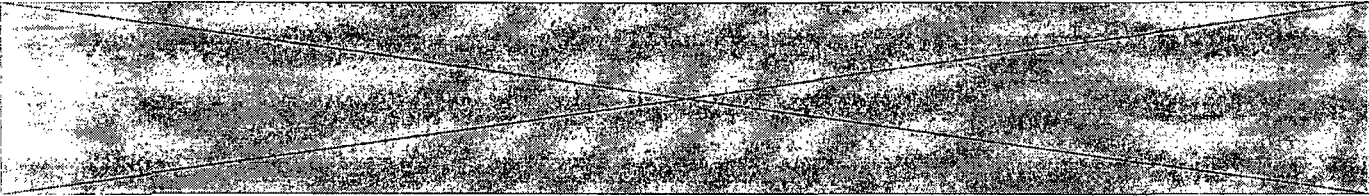
Secretary Riley's Statement regarding the Columbine High



- LITTLETO.2.doc

Message Sent To:

Jennifer M. Palmieri/WHO/EOP@EOP
Barry J. Toiv/WHO/EOP@EOP
Erica S. Lepping/WHO/EOP@EOP
Heather M. Riley/WHO/EOP@EOP
Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP@EOP



For Release: April 21, 1999

Contact: Julie Green (202) 401-3026

**STATEMENT BY U.S. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION RICHARD W. RILEY
regarding the Columbine High School shooting**

Like all Americans I extend my prayers to the many, many families in Littleton, Colorado, who are suffering today. As the father of four children and the grandfather of 10 children, my heart goes out to each and every one of these students and families and to the teachers, faculty and staff at Columbine High School.

This tragedy represents a new scale and level of school violence that we have never seen before. And it says something about the easy ability of young people to get access to guns and the glorification of violence we sometimes see in America. If this type of tragedy doesn't bring about a public outcry, I don't know what will.

My message to every gun owner in America is very direct -- lock up your guns today. Think hard about what has just happened and please don't assume anything. Time and again, young people, who have caused these types of tragedies in our schools, have been able to get access to guns. America needs to realize that kids and unsupervised gun use do not mix.

My message to parents is to reach out to your children and listen to them. We have to do everything we can to connect even to the most angry and alienated young person. Young people who are cut-off and isolated can be, as we have seen, deeply disconnected.

I urge parents to slow down their lives. As a society we must make much more of an effort to help families and make sure that there is some responsible adult in the life of every young person.

We have been in contact with Colorado school officials and stand ready to assist them in any way possible.

We should not look for one easy answer to this type of tragedy. Every level of society -- from local community groups, to schools, to faith communities, state officials and national leaders -- can contribute to supporting families as they seek to raise their children safely.

At the President's request, the Departments of Education and Justice have sought to support local efforts in several ways. Working together we developed an "Early Warning Guide" on how to prevent such incidents of violence and distributed copies to every school in the country, started a new \$300 million comprehensive school violence prevention initiative, and have a proposal pending in Congress to establish "Project SERV" -- a \$12 million effort to help school districts that have to confront these types of tragedies.

###

456-2525

Leadership Talking Points for Colorado Tragedy

Neuman
Tyrer
Palmer
Corder
Carter
3:00-5:56

Three Key Messages

- 1) **The vast majority of schools are safe. [Only 10% public schools report any serious violent crime.]**
- 2) **The Department of Justice and our federal partners are prepared to provide assistance to the victims, the families and the entire community of Littleton, Colorado, when and where requested;**
- 3) **We know what things work to help prevent this kind of violence, but in order to succeed in our efforts we need to engage communities, state and local governments; business and the faith community.**

Talking Points

- **Together with the Nation, I mourn with the family and friends of those who were so senselessly killed and injured yesterday in Colorado. But, we do the victims no honor if we allow our grief to overwhelm our resolve to prevent future tragedies.**

- In the wake of last year's tragic multiple shootings, this Administration redoubled its efforts to stop school violence before it starts. But yesterday's shootings are a reminder that redoubled efforts are not necessarily enough. The shootings are a new call to action. We must mourn, and then we must do even more to solve this problem.

- First, a look at what we have already done. Last year, we convened two meetings with nationally-recognized experts on youth violence. Uniformly, these experts told us that there is much we know about how to prevent similar incidents from arising and that there is much we can do. They told us that, while we must punish and hold youthful offenders accountable, we must do everything we can to prevent similar tragedies from happening, as well.
 - ◆ Punishment. It is essential to have strong laws to punish and hold youthful offenders suitably accountable for these horrendous crimes. But that alone won't bring back the dead; it won't heal the wounded or make families whole again.

 - ◆ Identification of Warning Signs/Early Intervention. We know the warning signs and risk factors that signal potentially violent youth. We know that early intervention with these young people has a tremendous impact. We must train parents, school personnel and community members to identify those warning signs and we must provide resources for

early intervention, professional and otherwise.

To this end, in August 1998, the Departments of Justice and Education issued guidelines to help school principals and teachers recognize and respond to youth who have displayed warning signs of violent behavior. We have distributed hundreds of thousands of copies of the "Early Warning Timely Response" report.

- ◆ **Non-violent Ways to Deal with Aggression and Resolve Conflicts.** Conflict resolution curricula and peer mediation programs are proving to be effective in decreasing youth violence. In a cultural environment where exposure to violent confrontations has become matter-of-fact, we must give young people the skills to resolve their interpersonal conflicts peacefully. As the President has said, we must teach our children to solve their conflicts through words, not violence.

To spread the word across the country, in October 1998, the Departments of Justice and Education released the first Annual Report on School Safety, including information on model conflict resolution and other school crime reduction programs.

In addition, the COPS Officer at the Department of Justice is pursuing promising problem-solving partnerships between schools and law enforcement. We know that when schools work together with

local law enforcement to tackle local school safety issues, they enjoy remarkable success.

