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## BIOGRAPHY

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Antoinette Tuff worked as a bookkeeper for DeKalb County School District July 2005. She started this job as a way to spend more time with her son and to be able to travel to visit her daughter in college at Tennessee State University. She wanted to make sure that she helped her children walk into their purpose and destiny.

Ms. Tuff's first school was Peachcrest Elementary where her skills changed the school for the better. The changes were so great, the principal, Dr. Boston, asked her to go with him to another school where they would get to know the staff and open another new school. Ms. Tuff and Dr. Boston were known in the DeKalb County School District for cleaning up financially troubled schools and making a difference.

They both moved to Terry Elementary for a year to completely close that school. Then, they opened the Ronald E. McNair Discovery Learning Academy in 2008.

Ms. Tuff helped to organize the after school program for the students and parents and served as bookkeeper and instructor for this program. In addition, she joined the Cool Girls, Incorporated at the school to help empower young ladies to become leaders and not followers.

On August 20, 2013, Antoinette's extraordinary human drama of a school under siege, grabbed headlines around the world. "Everything I had done in my life up to this point, prepared me for this moment—being alone with Michael Hill, his 500 rounds of ammunition and an angry promise to kill everyone, including himself, with his automatic weapon, an AK-47."

Believing in her faith, but without disconnecting from her brain, Antoinette was consumed with grace and the voice of reason, strategy, and

collaboration with police. An inspirational woman who speaks with head, heart and energy, Antoinette will share with your audience the specific tools and techniques she used to talk the gunman off the ledge of despair and violence. She'll outline for your audience the critical steps she took that saved hundreds of lives. The tools Antoinette used that day are some of the same tools we all are called to use in the corporate world and when dealing with disturbed employees, angry customers, or business pressures that drive people to the brink. Antoinette shares how she "chose" to use judgment not pass judgment, when confronted with a life-threatening situation and how every one of us must stand to be prepared to meet our purpose when the time comes.

Since talking the gunman into surrendering that day, Antoinette has appeared with CNN's Anderson Cooper numerous times and was featured on CNN's annual Heroes special. She has visited with President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama, she has met with global business and political leaders to tell her story and share her wisdom on how to use judgment in crisis and not just pass judgment in a heated moment. She also has launched a non-profit organization, called "Kids on the Move for Success."

Antoinette's much anticipated book, *"Prepared for a Purpose: The Inspiring True Story of How One Woman Saved an Atlanta School Under Siege,"* is available for purchase on Amazon.com and stores around the world.

No matter what your business struggles, financial worries, or leadership hurdles, invite Antoinette Tuff to your organization today to share her inspirational and practical message on why and how, as she told Michael Hill on that fateful day, "Everything will be all right."