

NEWS RELEASE

# Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For More Information, contact:

Joy Patterson (334) 242-7491

Claire Haynes (334) 242-7351

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## **AG STRANGE PRESENTS LEEDS HIGH SCHOOL WITH 2013 ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SAFE SCHOOL AWARD**

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Strange presented Leeds High School in Leeds with the 2013 Attorney General's Safe School Initiative Award of Excellence at a school assembly today. One school was selected as the winner from each of the Alabama State School Board of Education districts.

"I am honored to award Leeds High School with a 2013 Award of Excellence for School Board District 7," said Attorney General Strange. "Ensuring safe schools for our students has never been more important, and this program will help us identify the best practices that schools should be using. I look forward to sharing these best practices with other schools."

"Our staff and administration believe a safe and secure school supports instructional efforts," said Assistant Principal Stephen Hall. "This is not just an individual responsibility, but an institutional one. We work in partnership with community leaders, law enforcement, emergency response, professional organizations, the Leeds City Schools Board of Education, Leeds City Schools Superintendent John Moore, and school system leaders, and receive tremendous support for training and preparation from Leeds Police Chief Byron Jackson, Leeds School Resource Officer Dwain Hagan, and Leeds Fire Chief Allen Pierce. The basis for any instructional initiative is a student body that feels confident of a safe and secure environment for learning. At Leeds High School, safety is an essential step in providing the best instructional program possible."

Attorney General Strange is personally presenting the awards for the 2013 Awards of Excellence winners at school assemblies during this fall to the eight winning schools. Attorney General Strange expressed special thanks to the Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Insurance for their continued financial support of the Alabama Safe Schools Initiative.

\* In April, Attorney General Strange announced that he is reinstating the Attorney General's Safe Schools Initiative with a new emphasis on encouraging technological advances to deal with the challenges experienced by today's schools and students. Nominations were received between April and June, and in August a panel of judges reviewed the nominations to determine a winner from each of the eight state school board districts.

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501 Washington Avenue • Montgomery, AL 36104 • (334) 242-7300  
[www.ago.state.al.us](http://www.ago.state.al.us)