- ◆ **Guns.** The undeniable link among all of these recent incidents is the presence of guns in the hands of unsupervised youth. In 1994, 81% of juvenile homicide offenders killed with a firearm -- with approximately 3/4 of these firearms being handguns. We can and must do more to limit unauthorized access by young people to guns.

We should raise penalties for juveniles who possess handguns, and for adults who illegally transfer handguns to juveniles. We should extend the Brady Law, so that young people who commit serious and violent offenses can't purchase handguns as soon as they become adults. And we should continue to crack down on illegal gun markets, by increasing penalties for straw purchases and for gang-related firearms offenses.

- **Next Steps.** We must capitalize on the initiatives announced by the President in October 1998 at the White House Conference on School Safety.
 - The President announced a new federal response for violent deaths and other crises in schools, to be coordinated by the Departments of Justice, Education and Health and Human Services. Funding for **Project SERV** (School Emergency Response to Violence) is

included in the President's FY 2000 budget.

- He also announced a new initiative to **hire up to 2,000 community police and School Resource Officers** to work in the most troubled schools. The funding of these officers is underway.
- In addition, the President announced the new **Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative**, a grant program jointly administered by the Departments of Justice, Education and Health and Human Services and designed to promote coordinated, comprehensive plans for school safety in communities around the country. Just a few weeks ago, Secretary Riley, Surgeon General Satcher and I formally introduced the Initiative.

Finally, we must continue to develop training for law enforcement officers -- for the specific purpose of working in schools. When an officer receives specific training on how to communicate with students, on how to build relationships, we see greater respect for officers by students, and for students by officers. And that means safer schools.

In short, the Justice Department, and the Administration as a whole, have been working hard on the issue of school safety and we think we've made a lot of progress, but this new tragedy is a new call to action.

DRAFT

Attorney General Remarks on Colorado Shootings
Prepared by: Charles Simon
Reviewed by: Myron Marlin, Ricki Seidman, Ann Harkins

DRAFT

I want to take a moment to comment on yesterday's terrible shooting in Littleton, Colorado.

It is impossible to make sense of a tragic event like this. Any time the sound of gun fire rings out in our halls of learning, it rips through the very fabric of our society.

As a nation, we are touched by the pain of the innocent victims, their families and friends, the students, teachers and staff of Columbine High School, and the community as a whole. Our hearts go out to all the people of Jefferson County.

This morning, I want to praise local law enforcement, support services and the faith community which responded so quickly and ably yesterday. At the request of the local authorities, FBI and ATF agents have been in Littleton providing assistance. We have teams of victims' counselors standing by. We have let the community know that the Departments of Justice and Education will provide whatever resources they may need.

What we must do now is learn from this tragedy and use the lessons to

help prevent future tragedies.

Although it comes as little comfort at a time like this, we must remember that schools are still among the safest places for America's children. Only 10% of public schools report any serious violent crime. But we all know that even that small percentage is far too great.

Just over one year ago, I traveled to Jonesboro, Arkansas to attend a memorial service in the wake of another terrible school shooting. I was saddened as I mourned with the people there, but I was also inspired by their strength of spirit, their faith in each other, and their belief in hope and healing.

Spurred by the memory of those who died in last year's school shootings, we redoubled our efforts to stop school violence. But yesterday's shootings are a sad reminder that even those efforts may not be enough.

We must mourn, and then we must do even more to solve this problem. We owe it to those who suffered so terribly yesterday and to those who live wherever else guns have shattered lives and broken the peace and quiet of our schools and communities.

DRAFT

Leadership Talking Points for Colorado Tragedy

prepared by: Charles Simon
reviewed by Ricki Seidman, Ann Harkins

DRAFT

[HOLD UP “EARLY WARNING TIMELY RESPONSE”
REPORT DURING INTERVIEW]

Three Key Messages

- 1) **The vast majority of schools are safe. [Only 10% public schools report any serious violent crime.]**
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In short, the Justice Department, and the Administration as a whole, have been working hard on the issue of school safety and we think we've made a lot of progress, but this new tragedy is a new call to action.

**Colorado School Shooting
Questions and Answers**

DRAFT

prepared by: Charles Simon

reviewed by: Ricki Seidman and Myron Marlin

Q: What is the federal role in this case?

A: The FBI and ATF provided assistance to the local authorities during the course of the day yesterday and remain on the scene and ready to provide additional support if needed.

Now, in the aftermath of this tragedy, our role is to provide whatever resources we can to support the local authorities. Necessarily, the hours and days right after a tragedy like this are challenging and terribly difficult, and the federal government stands ready to help as, when and where we are needed. Our Office of Victims of Crime is in direct contact with the Denver region victim assistance/crisis response network and has offered our assistance. We will coordinate federal assistance with the Department of Education, when and if requested by the local authorities. In addition, if asked, the federal government will provide whatever support it can in the investigation of this tragedy.

Q: Why are we seeing so many of these types of incidents?

A: In fact, these types of incidents are remarkably rare. This is the first multiple shooting at a school this school year, in a nation with 52 million students and 109,000 schools. Even taking into account last school year when a number of multiple shootings took place at school, less than one percent of homicides among this age group occurs in a school setting. And only 10% of public schools report any serious violent crime. Nevertheless, these are senseless and tragic incidents, and we must work to ensure that they don't happen again. The fact that schools are among the safest places for America's children is cold comfort in the face of a tragedy like this.

Q: What has the Justice Department done since the first school shootings a year and a half ago?

A: Following the tragedy in Jonesboro, the Attorney General convened two meetings with a broad range of national experts, who uniformly urged that we give a higher priority to prevention and early intervention. The experts called on the Federal government to widely disseminate information about what works and to provide financial assistance for local communities to implement effective prevention and early intervention strategies.

In August 1998, the Departments of Justice and Education issued guidelines to help school principals and teachers recognize and respond to youth who have displayed warning signs of violent behavior. We have distributed hundreds of thousand of copies of the "Early Warning Timely Response" report.

