



## **Media Alert**

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### **Democratic Nominee for District Attorney Seth Williams is Thrilled to Join the Effort to Collect One Million Books for Children in Africa**

Philadelphia- Seth Williams-the Democratic Nominee for District Attorney is proud to be joining the distinguished supporters of the One Million Books Project on Friday evening to raise awareness about literacy issues in Africa and here in Philadelphia. The One Million Books Project Education Rally is being held at Philadelphia African American Museum at 7<sup>th</sup> and Arch starting at 5:30 PM. Mr. Williams will be joining Cheryl Benton-U.S. State Department Deputy Assistant Secretary of Public Affairs, Dr. Roxanne Shante-Psychologist and First Female Rapper, State Senator Anthony Williams and Carol Bangura-Million Book Project Organizers. "This project is truly inspirational," says Seth, "and the fact that children in Sierra Leone along with kids right here in Philadelphia will all be helped is amazing." "My youngest daughters Taylor and Hope are avid readers and I can't remember a time when they haven't had in their hands," Seth adds, "if I can make that happen for at least one other child I will be very happy."

The Million Books Project was started back in 2007 to make a difference not only in Sierra Leone but also locally in the city of Philadelphia. The goal of the program is to provide one million books to children in Sierra Leone, where a 10 year civil war has left the country's infrastructure devastated. Close to 1,300 primary schools were destroyed during the fighting, creating an educational shortage in the country. In 2001 67 percent of all school-age children there could not attend school. While collecting books for the kids in Sierra Leone, the project also provides programs locally to improve literacy, education and community support in Philadelphia where according to the National Center for Education 22% of Philadelphia adults lack basic literacy skills.