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Dear School Leader,

I am pleased to share the newly revised edition of “*Colorado School Violence Prevention: A Legal Manual*” (2018). Since 1999, the *Manual* has been a resource for school administrators and staff committed to fostering a safe learning environment and preventing school-related violence.

An electronic version of “*Colorado School Violence Prevention: A Legal Manual*” can be found at <https://coag.gov/OCE/foster-school-safety>.

The entire *Manual* has been updated and we have added a discussion of the Claire Davis School Safety Act of 2015. Also of special importance is the direction on information sharing between and among schools, law enforcement, social services and mental health providers, and the judicial system. We cannot fulfill our commitment to protect our students if adults operate in silos and hide behind FERPA.

To that end, my office has issued a Formal Opinion of the Attorney General to provide guidance regarding the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Accompanying the Opinion at Appendix III are Frequently Asked Questions about FERPA’s application to common information sharing scenarios.

I hope that this manual continues to provide vital information to you and your colleagues. We welcome your feedback and suggestions for future guidance from the Attorney General, which can be sent to info@safe2tell.org.

Thank you for protecting and teaching Colorado’s children.

Sincerely,

CYNTHIA H. COFFMAN
ATTORNEY GENERAL