Then, in October 1998, the President hosted the first-ever White House Conference on

School Safety. At the Conference, the President released the first Annual Report on School Safety developed by Secretary Riley and me. He also announced a series of new school safety initiatives that are now well under way.

The President announced a new federal response for violent deaths and other crises in schools, to be coordinated by the Departments of Justice, Education and Health and Human Services. Funding for Project SERV (School Emergency Response to Violence) is included in the President's FY 2000 budget.

He also announced a new initiative to hire up to 2,000 community police and School Resource Officers to work in the most troubled schools. The funding of these officers is now underway.

In addition, the President announced the new Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative, a grant program jointly administered by the Departments of Justice, Education and Health and Human Services and designed to promote coordinated, comprehensive plans for school safety in communities around the country. Just a few weeks ago, Secretary Riley, Surgeon General Satcher and I formally introduced the Initiative.

The COPS Officer at the Department of Justice is pursuing promising problem-solving partnerships between schools and law enforcement. We know that when schools work together with local law enforcement to tackle local school safety issues, they enjoy remarkable success.

Finally, we continue to develop training for law enforcement officers -- for the specific purpose of working in schools. When an officer receives specific training on how to communicate with students, on how to build relationships, we see greater respect for officers by students, and for students by officers. And that means safer schools.

In short, the Justice Department and the Administration as a whole have been working hard on these issues and we think we've made a lot of progress, but this new tragedy is a new call to action.

Q: Why can't you do more?

A: We can do more and we will do more. I can't tell you that we can prevent every incident, but we can have an impact. There is, unfortunately, no cookie cutter approach. The hard work has to take place at the local level, community by community. We can and must support local efforts and get information about what works into the hands of the people who need it. We must finish implementation of the initiatives announced by the President at the Conference on School Safety. And we can take further steps at the national level to limit children's unsupervised access to guns.

Q: The common denominator in all these school shootings is guns in the hands of young people. What are you doing to keep kids away from guns?

A: We know that tough, targeted deterrence and better prevention are the key to reducing juvenile violence. For example, in Boston, Federal, state and local law enforcement worked with probation officers, clergy, community workers and many others to deliver a tough, targeted message on gun violence. The result: no juvenile was killed for a 2 ½ year period. But we can also do more to keep illegal guns out of the hands of young people. We should raise penalties for juveniles who possess handguns, and for adults who illegally transfer handguns to juveniles. We should extend the Brady Law, so that young people who commit serious and violent offenses can't purchase handguns as soon as they become adults. And we should continue to crack down on illegal gun markets, by increasing penalties for straw purchases and for gang-related firearms offenses.

Q: Do we need new laws that cover school shootings or allow federal prosecution of juveniles who participate in them?

A: Currently, federal law generally allows for the prosecution of certain juveniles as adults for certain drug and gun crimes. Lower threshold ages for federal prosecution were passed as part of the 1994 Crime Bill. In addition, a number of states have developed innovative legislative solutions to the issue of appropriate juvenile prosecution and incarceration.

Q: Is the federal government planning to step in on Jonesboro or any of the other cases to help keep the murderers in those cases locked up past their 18th birthdays?

A: The Department currently has this matter under review. It would be inappropriate for me to comment at this time.

Q: The Justice Department keeps talking about prevention and yet we have seen more incidents of multiple shootings in schools than at any time in history. Shouldn't you change your focus to imposing tougher penalties that tell kids you won't be getting out when you're 18, and you're going to jail for a long, long time?

A: It is essential to have strong laws to punish and hold youthful offenders suitably accountable for these horrendous crimes. But that won't bring back the dead, it won't heal the wounded or make families whole again. So we must do everything we can to PREVENT similar tragedies from happening, as well. Tougher penalties must go hand-in-hand with improved efforts to detect early warning signs of violent behavior, to provide crucial mental health and juvenile services, and to teach conflict resolution – to name just a few prevention strategies.



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20530

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: LISA LEVIN

FAX NO. 456-2525

FROM: Jon Jennings

PHONE NO. 514-2141

FAX NO. 514-4482

DATE: 4-21-99

NO. OF PAGES 10 (EXCLUDING COVER)

COMMENTS VERY Important - Pls. deliver



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

Fax Transmission Cover Sheet

Date: _____ Number of Pages to Follow: 1

To: Kris Baldeston

Fax: 486-2525

Tel: _____

From: David A. Bloom
Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room 3028
Tel: (202) 622-0059
Fax: (202) 622-0073
Pager: (202) 622-1260

Memorandum

Kris - Attached is our 1st crack at writing up ATF's role. Updates will follow as events develop. Call with questions. Thanks

Columbine ?

ATF's Role in the ~~Celubian~~ High School Shooting Incident in Littleton, Colorado

We have 13 investigators on scene in addition to the 2 canine handlers and 2 explosives enforcement officers. At the request of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office ATF investigators which includes certified explosives specialists were asked to assist in clearing the scene of explosives devices. This clearing concluded at 1:30 a.m. Denver time. A total of 7 destructive devices were located in the trunk of one suspect's vehicle and 12 small devices were located inside of the school. ATF's crime scene mapping system has also been requested to document the shooting and explosive scene for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. The suspects have been identified as being Eric Harris W/M age 18 and Dillon Claybold W/M age 18. An associate of suspects Chris Morris has been arrested as a witness and is currently in custody.

We have a total of 15 dead which involves 10 students in library, 2 died in the hospital and one died outside of school and 1 teacher. Also the 2 suspects were found dead in the library. At 10:00 a.m. Denver time investigators along with explosives enforcement officers and canine units will reenter the scene for the final clearing prior to forensic teams entering location. We will be involved in tracing firearms described as 2 sawed-off shotguns, one handgun and one carbine. We are also in the process of having investigators and inspectors canvass explosives licensees in an effort to determine who purchased explosives related to this incident. We are also sending a peer support team which includes 2 chaplains to the scene to provide services to the victims, witnesses and investigators.

