



For Immediate Release

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## **Keep Georgia Safe to Hold Free Community Safety Seminar Featuring Leading National Children's Safety Expert**

ATLANTA -- Keep Georgia Safe, the non-profit organization that provides safety education and crime prevention training for Georgia's children, families and law enforcement agencies, will sponsor a free community safety seminar **Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00 PM at Greater Atlanta Christian School in Norcross, GA.** The seminar will focus on children's safety initiatives and will feature Stephen M. Daley, a leading national children's safety expert and the founder and director of radKIDS<sup>®</sup>. Topics will include: How to talk to your children about staying safe; Abduction prevention; radKIDS<sup>®</sup> Personal Empowerment Safety Education; and Community policing and crime prevention. radKIDS<sup>®</sup> is the country's leading personal safety empowerment educational program for children. The community safety seminar will coincide with Keep Georgia Safe's radKIDS<sup>®</sup> instructor training June 21-24 at Greater Atlanta Christian School. Additional expert safety speakers include Gary Martin Hays, founder and chairman, Keep Georgia Safe, Debra Kalish, Sgt. of community services, Johns Creek Police Department, and Mary Ellen Fulkus, executive director, Keep Georgia Safe.

20 new instructors will receive radKIDS certification including; police officers, school resource officers, teachers, counselors, and parents. Nationally, radKIDS<sup>®</sup> instructors have trained 150,000+ children to avoid, resist, and escape violence and abuse. radKIDS<sup>®</sup> strengthens families, encourages physical fitness, and teaches core safety values to live by through the program. Fun, activity-based programs include safety drills, muscle memory exercises, interactive discussion and dynamic simulation. Curriculum topics include: Home, school and vehicle safety; Out and about safety, Bullying; Realistic defense against abduction; Good-bad-uncomfortable touch and more. To date, 63 children throughout the U.S. have used their learned radKIDS skills to escape an attempted abduction.

Keep Georgia Safe also sponsored radKIDS<sup>®</sup> instructor training in April of 2009. Ed Smart, father of abduction survivor Elizabeth Smart, traveled to Atlanta for the training and was instrumental in bringing much needed awareness to the program in Georgia. As a result of the 2009 training, Greater Atlanta Christian School has implemented the curriculum in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade PE classes and after-school programs. Shakerag Elementary School, in conjunction with the Johns Creek Police Department, has conducted after-school programs. It is Keep Georgia Safe's goal to further grow the program in Georgia's schools and community centers.

Keep Georgia Safe founder and chairman, Gary Martin Hays, is organizing and sponsoring the training to empower Georgia's kids with proven safety skills and greater self esteem. "This safety empowerment program comprises the best, most proactive education program ever brought to children, families and communities. We are very excited that radKIDS<sup>®</sup> instructor training is being held again in Georgia this June," says Hays, "We are honored to bring this program to Georgia and help break the cycle of violence and to stop predatory crimes against our children."

Nearly 800,000 children are reported missing each year, an average of 2,185 children reported missing each day. Approximately 115 children a year are victims of a “stereotypical” kidnapping, and in 40 percent of the cases, the child was killed. More than 800,000 children were determined to be victims of child abuse and neglect. That is one child every 35 seconds.

Keep Georgia Safe has a two-pronged approach to crime prevention: 1) Proactive: Safety education including CART training, radKIDS® training, Community Safety Seminars and Web Resources 2) Reactive: Alert System Network. As the only organization that sends out all three of Georgia's emergency alerts, the Keep Georgia Safe Alert Network uses text and email platforms to notify opt-in subscribers when the GBI issues any of its three emergency alerts:

- Levi's Call: Georgia's AMBER Alert for an abducted or missing child
- Mattie's Call: elderly or disabled missing person alert
- Kimberly's Call: dangerous fugitive alert

Keep Georgia Safe provides the alert service free of charge. To join the network, visit [www.keepgeorgiasafe.org](http://www.keepgeorgiasafe.org) and enter your cell phone number or email address. Subscribers will not receive any calls or emails other than GBI-issued alerts. For more information on Keep Georgia Safe, its alert network or education programs, visit [www.keepgeorgiasafe.org](http://www.keepgeorgiasafe.org) or call 770.934.8000.

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