

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Suffolk Teens to Collect Items to Help Animal Shelter**

SUFFOLK, VIRGINIA (January 18, 2011) The Suffolk Animal Shelter needs you to put your best “foot” (paw) forward Saturday, January 22, 2011, to give to animals in need. The 2011 Youth Public Safety Academy is holding its “Paws for the Cause” campaign benefiting the Animal Shelter. Youth will collect donated items outside WalMart locations on Main Street and College Drive in Suffolk. Some of the items the shelter needs include:

- *Purina Puppy Chow*
- *Bleach*
- *Special Kitty Cat Litter*
- *Batteries*
- *Hartz Corn Cob*
- *Towels*
- *Leashes and Collars*

The teens will collect the items between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Please join them for this special cause.

## **About The Youth Public Safety Academy**

Suffolk City Officials established the Youth Public Safety Academy in 2007 to provide teens with guidance and mentors. Academy students are ages 13 to 17 years old. The Academy's goal is to build self-esteem, teach teamwork, and broaden students' exposure to possible career choices.

The Academy is an 11-week course taught by Police Officers, Firefighters and Crime Scene Investigators. As part of the course, students perform a community project. They identify a need, develop a plan, and conduct the community project with the guidance of Academy instructors.

Fifteen teens are currently in the Youth Public Safety Academy. They will graduate January 25, 2011. For more information on the Academy, call Investigator Pam King at 514-4542.

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