

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

February 2, 2011

Mr. Grier Weeks Executive Director National Association to Protect Children (PROTECT) P. O. Box 27599 Knoxville, TN 37927

Dear Executive Director Weeks:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and the over 3,000 elected sheriffs nationwide, I am writing to express our support for the Alicia's Law Campaign – a proposed partnership for child rescue.

Throughout the United States, there has been a continual need to ensure law enforcement has the funding necessary to operate and maintain critical Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task forces. In recent years, this need has greatly intensified as law enforcement agencies have experienced significant reductions in funding and resources nationwide.

To help alleviate some of the financial burden from law enforcement regarding the funding of ICAC task forces, PROTECT has developed the Alicia's Law Campaign. The Alicia's Law Campaign is a state initiative that builds state capacity to combat crimes against children by creating an avenue for permanent ICAC task force funding through a dedicated revenue stream for local and state law enforcement agencies that work ICAC cases.

In addition to creating permanent funding for ICAC task forces, the Alicia's Law Campaign advocates for more transparency and accountability in child protection and justice systems; increased funding for forensic and prosecutor capacity; stronger child pornography penalties and first responder teams; and administrative subpoena power in child exploitation cases.

The nation's sheriffs recognize the critical importance of ICAC task forces in the identification and apprehension of dangerous sexual predators, as well as for the protection and prevention of the exploitation of innocent children throughout the United States. I commend the efforts of PROTECT to fund ICAC task forces in every state nationwide and the National Sheriffs' Association is honored to lend our support to the Alicia's Law Campaign – a proposed partnership for child rescue.

Sincerely,

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Sheriff B.J. Roberts President

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