Mark Fogarty



Lisa J. Levin

04/21/99 10:12:12 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Sean P. O'Shea/WHO/EOP@EOP, Kris M Balderston/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: FW: Follow Up to Shooting

----- Forwarded by Lisa J. Levin/WHO/EOP on 04/21/99 10:12 AM -----



"Thornton, Leslie" <Leslie_Thornton@ed.gov>

04/21/99 10:08:47 AM

Record Type: Record

To: "balderston_k@a1.eop.gov" <balderston_k@a1.eop.gov>, Lisa J. Levin/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: FW: Follow Up to Shooting

Kris --

Per this morning's conference call.

Again, my e:mail is: Leslie_Thornton@ed.gov

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Modzeleski, Bill

> Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 1999 9:57 AM

> To: Thornton, Leslie

> Cc: Johnson, Judith; Rogers, Diane; Sullivan, Kevin; Green, Julie;

> Frank, David

> Subject: Follow Up to Shooting

>

> As a follow up to the shooting in Colorado we have made the following

> contacts:

>

> --William Molonoy, Chief State School Officer, Colorado: Judith Johnson

> called Mr. Molonoy and offered assistance of ED. Need follow up call.

>

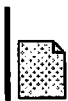
> --Susan Goren, President, National Association of School Psychologists:

> Susan offered help of NASP in providing assistance to the school system.

>

> --Jenelle Kruger, Safe and Drug Free Schools Program Coordinator, Colorado

- > State Education Agency: Offered assistance of SDFS Program.
- >
- > --Marleen Wong, Director of Mental Health, Los Angeles Public Schools:
 - > Marleen has been instrumental in helping various communities that have
 - > experienced crisis similar to Colorado. Marleen offered to help in this
 - > effort.
- >
- > --Kathryn Thurman, Director, Office for Victims of Crime, Department of
 - > Justice. OVC and SDFS have joint agreement with National Office for
 - > Victims of Crime to form crisis response teams and send those teams where
 - > they are needed. Kathryn has been working with community victim advocates
 - > and feels that the community is very well prepared to deal with this
 - > crisis. She doesn't know how well linked the school system is to the
 - > community.
- >
- > Actions for Today:
 - >
 - > Primary focus will be to make contact with the superintendent of Jefferson
 - > County schools and find out what assistance is needed. We can offer the
 - > following:
 - >
 - > o Identification of persons who can provide crisis counseling assistance,
 - > and payment to get those persons to Colorado.
 - >
 - > o Identification of persons who have experienced similar tragedies to
 - > provide "hands on" help in days immediately following incident. We can pay
 - > for travel and per diem of these persons.
 - >
 - > o Identification of persons who can help school district plan long-term
 - > recovery plan. We are doing this with Springfield, Oregon and it is
 - > working extremely well. We can pay costs of getting person to Colorado and
 - > per diem expenses.
 - >
 - > o Identification of Security Experts. Often after such a shooting a school
 - > district wants to do a thorough review of its school safety plans,
 - > policies, etc. We can help identify a person(s) to conduct such a review
 - > and pay costs for getting person to Colorado.



- att1.unk

April 20, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR JOE LOCKHART

FROM: Kris Balderston

SUBJECT: Agency Efforts on behalf of Littleton School Shootings

Following outlines agency responses and offers of assistance to help the Littleton school district.

The Department of Education

Secretary Riley will call the Jefferson County School Superintendent this morning to offer any assistance to the community. Specifically, the Secretary will outline joint efforts between the Department of Education, Justice, and HHS to provide crisis counselors and any other assistance that is needed. Additionally, Secretary Riley will provide local officials with contact names and numbers for those officials seeking federal assistance.

The Departments of Justice and Treasury

ATF and FBI agents are on the ground providing technical assistance to local law enforcement officials. They are not active in the investigation as it is considered a local effort at this point. Additionally, these agents may provide added security to the local hospitals and funerals if requested and needed.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency

FEMA stands ready to provide media and community relations assistance to the local officials if requested. The FEMA State Director is contacting the local officials to assess need in dealing with the ongoing community relations initiatives.

The Department of Health and Human Services

HHS' Center for Mental Health Services has contacted the Colorado State Mental Health Director to offer assistance with crisis counseling if requested. In addition, the Surgeon General stands ready to provide assistance.

NOTE:

Secretary's Herman, Richardson and Glickman will be speaking to the Conference of Black Mayors tomorrow in Denver, Colorado.



ReSEND

Town Hall
2:30
PESD

FACSIMILE

L7 Lisa Guide
CEQ

**From the Immediate Office of the Secretary
Executive Secretariat**

To: CHRIS
Fax#: 2-456-2525
Re: LITTLETON - URGENT
Date: _____

53449

Pages: including this cover sheet 23

From the desk of:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> LaVarne Burton | <input type="checkbox"/> Jackie White |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Bart | <input type="checkbox"/> John Gallivan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kimberly Harold | <input type="checkbox"/> Carlos McCormick |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christy Quigley | <input type="checkbox"/> Martina Varnado |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mirtha Beadle | <input type="checkbox"/> Ann White |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Boule | <input type="checkbox"/> Melvin Whitfield |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LaJuana Caldwell | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carlos Cano | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sean Donohue | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neleen Eisenger | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lorraine Fishback | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Johnathan Friebert | |

DREW HAZAFFEL
205-8154

Comments: _____

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Office of the Secretary

Washington, D.C. 20201

HHS Involvement in Littleton School Shooting
April 21, 1999

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA):

CMHS we will be in contact today with our State coordinator today to offer assistance if needed. As you may know these emergency response teams are locally based across the nation. An example of what may be offered is after the Oklahoma City bombing we helped to set up an extensive mental health counseling network for those affected. We are working on a proposal with DoE and DOJ to form a crisis response effort that would be available for these kinds of situations but that is on the drawing board.

