



NEWS from the Shelby County Mayor's Office

Lee Harris, Mayor

Vasco A. Smith, Jr., Administration Building
11th Floor, 160 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 16, 2021

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MAYOR LEE HARRIS, WALMART, AND PHILANTHROPISTS, STEVE AND SAMANTHA BRYSON, TO GIVE TOYS AND FOOD TO CHILDREN
300 children to receive a \$100 Christmas shopping spree at the Whitehaven Walmart.

WHAT: Christmas Toy Giveaway
WHO: Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris, Steve and Samantha Bryson with the Never Forgotten Foundation, Walmart Market Manager Kendale Hutton, Whitehaven Walmart Store Manager Angel Cifuentes, the Shelby County Office of Reentry, and Santa Claus.
WHEN: Friday, December 17, 2021, 9 a.m.
WHERE: Walmart, 5255 Elvis Presley Boulevard, Memphis, TN, 38116

Shelby County, TN – On Friday, December 17, 2021, Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris will join philanthropists Steve and Samantha Bryson, with the Never Forgotten Foundation, at the Whitehaven Walmart to kick-off a Christmas toy shopping spree for 300 children. The children will receive a \$100 gift card and be accompanied in the store by first responders while they make their selections. Santa Claus will also be there for photographs. Many of the children's parents were incarcerated and are clients of the Shelby County Office of Reentry. Other children were chosen based on need through Whitehaven community organizations.

This event started in 2016 when the California couple paid to cover the costs of Christmas layaways at the Whitehaven Walmart and expanded to include families of clients of the Shelby

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County Office of Reentry. On Friday, they will be joined by Walmart Market Manager Kendale Hutton and Store Manager Angel Cifuentes.

Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris: “I can’t thank Steve and Samantha Bryson enough for their generosity to Shelby County’s children. Their kindness will help make this holiday season that much brighter for these young people and their families.”

About the Shelby County Office of Reentry:

The Shelby County Office of Reentry is located at 1362 Mississippi Blvd. It connects ex-offenders to resources and employers willing to hire them. There is technical and vocational training for small engine repair, construction, low voltage electrical apprenticeships, and forklift operation. Through the 10-to-12-week FOCUSED program, ex-offenders can get help with employment deficiencies, mental and emotional needs, family reconnection, financial literacy, and the restoration of their rights.

(End of Release)