Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Nita Lowey Chairwoman, House Committee on Appropriations H-305 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable José E. Serrano Chairman, House Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies H-310, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member, House Committee on Appropriations 1016 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Robert B. Aderholt Ranking Member, House Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies 1016 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lowey, Ranking Member Granger, Chairman Serrano, and Ranking Member Aderholt:

As the Committee prepares the FY20 Commerce, Justice, Science, and related agencies appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you include \$2 million in funding for the National Center for Campus Public Safety (NCCPS) within the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance account.

NCCPS was founded in the wake of the massacres at Virginia Tech and Sandy Hook Elementary School as a central clearinghouse to train campus public safety agencies, to encourage research to strengthen safety and security, and to disseminate relevant campus public safety information.

NCCPS received federal funding in FY13, FY14, and FY15 but has not received funding since and is expected to run out of funds in September 2019. However, school and campus safety is still of foremost concern. In the years since, school shootings have tragically continued and in the wake of the shooting in Parkland, Florida last year, it is pertinent to ensure that the center is able to continue to operate and provide evidence-based technical assistance, research, and information about best practices to schools, colleges, and universities across the nation,

Since its establishment in 2014, the NCCPS has created thousands of resources for campus communities, public safety and emergency management officials, and law enforcement officers. NCCPS has also created the Trauma-Informed Sexual Assault Investigation and Adjudication Institute as part of a directive from a White House task force to protect students from sexual assault.

In addition to these programs and resources, the NCCPS has provided hundreds of individuals training through pilot programming and public course offerings. Within the past six months they have launched two more courses in verbal de-escalation and physical security education which

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have already reached approximately 1,000 campus safety individuals. It would be a significant setback in the effort to ensure campus safety to let the funding for this important center lapse.

NCCPS is an invaluable resource to many campuses, especially smaller colleges and universities that may not have the same resources for campus safety training than larger universities. In addition to trainings, NCCPS publishes a weekly and monthly report. These resources are free to all and delve into timely issues facing campus security. Thousands of campus safety officials receive these materials every week.

We thank you for your attention and consideration of this request as the subcommittee prepares the FY20 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill.

Sincerely,

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

Member of Congress

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