Office of Public Health & Science (OPHS):

will provide updates as soon as possible

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

will provide updates as soon as possible

Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative

Although schools are generally safer today than they were just a few years ago – and statistics show that students are safer sitting in a classroom than walking down a street – there is still much more that we can do to improve the health and safety of our schools and students. Last Fall, in the wake of tragic multiple shootings at a number of schools, the President convened the first-ever White House Conference on School Safety, so that we could share ideas on how to make our schools and communities safer. During the Conference, the President issued a call to action, announcing a series of new initiatives to address many of the problems highlighted at the Conference.

An Unprecedented Collaborative Effort. Today, the Departments of Justice, Education, and Health and Human Services (the "Agencies") are formally introducing an unprecedented collaborative effort, the Safe Schools/Health Students Initiative (the "Initiative"). The Agencies – through the Initiative – will provide schools, students and communities with the tools to develop and implement comprehensive community-wide strategies for creating safe and drug-free schools and for promoting healthy childhood development.

Enhanced Comprehensive Services. Students, schools and communities will receive enhanced comprehensive educational, mental health, social service, law enforcement, and, as appropriate, juvenile justice system services. Activities that may be funded as part of this Initiative include, but are not limited to, truancy prevention, teen courts, alternative education, purchasing security equipment and services, after school activities, mentoring, programs such as conflict resolution, life skills, school-based anti-drug curricula, nurse home visitation, family strengthening and staff professional development. These services and activities will allow young people to develop the social skills and emotional resilience necessary to avoid drug use and violent behavior, and will help to create safe, disciplined and drug-free school environments. The Initiative is based on evidence that a comprehensive, integrated community-wide approach is an effective way to promote safe schools and healthy students.

A Streamlined Application Process. Through a streamlined, single application process, approximately 50 successful applicants will receive support from the Agencies for up to three years (depending on Congressional appropriation of funding in future years) to support a wide variety of developmental, educational and public safety services. Successful applicants will be school districts (local education agencies) representing community partnerships involving, at a minimum:

- the local educational agency,
- the local public mental health authority,
- the local law enforcement agency,
- family members,
- students, and
- juvenile justice officials.

A Demonstrated Plan. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate that their comprehensive safe school plans include the following elements: (1) a secure school environment, (2) alcohol, drug and violence prevention and early intervention, (3) school and community mental health preventive and treatment intervention services, (4) early childhood psychosocial and emotional development services, (5) educational reform, and (6) safe school policies.

Awards. Awards will range from up to \$3 million per year for urban school districts, up to \$2 million per year for suburban school districts, and up to \$1 million per year for rural school districts and tribal schools. The Initiative will be funded out of FY1999 appropriations, with \$60 million from the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program of the Department of Education; \$25 million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) of the Department of Health and Human Services; and \$15 million from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) of the Department of Justice. In addition, up to \$80 million are available from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing for the hiring of law enforcement officers to work in schools.

April 20, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR JOE LOCKHART

FROM: Kris Balderston

SUBJECT: Agency Efforts on behalf of Littleton School Shootings

Following outlines agency responses and offers of assistance to help the Littleton school district.

The Department of Education

Secretary Riley will call the Jefferson County School Superintendent this afternoon to offer any assistance to local school community officials. Specifically, the Secretary will outline joint efforts between the Department of Education and HHS to provided crisis counselors.

Additionally, Secretary Riley will provide local officials with contact names and numbers for those officials seeking federal assistance.

The Departments of Justice and Treasury

ATF and FBI agents are on the ground providing technical assistance to local law enforcement officials. They are not active in the investigation as it is considered a local effort at this point. Additionally, these agents may provide added security to the local hospitals and funerals if requested and needed.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency

FEMA stands ready to provide media and community relations assistance to the local officials if requested. The FEMA State Director is contacting the local officials to assess need in dealing with the ongoing community relations initiatives.

The Department of Health and Human Services

HHS' Center for Mental Health Services has made contact with the State Emergency Coordinator and the Colorado State Mental Health Director to offer assistance with crisis counseling if requested. In addition, the Surgeon General stands ready to provide assistance.

NOTE:

Secretary Herman will be speaking to the Conference of Black Mayors tomorrow in Denver, Colorado.

Secretary Richardson will be in Denver, Colorado to speak to the Conference of Black Mayors.

1 hr ago
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15 dead hard # do not use
includes - 1 adult

area clear of bomb

video scene

evidence collect

FBI
~~ATF~~ consulting

disarming

local invest
w/ Fed assist

66797

April 20, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR JOE LOCKHART

FROM: Kris Balderston

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NOTE:

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Secretary Richardson will be in Denver, Colorado to speak to the Conference of Black Mayors.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 20, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bruce Reed
Jose Cerda III

SUBJECT: Policy Response to School Shootings

Here are some actions and legislative initiatives the Administration can undertake when the response to the Littleton shootings inevitably turns to questions of federal policy:

1. Announce Grants for 600 School Resource Officers. Anytime this week or next, you can announce Justice Department grants under the COPS program to help local school districts hire some 600 police officers to work in schools. These will be the first such officers awarded under the program you announced at the White House Conference on School Safety in October, where we pledged to provide funds for up to 2,000 police officers in schools in FY99. You could also announce that schools and communities have until June 1 to apply for nearly \$100 million in Safe Schools grants to 50 cities that put together comprehensive school safety strategies -- another initiative you unveiled at the School Safety Conference.

2. Announce Legislation to Reform and Reauthorize Safe and Drug-Free Schools. Anytime this week or next, you can unveil our Safe and Drug-Free Schools legislation that will be included as part of the ESEA reauthorization. This proposal formally authorizes \$12 million a year for our FEMA-like emergency response teams; requires participating schools to adopt comprehensive school safety plans; and renews the requirement that schools adopt "Zero Tolerance" policies for guns. It also reforms the overall program to require competitive funding at both the state and federal level. As details emerge from the Littleton shooting, we will review this proposal to see whether any additional provisions are appropriate -- such as increased funding for guidance counselors for troubled kids; gun violence education programs; and alternative schools for disruptive and expelled students.

