



**Press Release
December 18, 2008**

Charlotte Mecklenburg
Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #9
1201 Hawthorne Lane
Charlotte, NC 28205

‘Shop with a Cop’ Brings Cheer to Needy Children

CHARLOTTE NC – The Charlotte Mecklenburg Fraternal Order of Police will host their annual ‘Christmas Shop with a Cop’ this coming Saturday morning (December 20, 2008) from 9:00 – 11:00 am, at the Target Store located at 8120 University City Blvd.

Seventy-Five area children have been identified through Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, area churches, and police officers as needing a little “extra” help this holiday season. Police Officers, Sheriff’s Deputies and other Law Enforcements Officers will be shopping with the kids on Saturday to make their day a little brighter.

“Ultimately it benefits the children and their families,” says Ben Pepitone, Lodge 9 committee chair, “but I have to tell you the officers get a lot out of it too.”

The FOP is the largest law enforcement officer organization in the country and proudly has more than 325,000 members nationwide. Locally we have more than 1,400 members serving in all areas of law enforcement in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

“It’s with the membership’s help and the help of the community we are able to give back to the folks that need it the most.” comments Skiddie Hurd, Lodge 9 vice-president.

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