



**State of New Jersey**  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
PO BOX 080  
TRENTON NJ 08625-0080

JEN S. CORZINE  
*Governor*

STUART KAHNER  
*Attorney General*

June 20, 2007

Robert J. Reid, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Department of Family and Child Studies  
College of Education and Human Services  
Montclair State University  
1 Normal Avenue  
Montclair, New Jersey 07043

Re: OJJDP FY 2007 Gang Prevention Coordination Assistance Program

Dear Professor Reid:

I am writing in support of your application for the OJJDP FY 2007 Gang Prevention Coordination Assistance Program for the City of Paterson, New Jersey.

With the work that has already been accomplished under the Communities Organizing Prevention and Empowerment program (C.O.P.E.), CASA START and Be Proud! Be Responsible!, the university has unique experience and the capacity to expand its community-based efforts in Paterson to take on the role of coordinating gang prevention. Gang activity is a complex social phenomenon that varies by age, level of involvement, and the severity of criminal and delinquent offences.

I am confident that with the enhanced resources provided under this grant, the existing community-based gang prevention and intervention programs that are closely aligned with local law enforcement efforts in Paterson will maximize their overall impact.

Currently, my office is coordinating the development of the Governor's Crime Plan. The goal is to reduce crime in New Jersey's cities via a systems change approach with an emphasis on addressing gang violence and recidivism. The plan sets forth a vision for New Jersey crime prevention, enforcement and reentry, and makes policy changes and recommendations to state, county and municipal government.



I support your application for funding and believe that through this effort, there will be a strong, coordinated approach to implementing gang prevention programs in the City of Paterson. My office will provide assistance in identifying individuals and programs that can play a vital role in these efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stuart Rabner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "S" and "R".

Stuart Rabner  
Attorney General