3. Announce Tough New Gun Legislation. Sometime next week -- and just days before the NRA's national convention takes place in Denver (April 30 through May 2) -- you can unveil a Youth Gun Crime Enforcement Act that includes gun initiatives you have already announced (cracking down on gun shows and gun trafficking, extending the Brady waiting period, increasing prosecution of gun crimes, tougher gun penalties, and a new provision to ban the importation of large-capacity magazines), as well as several new or previously unnoticed provisions targeted at juvenile gun violence:

- Amending the juvenile handgun ban to include semiautomatic assault rifles manufactured before the assault weapons ban went into place. Currently, an 18-year-old can legally possess rifles, including assault rifles manufactured before Sept. 13, 1994. This provision, from Rep. McCarthy's bill, would generally ban the possession of such assault rifles until the age of 21.
- Increasing the penalty for youth handgun or assault weapon possession to a felony. Under current law, this offense is a misdemeanor, punishable by mandatory probation. As a result, federal prosecutors have brought few of these cases.
- Increasing the penalty for giving or selling a handgun or assault weapon to a juvenile for use in a violent crime. This provision from our juvenile crime bill would establish a mandatory minimum penalty of 3 years, but maintain the current maximum of 10 years.
- Holding adults criminally responsible for giving juveniles access to certain firearms. You called for this in the wake of the Jonesboro shootings, but we have never before submitted our own proposal. Justice has signed off on a version to create a federal felony that is narrowly tailored to target the most egregious cases of parental recklessness.
- Expanding our Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative. Our program to trace juvenile gun crimes is currently in place in 27 cities. Our FY 2000 budget includes a total of \$45 million, which will enable us to increase that number to 37. We could add Rep. McCarthy's proposal to double the number of cities to 75 by 2003.
- Juvenile Brady: This proposal from our juvenile crime bill would ban the possession of handguns by violent juveniles when they turn 21.
- Child Safety Locks: This proposal, also from our original juvenile crime bill, would require federal gun dealers to issue triggerlocks with every gun sold.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 20, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Bruce Reed
Jose Cerda III

SUBJECT: Rep. Carolyn McCarthy's Gun Legislation

Rep. McCarthy has introduced omnibus gun legislation, much of which we can probably support. As noted below, a few provisions of her bill involving federal regulation of gun manufacturing and safety may be more controversial and less likely to be enacted than your existing proposals in those areas.

As we outline in a separate memo on potential policy responses to the Littleton shootings, we were already finishing up a comprehensive gun bill for you to announce as part of your 21st Century crime initiative. We will incorporate as many of Rep. McCarthy's provisions as possible, as well as any other solid proposals that may emerge as we learn the facts of this case.

The provisions in Rep. McCarthy's bill that most directly affect juveniles are:

- Expanding our Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative to 75 cities by 2003. This program is currently in place in 27 cities. Our FY 2000 budget would increase that number to 37. Her bill also authorizes grants for additional ATF and law enforcement personnel to combat illegal gun trafficking, which we also fund in our FY 2000 budget.
- Amending the juvenile handgun ban to include semiautomatic assault rifles manufactured before the assault weapons ban went into place. Currently, an 18-year-old can legally possess rifles, including assault rifles manufactured before Sept. 13, 1994. This provision would generally ban the possession of such assault rifles until the age of 21. As part of your crime bill, we also plan to reintroduce a provision that would make a violation of this statute a felony offense. Since existing law only provides for mandatory probation, federal prosecutors have been reluctant to bring any of these cases.
- Increasing the penalty for giving or selling a handgun or assault weapon to a juvenile for use in a violent crime. Her bill would increase the maximum penalty for this offense from the current 10 years to 20 years. In our crime bill, we planned to reintroduce the provision from your juvenile crime bill that would establish a mandatory minimum penalty of 3 years, but would maintain the current maximum of 10 years.

- Creating criminal penalties for adults who give juveniles access to certain firearms. This is similar to Durbin’s “Child Access Prevention” (CAP) legislation, which we supported in principle in the wake of the Jonesboro shootings. Our crime bill will include a narrowly tailored version of this provision, which reflects Justice’s concerns that a federal CAP statute should only target the most egregious cases of parental recklessness, and accordingly should be a felony offense with a stiffer penalty. The McCarthy and Durbin legislation, on the other hand, would simply make it a federal misdemeanor offense for adults to allow negligent access to firearms.
- Creating a \$50 million grant program for children's gun violence prevention education in schools. This would authorize grants to local education agencies to work with law enforcement to educate children about preventing gun violence. We will look at whether we can incorporate this kind of education into our Safe and Drug-Free Schools proposal.

Rep. McCarthy’s bill includes three other provisions that the Administration could conceivably support, but which are more controversial and less likely to be enacted than your own proposals in these areas:

- Prohibiting the manufacture and importation of "unsafe guns". The legislation would give Treasury broad regulatory authority to ensure that guns are designed to be child-proof or that they include safety devices that make them so. Our child triggerlock legislation requires federal gun dealers to provide a child safety-locking device with every gun sold, but does not seek any new regulatory authority over how guns or gun-safety devices are made.
- Requiring a Consumer Products Safety Commission study on handgun safety. The legislation would authorize up to \$1.5 million for a CPSC review of how to prevent the unauthorized use or discharge of handguns by children. ATF would be in a better position to conduct such a study, since the CPSC is currently prohibited from studying any firearms issues and there is little support in Congress for giving them this authority.
- Establishing a CDC program to maintain a children's firearm-related injury surveillance system. The legislation would give CDC authority to award \$5 million a year in grants to state and local governments to establish comprehensive data bases on the nature of gun-related injuries to youths under the age of 21 in their communities. Your existing youth gun crime tracing initiative is already spurring communities to gather much of this data in ways more likely to reduce gun violence.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FAX COVER PAGE

Office: (202) 586-7131

Fax: (202) 586-7169

Date: 4/21

No. of Pages: 3
(including cover page)

To: Kris

From: Maya

Phone: _____

Fax No.: _____

Message:

~~Hi~~ Schedule for Denver for tomorrow
(still not final, but close). Call me w/
ques.

