

January 2, 2019

To Whom it May Concern:

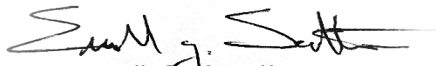
Eighteen years ago, al Qaeda terrorists attacked the United States. Twenty years ago, Columbine High School was attacked by students armed with weapons and improvised explosives. In the two decades since, the United States has invested heavily in developing ways to detect and deter terrorism, but we are no closer to preventing school violence or engaging our students in comprehensive emergency preparedness education.

With more than thirty years of identifying and implementing best practices in security and public safety, I applaud the Rocket Rules program for reaching a demographic that is often overlooked. I admire the manner in which this organization has invested in research, not only about proper safety techniques, but also in their developmentally appropriate approach about a most delicate topic. The Rocket Rules curriculum and vetted safety materials they have developed inspire our youngest decision makers on how to address the growing safety issues in our community through non-threatening activities, videos and books.

That is why USC's Sol Price School of Public Policy and the Safe Communities Institute is proud to partner with a true community conduit like The Hero In You Foundation. Through their contributions to our common goal, we are able to expand our partnerships and reach.

We appreciate their dedication to teaching children and families the awareness skills needed to make better decisions in dangerous situations. They are part of the solution that moves us toward a new understanding of school and community safety.

Sincerely,



Dr. Erroll G. Southers  
Director, Safe Communities Institute  
Professor of the Practice in National & Homeland Security

