

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Suffolk Youth Public Safety Academy Graduation Follows Successful Project Benefiting the Suffolk Animal Shelter

SUFFOLK, VIRGINIA (January 25, 2011) Fifteen Suffolk teens will graduate tonight from the 2010-2011 Suffolk Youth Public Safety Academy. The Academy is an 11 week course taught by police officers, firefighters and crime scene investigators. The Academy's goal is to build self-esteem, teach teamwork, and broaden students' exposure to possible career choices.

As part of the course, students perform a community project. They identify a need, develop a plan, and conduct the project with the guidance of Academy instructors. This session's project, "Paws for a Cause", collected donated items for the Suffolk Animal Shelter. The teens collected 155 items, like dog food, kitty litter and towels, at the two Suffolk Wal-Mart locations on Saturday, January 22. Additionally, people donated just over \$200 to benefit the Animal Shelter.

The Suffolk Youth Public Safety Academy Graduation is scheduled for January 25, 2011 at 7 pm. The ceremony will take place in Suffolk Council Chamber, located at 441 Market Street. A reception will follow the graduation.

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