



CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND FORENSIC SCIENCE

June 15, 2017

Dr. Kimberly Holmes  
Office of Title III Programs  
Albany State University  
Albany, GA 31705.

Dear Dr. Holmes,

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. George Thomas' application for Title III funding to continue the mental health awareness activities on campus under the title "We Are One-ASU." As a Chair for the Department of Criminal Justice for over a decade, I am aware of the need for more mental health services activities on campus than before. The social support system has been declining in recent years. This creates mental health challenges among our students. Mental and emotional distresses play a significant role in class participation, which affects our retention and graduation.

Dr. Thomas and his team have been doing a tremendous work in the area of mental health on the campus for the last four years through funding from SAMHSA's Campus Suicide Prevention grant. Our department has collaborated with his team in several events organized through the Campus Suicide Prevention grant. Our faculty and students participated in various activities of this grant. I personally attended several events and I will continue to support this cause on campus.

Dr. Thomas is a faculty member of our Department, as a Chair I would like to offer my support and commitment to the grant proposal. If funded, I will do anything in my capacity for the successful implementation of this grant. I am confident that this grant will provide needed mental health awareness programs to the ASU community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles O. Ochie, Sr., Ph.D.  
Professor and Chair