



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Montgomery Education Foundation Awards Grants to Increase Student Awareness of the Law

The **Montgomery Education Foundation** is pleased to announce three grants to be awarded to three Montgomery Public School clubs and teachers in an effort to increase student awareness of the law, expose them to effective civic engagement, educate them on the perils of drug abuse, and foster a positive perspective of law enforcement and its work. The Judge Joseph D. Phelps Law Awareness Fund of the Central Alabama Community Foundation is awarding **\$2500 in grants** to support the development and implementation of a class project surrounding government and civics awareness.

The grants will be presented at the three schools by Circuit Court Judge Tracy McCooey and U.S. Senior Circuit Court Judge Truman Hobbs on Wednesday, December 17, 2008 in the following amounts of 1)**\$1000** 2) **\$1000** and 3)**\$500**. All teachers, regardless of expertise or subject taught, in the Montgomery Public Schools System were eligible to apply and submit civics, government, and law project proposals that would provide unique opportunities to expand the awareness of law, government, civics to students in their class. The grants will help fund a student ground patrol, a Video/DVD project regarding civic awareness, mock trials, and debates.

Grant Awards will be presented at the following schools on Wednesday, December 17, 2008:

Time	School	Address	Award Amount
10:00am	Harrison Elementary School	164 E. South Boulevard	\$500
11:00am	BTW Magnet High School	632 S. Union Street	\$1000
2:00pm	Sidney Lanier High School	1756 S. Court Street	\$1000

For more information about the Montgomery Education Foundation or the grant presentations, please contact Chacolby Burns-Johnson or Ann Sikes at 264-6223.

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Description of Grant Awards

Award #1

10:00am Harrison Elementary

Project: Ground Patrol

Award Amount: \$500.00

This project is an effort to deter negative behavior to positive behavior at Harrison Elementary. A ground patrol of 25 students will be selected to patrol the grounds before and after school. The patrol will be responsible for picking up litter, reporting vandalism/destruction of property, and misbehavior of their peers. The program will help provide an awareness of law and civic duties to become a productive member of society.

Award #2

11:00am Booker T. Washington Magnet High School

Project: Video/DVD Project

Award Amount: \$1000.00

The purpose of this project is to raise student awareness of the criminal acts committed by teens, to inform teens of the dire legal and social consequences of their actions, and to explore community solutions to help build a stronger rapport with law enforcement agencies. Students will create a Videotape/DVD compilation designed by teens for teens that addresses teenage criminal activity on the local, state, and/or national levels. An extensive plan will be established to ensure that students meet research, writing, and presentation goals of the project to increase civics and law awareness.

Award #3

2:00pm Sidney Lanier High School

Project: Law Awareness Club Debates and Mock Trials

Award Amount: \$1000.00

The Law Awareness Club will engage students in interactive and engaging activities to promote increased awareness of the law. The club will host mock trials, exchange idea about the community, attend youth court, hold debates, and promote a career in the law field. The club will also host guest speakers from various attorney offices and law schools and the club will sponsor a class for student preparation for law school.

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