



# Department of Justice



## Office of Justice Programs

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY  
NOVEMBER 28, 2011

Office of Justice Programs  
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**\*\*\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\*\*\***

**ATTORNEY GENERAL'S NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON CHILDREN EXPOSED TO  
VIOLENCE TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING IN BALTIMORE**

*Task Force is a key part of the Defending Childhood Initiative*

WASHINGTON— U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence will hold a public hearing Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2011, to gather expert and community testimony on the epidemic of children's exposure to violence. An opportunity for media to ask questions of Task Force members is scheduled from 10:45-11:00 A.M.

The Task Force is a key part of the Attorney General's Defending Childhood Initiative. The Task Force will hear testimony in Baltimore; Albuquerque, N.M.; Miami; and Detroit this year to learn from practitioners, policymakers, advocates, academics, and community members about the extent and nature of the problem of children's exposure to violence, both as victims and as witnesses. The Task Force will issue a final report in 2012 to the Attorney General presenting its findings and comprehensive policy recommendations.

Scheduled speakers for the Baltimore hearing include Attorney General Holder; Sonja Sohn, founder and CEO of ReWired for Change and star of HBO's "The Wire"; Patrick McCarthy, President and CEO of the Annie E. Casey Foundation; Nigel Cox, Chair of the SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere) National Advisory Board; and Baltimore and area residents who have experienced family, community, and other types of violence.

More information on the Defending Childhood Initiative, the Task Force and this hearing is available at: <http://www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/task-force.html>.

**WHAT:** Public hearing of the Attorney General's National Task Force on Children's Exposure to Violence examining the extent and nature of children's exposure to violence. An opportunity for media to ask questions of Task Force members is scheduled from 10:45-11:00 A.M.

**WHO:** U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder  
Members of the Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence

Co-chaired by Joe Torre, Chairman of the Board of the Joe Torre Safe at Home<sup>®</sup> Foundation and Robert Listenbee, Jr., J.D., Chief of the Juvenile Unit of the Defender Association of Philadelphia  
Sonja Sohn, founder and CEO of ReWired for Change and star of HBO's "The Wire"  
Patrick McCarthy, President and CEO of the Annie E. Casey Foundation  
Nigel Cox, Chair of the SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere) National Advisory Board  
Other invited witnesses

**WHEN:** TUESDAY, NOV. 29, 2011, 8:45 A.M. EST – 5:45 P.M. EST  
**MEDIA AVAILABILITY from 10:45 -11:00 A.M. EST**

**WHERE:** University of Maryland Francis King Carey Law School  
500 W. Baltimore St.  
Baltimore, Maryland

**OPEN PRESS**

NOTE: All media MUST RSVP to [Starr.Stepp@usdoj.gov](mailto:Starr.Stepp@usdoj.gov) and PRESENT GOVERNMENT-ISSUED PHOTO ID (such as a driver's license) as well as VALID MEDIA CREDENTIALS. Pre-set will be at 7:45 A.M. EST.

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