



MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Johnston Police Department Will Give Back During Second Annual Blue Dragon Shopping Event

JOHNSTON, Iowa – The Johnston Police Department will be giving back this holiday season as they shop with children on Tuesday, December 19, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Walmart Supercenter in Grimes. This is the second annual shopping event and the department takes great pride in helping families by giving back and putting a smile on the faces of children.

WHEN:

Tuesday, December 19

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

WHERE:

Walmart Supercenter

2150 E 1st Street

Grimes, IA 50111

WHO:

Johnston Police Officers and nominated children

WHAT:

Each year, the Johnston Police Department raises money through donations and grants for the Blue Dragon Program. This program allows uniformed officers to shop with children, and build relationships while helping them have a brighter holiday season! Staff members within the Johnston Community School District worked with the Blue Dragon Program to select the children to take shopping this year.

Last year, the department raised \$2,320 and 21 children were able to spend up to \$110 on holiday gifts for themselves and their family. This year, the department has raised \$3,950, which will allow them to shop with approximately 31 children, and each child will get up to \$125 to purchase gifts.

“For me and many other members of the department, this program is more than just a shopping event,” said Officer Dan Steck. “This program is about building positive relationships with children one-on-one and being able to put a smile on their face this holiday. Our department is continually focused on building relationships with our youth and this program is just another way we demonstrate this. We want those children to know they can come to us, should they ever need help. And, the laughter and fun both of us have while shopping is priceless.”