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i-SAFE Backgrounder

Founded in 1998 and active in all 50 states, i-SAFE Inc. is the leader in Internet safety education. i-SAFE is a nonprofit foundation whose mission is to educate and empower students, parents, seniors, and community members to safely and responsibly take control of their Internet experiences. i-SAFE provides knowledge that will enable them to recognize and avoid dangerous, destructive, or unlawful online behavior, and to respond appropriately. This is accomplished through dynamic K through 12 curriculum and community-outreach programs to students, parents, law enforcement, and community leaders. i-SAFE is the only Internet safety foundation to combine these elements.

www.isafe.org

i-SAFE has received more than \$13 million in federal funding through the Commerce Justice State (CJS) and the Department of Defense since 2001. Since 2002, i-SAFE's Safe School Education Initiative and Outreach Program received bipartisan support in both the United States House of Representatives and the Senate. In that time, Congress awarded grants to i-SAFE totaling more than \$10 million to implement the program in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

In 2003, the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), the civilian agency running Department of Defense (DoD) schools, awarded an exclusive contract to i-SAFE to educate and empower the more than 100,000 children of military personnel. The 221 DoDEA schools are located in 14 foreign countries and the United States.

The i-SAFE education initiative provides curriculum for students in grades K through 12, including Internet webcasts for the high-school level. The curriculum is based on age-appropriate teaching and learning activities. Each lesson is characterized by interactive

student and instructor participation to inspire cooperative learning and critical thinking. The i-SAFE Internet safety education program is already implemented in schools in each of the 50 states.

The i-SAFE community-outreach initiative extends Internet safety awareness beyond the classroom. It brings students, parents, schools, community leaders, and others together to spread knowledge about safe and responsible use of the Internet throughout the entire community.

i-SAFE educates parents through the i-PARENT program about hazards in Cyberspace and provides parents with free material and opportunities to spread this valuable information throughout their communities. Also as part of the outreach program, any student motivated to take i-SAFE information and drive that knowledge to friends, peers, parents, schools, and communities can become an i-MENTOR. i-MENTORS plan i-SAFE activities, events, and trainings to get the message of safe and responsible use of the Internet to their fellow students.

In September 2005, i-SAFE and Microsoft collaborated on the creation of i-LEARN Online, an on-demand system for Internet safety education available from any computer with Internet access. i-LEARN Online gives adults and youth access to i-SAFE's free Internet safety lessons and provides them with tools to educate others about safe and responsible use of the Internet. Included as part of the i-LEARN Online program, i-SAFE also launched the i-MENTOR Training Network for students to learn how to spread the Internet safety message to their peers, schools, and communities; the i-PARENT program, which provides parents with all the tools to protect their children and family online; and the i-FIFTY+ program, which educates adults 50 and older about Internet safety and security.

Recently, i-SAFE launched the Virtual Training Academy—live, interactive Internet safety instruction led by an i-SAFE trainer on the Web. i-SAFE training is available to educators, parents, students, and the community from anywhere through any computer

with Internet access. After completing the training, participants are equipped with the tools necessary to teach others about Internet safety.

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