DRAFT 5

Last printed 4/21/99

4:47 pm Arrive Denver International Airport

Note: YOU will be met by Jeremy Alexander(Advance), Dale Dixon (Security), Rosalie Camisa (Special Services).

Phone: 303-348-4420

Fax: 800-329-2262

5:00 pm Depart en route Adam's Mark Hotel
(Drive Time = 1 hour)

6:00 pm Arrive Adam's Mark Hotel (1550 Court Place)

**6:00 pm-
6:15 pm** **HOLD**

**6:15 pm-
7:00 pm** **NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BLACK MAYORS
ROUNDTABLE**

Contact: Michelle Kouruma

Location: Adam's Mark Hotel, Governors Square-12 Room

Phone: 303-893-3333

Fax: 303-626-2543

(Closed/25-30)

Program:

YOUR remarks will deal with the following:

-CECA bill

-HBCU support

-Minority contracting

-Caribbean Energy Ministerial taking place in New Orleans

-EE activities (mention some of the cities)

-National Conference of Mayors support trip headed by Mayor Webb/African-American summit

7:05 pm Depart en route Denver Center for Performing Arts
(Drive Time = 10 minutes)

7:15 pm Arrive Denver Center for Performing Arts (14th and Curtis Street)

**7:00 pm-
9:00 pm** **MAYOR'S OPENING RECEPTION**

Contact: Wayne Cauthen, Chief of Staff for Mayor Webb

Location: Denver Center for Performing Arts, Don Seawell Room

Phone: 303-640-2419

DRAFT 5
Last printed 4/21/99

Fax: 303-640-2329
Attendees 500 invitees

Program:

- Mix and mingle
- Mayor Webb gives opening remarks
- Mayor Webb introduces YOU
- YOU give remarks

9:15 pm Depart en route Denver Centennial Airport
(Drive Time = 1 hour)

10:15 pm Arrive Denver Centennial Airport

10:30 pm Wheels up en route Miami, Florida.

Airline: DOE(TBD)
Flight: TBD
Flight Time: 3 hour, 45 minutes
Time Change: + 2 hours
Meal: TBD
Manifest: Secretary Richardson
Rebecca Gaghen
Linda Lingle
Natalie Wymer
Jeremy Alexander
Brice Cook

4:15 am Arrive Miami, Florida

CALL NOTES FOR COLUMBINE HIGH SCHOOL, COLORADO

STATUS:

We stand ready to assist. County Commissioners will be contacted today.

BILL: Made several Contacts yestersay with the state commissioner, chief state school officer. School District Head will be contacted this morning. We should at least put these victims in Contact so that Principle or superintendant can speak with fellow principles and superintendants who have had this same experience.

Law Enforcement and Victim Coordinators will have a meeting today at four. These are only locals. Attorney Generals Victim Coordinator will be there.

Ann Harkins: Office of Victims and Crime is in touch with the victims out there. Investigation is being handled on a local level. This should not be a federal investigation However FBI and ATF is there.

JIM: ATF is lending hand in expertise, and help in assisting local government.

FEMA: Will be calling the State Director to Provide use of Community Relations Teams. State Director will make appropriate calls as he sees fit.

HHS: Mental Health Response can be provided.

Bill Modez...
260-1856

or email

leslie_thornton@ed.gov

There will be another call at 3:00

FOR JOE LOCKHART

- Secretary of education will call the Superintendent and offer assistance from HHS, Justice, Education and FEMA.
- FEMA will be in touch with their state director for Media and Community Relations Expertise.
- Treasury has Sent ATF Agents and FBI to the scene.
- HHS Mental Health Services has been in touch with Emergency Coordinator.
- The Vast Majority of the Schools are Safe.



SUNTUM_M@A1
04/20/99 08:39:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: correction: "bitter" and sad experience -- not "better"

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 20, 1999

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The Briefing Room

7:48 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: I want to begin by saying that Hillary and I are profoundly shocked and saddened by the tragedy today in Littleton, where two students opened fire on their classmates before apparently turning their guns on themselves.

I have spoken with Governor Bill Owens and County Commission Chair Patricia Holloway and expressed my profound concern for the people of Littleton. I have spoken to Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder, who, along with Attorney General Reno, is closely monitoring the situation. I've asked the Attorney General and the Secretary of Education to stand ready to assist local law enforcement, the schools, the families, the entire community during this time of crisis and sorrow.

A crisis response team is ready now to travel to Colorado, and I strongly believe that we should do whatever we can to get enough counselors to the families and the children as quickly as possible. I know the other communities that have been through this are also ready to do whatever they can to help.

I think that Patricia Holloway would not mind if I said that, amidst all the turmoil and grief that she and others are

experiencing, she said to me just a moment ago that perhaps now America would wake up to the dimensions of this challenge -- if it could happen in a place like Littleton, and we could prevent anything like this from happening again. We pray that she is right.

We don't know yet all the hows or whys of this tragedy. Perhaps we may never fully understand it. St. Paul reminds us that we all see things in this life through a glass darkly, that we only partly understand what is happening. We do know that we must do more to reach out to our children and teach them to express their anger and to resolve their conflicts with words, not weapons. And we do know we have to do more to recognize the early warning signs that are sent before children act violently.

To the families who have lost their loved ones, to the parents who have lost their beloved children, to the wounded children and their families, to the people of the community of Littleton, I can only say tonight that the prayers of the American people are with you.

Thank you very much.

Q Mr. President, you tried to get this message out last fall. Is there anything additional that you can say or that the federal government can do to prevent things like this from happening?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think on this case it's very, very important that we have the facts, insofar as we can find

them out. You know, we had the conference here last fall; the Attorney General and the Secretary of Education prepared the handbook for all the schools that we asked to be widely used; and we do have, from bitter and sad experience, a great cadre of very good, effective grief counselors. My guess is that they will be needed in abundance there for the children.

