



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department of Criminal Justice Services

Francine C. Ecker  
Director

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June 10, 2015

Mr. Mike Blyth  
Director  
Risk Management  
RSM Consulting  
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Dear Mr. Blyth:

On behalf of the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services' Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, the students, staff, and school bus drivers across the Commonwealth, I would like to thank you for donating your company's time to develop and make available free of charge the **School Safety: A Guide for School Bus Drivers** training video.

This effort expands your previous generosity when RSM supported legislation by developing **Model Critical Incident** training for over 55,000 teachers in the Commonwealth of Virginia as a charitable contribution to the state's goal of enhancing education, knowledge and awareness on active shooter threats. Jump drives containing the video, and hard copies of the accompanying manual have been distributed to thousands of conference and training participants over the past two years, and we hope to distribute this new bus driver training equally as wide, beginning at the Virginia Association of Pupil Transportation conference in Roanoke later this month.

RSM, under your direction, has significantly contributed to enhancing the safety of Virginia's schools by collaborating with the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety within the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. In 2013 RSM contributed countless man hours and over \$70,000 in development and production costs for a Critical Incident Response Video and Manual which was made available to over 60,000 teachers and staff, as an emergency planning aid. This video and manual are being accessed electronically free of charge by Virginia law enforcement and school officials, as well as those in other states.

You, as the company's Director, and Kristen, the CEO, continue to lean forward as parents and business owners, answering the question "what can we do?" in the face of the unspeakable tragedy at Sandy Hook and now proactively with the recent bus driver safety training video. While many of us watch in horror as tragedy unfolds, wishing for change, you choose to be the change we all hope to see. With five children, you yearn, as every parent does, to know your children are safe at school – and en route to school.

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School divisions and first responder agencies have the challenge of providing a safe climate and nurturing environment to students and staff on limited budgets with extensive time and resource constraints. To that end, as a result of your generosity, the Model Critical Incident Response was created in response to *House Bill 2345, which directed the Virginia Center for School Safety to develop, in conjunction with the Department of State Police, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and the Department of Education, a model critical incident response training program for public school personnel and those providing services to schools that shall also be made available to private schools in the Commonwealth.*

Through this effort, RSM made it possible for the two thousand Virginia public and private schools who teach over one million school children daily during the school year to become aware of not only the basic response actions but run, hide, and fight as well. This was accomplished in a matter of months alongside your workload and global company responsibilities. This training is a component of school safety and security training in support of the school children staff and citizens across Virginia.

Developed with the same thoroughness and professionalism as the Critical Incident curriculum, the ***School Safety: A Guide for School Bus Drivers*** video promises to be just as valuable a tool in school emergency planning. It was also created thoughtfully, but expediently and at no cost to the Commonwealth.

You are commended for developing these products for Virginia pro bono and for offering the same for Centers for School Safety in other states. Thank you for your time and continuing generosity. Best of luck to you for continued success.

Sincerely,



Francine C. Ecker  
Director