



Richmond City Sheriff's Office
Sheriff C. T. Woody, Jr.



NEWS RELEASE

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INMATES EMBRACE THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAYS WITH HELP FROM THE COMMUNITY

The majority of the current residents of the Richmond City Justice Center (RCJC) will still be in jail over the holidays, thus, their opportunity to spend any time with family will be limited to video visitation. But due to some very special people throughout the Richmond community, they will still have a chance to celebrate the season of giving. According to Sheriff C.T. Woody, Jr., the programs at the RCJC have the primary goal of returning residents to the community as more responsible citizens, parents, and caregivers. The Sheriff's Office has seen a ground swell of support by individuals and groups throughout Richmond who have embraced this mission by sharing the Christmas spirit with RCJC residents through donations of their time, gifts, and talents. This year, we have multiple organizations and churches who enabled us to deliver care packages and hygiene items to all residents of the RCJC.

Members of the Board of Club 533 adopted the RCJC residents this Christmas and donated thousands of dollars worth of soap, deodorant, and toothpaste. President Larry Everette and other members of Club 533 delivered items to Sheriff Woody this afternoon. (see photo attached).

Coordinated through the RCJC Chaplain, Colonel Alonzo Pruitt, the Temple of Judah, New Hanover Presbyterian, and Concord Fellowship Baptist Church donated care packages, cookies and soap, underwear, lotion, and toothpaste respectively.

The Richmond Public Defender's Office adopted the REAL Program as their holiday project this year, and donated several hundred dollars, as well as hygiene products, paper, reading glasses, books, and undergarments. Homeward donated nearly 300 indigent hygiene packs for program participants as well. Through additional donations from many individuals in our community, each REAL program participant received a care package with ramen noodles, hot chocolate, and several hygiene products.

This afternoon, a Christmas program was held for over 200 residents. Former resident, Eric Foster, who has had much success, shared his personal story to a large group of education and recovery program participants. Paula Clarke, an addict and former offender, also shared her message of hope and inspiration as a means to motivate residents to continue to desire for sobriety and a different lifestyle. Micah "Bam Bamm" White, who is performing tonight at the Funny Bone Comedy Club, provided comic relief during the Holiday Show for REAL Program participants.

"The tremendous outpouring of support for RCJC residents this year has been heartwarming, and it is greatly appreciated. The showing of love and support from the community builds esteem, and provides hope for a better future. I deeply thank Club 533, the Richmond Public Defenders office, Homeward, Micah, Paula, Eric, and the many individuals who all contributed to helping our residents this holiday season." – Sheriff C.T. Woody, Jr.

The Richmond City Sheriff's Office is responsible for maintaining a secure jail and a safe court system, along with seamless inmate transport and civil process to preserve public safety. We remain committed to performing these duties with unsurpassed integrity and professionalism, with progressive training that incorporates best practices and technology. While partnering with the community, we strive to lower recidivism by providing faith-based and community-based programming that empowers ex-offenders to become productive members of society.