I think after a little time has passed, we need to have a candid assessment about what more we can do to try to prevent these things from happening.

Q Mr. President, there seems to be an epidemic of these kinds of incidents now. There was Paducah, Kentucky; Jonesboro, Arkansas; Springfield, Oregon; and several others. Would you characterize this as an epidemic affecting the nation's school system?

THE PRESIDENT: I wouldn't want to use that word. What I would like to know is whether we can learn enough from this, which in its dimensions apparently is much greater than even the others were, and see what else we can do.

I had a very interesting conversation this afternoon with Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy, who, as all of you know, lost her own husband, and son sustained a wound as a result of a shooting incident on a commuter train. And that's what we talked about.

I think tonight we owe it to the people of Littleton and to the families involved in this tragedy to let them go through the grieving and deal -- and try to get the facts. And then the rest of us have a responsibility to do everything we can to make sure this doesn't make 1999 another year like last year, that we don't have another rash of this, we really can be more effective in preventing it.

And I wish I could say more tonight, but I don't think I can.

Q Mr. President, have you been told, sir, that the death toll is as high as the 25 figure that we've heard? And secondly, sir, every time one of these things happens we go through this chorus of hand-wringing and say, we've got to stop it from happening again. Is there anything specific and concrete that you'd like to see happening that hasn't happened yet?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I don't want to make -- there are, but what I would like to do is take a couple of days, because we don't know what the facts are here. And keep in mind, the community is an open wound right now, they have suffered as much as anyone can suffer. This is the largest group of fatalities, whatever the numbers are -- and I've heard various numbers, even as much as five minutes ago, right before I came out.

I'd like to answer that question, but I think anything I say tonight can only add to the pain of the people in Littleton and not serve to solve the problem. So I will answer that question when I have more facts and after we let a little time pass.

Q Mr. President, you said America should wake up. Wake up to what, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think there are a lot of kids out there who have access to weapons -- and apparently more than guns here -- and who build up these grievances in their own mind, and who are not being reached. And it's not just Littleton. We know that now. We've had lots and lots and lots of places. So it's -- I don't know how many of you have been there. I've

actually been there, I know the community, and it's a wonderful place.

And I can't do better than what Patricia Holloway said, the Commission Chair -- if it can happen here, then surely people will recognize that they have to be alive to the possibility that it could occur in any community in America, and maybe that will help us

to keep it from happening again.

But you know what we put out before. You know the efforts we've made. And I just think that tonight we need to focus on the families that lost their kids, on the children that are wounded, on the grieving of the community, give this thing a day or two for the facts to emerge. And then I'll try to have more to say to you.

Q On just the point, Mr. President, at the time you had that conference last year your administration said the students are still safer sitting in a classroom than they are walking down the street. Do you think Americans still think that's true? Do you think that's true?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, statistically, for all the whole 53 million kids in our schools, it's true. But from the facts we're hearing about what happened at this school and the possibility that explosives were out there, that hand grenades were available, that other things were there, it obviously wasn't true there. That was obviously the most dangerous place in Colorado today.

So I don't want to -- but that doesn't -- that shouldn't make people believe that every school is in danger. What it should make every community do is to study this handbook we put out and see what lessons can be learned here.

But again, tonight I think the American people ought to be thinking about those folks in Littleton. Tomorrow and in the days ahead we'll have more time to kind of gather ourselves and our determination and go back at this again.

Thank you.

END


7:58 P.M. EDT

Message Sent To: _____

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 20, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR MARIA ECHAVESTE
THURGOOD MARSHALL, JR.
MICKEY IBARRA
DOUG SOSNIK
LYNN CUTLER
SARA LATHAM
JENN PALMIERI
RON KLAIN
BRUCE REED
NANCY HERNREICH

FROM: KRIS BALDERSTON 
SUBJECT: FACT SHEETS ON THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S
POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO LITTLETON, CO

Attached are some materials from the Education Department on what they can offer the high school in CO.

The Department has been in touch with the CO Superintendent.



Leslie_Thornton@ed.gov
04/20/99 04:48:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Kris M Balderston@EOP
cc:
Subject: FW: Shooting

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Per your request.

P.S. Bill's amazing!

Leslie

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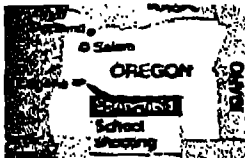
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Web-published 11:43, Thursday, May 21, 1998


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Copyright Los Angeles Times



Leslie_Thornton@ed.gov
04/20/99 04:48:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Kris M Balderston@EOP
cc:
Subject: FW: Shooting

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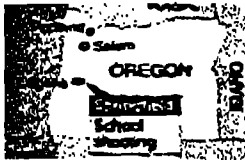
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>

> Leslie: We have been in contact with folks from the Office for Victims of
> Crime at Justice and they tell us that they have some of the best trained
> crisis responders in the nation located in the Denver area. They are
> prepared to move to Littleton as soon as they receive a request from the
> superintendent or mayor.

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> In regards to what we may be able to do I offer the following:

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> o Link Colorado school officials up with school officials from
> Springfield, and other locations in which there was a multiple homicide.
> The superintendent can provide significant assistance in helping Colorado
> officials cope in the days following the crisis. We can pay for his
> travel and other costs associated with the travel.

>

> o Pay for Crisis Counselors: While we are uncertain about the immediate
> need, we can provide resources to help the school district identify and
> bring in crisis counselors. We can also help the district in long term
> follow up to the disaster. We have had persons work with Springfield,
> Oregon and could provide valuable assistance to the district.

>

> o Identify Expert to Review Policies and Programs: We can identify and
> bring in any expert they want to help them review policies and programs
> designed to prevent school violence.

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> o Training and Technical Assistance: We can provide training and
> technical assistance in range of efforts, ranging from prevention

- > programming to coping with disaster.
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- > o Teacher / Staff Follow up: We can provide assistance in helping
- > teachers and other staff cope with the consequences of the disaster.