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Alabama Attorney General



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**AG STEVE MARSHALL PRESENTS SUMITON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
WITH 2017 SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Steve Marshall today presented Sumiton Christian School with the Attorney General’s Safe School Initiative Award of Excellence for a private school in the northern region of Alabama. Schools were selected as winners for 2017 from seven\* Alabama State School Board of Education districts, as well as private schools for three regions of the state.

“In these times, we are all intensely aware of the serious responsibility our schools carry for the safekeeping of our children,” said Attorney General Marshall. “Recent events have been heartbreaking reminders that we must remain vigilant and committed to provide the best protections possible in Alabama’s schools. I am pleased to carry on this important tradition of the Attorney General’s Office, to recognize schools throughout our state for dedication and excellence in keeping students safe. Each day that parents leave their children at school, they are entrusting what they hold most precious into the care of schoolteachers, principals, school resource officers and other staff. With these awards, we honor those who have achieved particularly high standards and set examples that others may follow. We are grateful for their service and commitment to protecting the children of Alabama.”

In presenting the award today Attorney General Marshall said, “The Attorney General’s Office is proud that Sumiton Christian School was selected as one of the 10 winning schools in Alabama for 2017. In making this decision, judges noted many things that distinguished Sumiton Christian School: local law enforcement has access to the school’s camera system from their individual cell phones, the Emissary Club serves as an excellent mentoring and enrichment initiative, and the school staff has ongoing safety training by outside community resources.

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Sumiton Christian School Principal Cheryl J. Capps said, "We are honored to have been selected as the recipient of the Safe Schools Award. Safety for all schools is a top priority of all administrators and communities. We pray daily that God will surround us with his angels and watch over and protect us. We thank God for answering those prayers daily. We are also blessed and privileged to have the support of the Mayor, City Council, and Police Officers of the City of Sumiton. Their partnership supports the safety efforts of our School Board of Directors, staff, and parents. We are excited to have Attorney General Steve Marshall visit our school and present this prestigious award to our Sumiton Christian School family."

Attorney General Marshall is presenting awards for the 2017 Safe School Awards of Excellence winners to the 10 winning schools this spring. Other winning schools throughout the state include Opelika Middle School in Lee County, Pine Level Elementary School in Autauga County, Satsuma High School in Mobile County, Nichols-Lawson in Sylacauga, Simmons Middle School in Jefferson County, Bob Jones High School in Madison County, Austin High School in Morgan County, Coosa Valley Academy in Shelby County and The Lakeside School in Barbour County.

*\*Alabama has eight public school districts but no submissions were received from District 4.*