



NEWS Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OPERATION BLUE SANTA SEEKING DONATIONS

Since 2007, the Rockport Police Department, in conjunction with other area law enforcement and public safety agencies, has hosted Operation BLUE Santa, aka “shop with a cop” for economically disadvantaged children at the local Walmart store. This year’s coronavirus pandemic and social distancing mandates threatened to sideline the program, but the officers were not deterred.

Instead of the children meeting at Walmart and going shopping with an Officer, the Rockport Police Department will meet with school officials and secure a Christmas list for each child on their list. Officers from each of the agencies will be assigned a child or family and will personally do the shopping. Each family will be provided with a special day and time to come to Walmart to pick up their gifts.

According to Rockport Commander Larry Sinclair, “We feel like this is the safest way to hold the event this year. If somehow the restrictions are lifted before December 17th, we will go back to the way we have always done the operation.”

The funds that support Operation BLUE SANTA come from various community groups and private individuals, as well as the officers themselves, who are associated with the Rockport Police Department, Aransas County Sheriff’s County, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

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Blue Santa – page 2

Anyone interested in donating to Operation Blue Santa is encouraged to contact Nikki Yarnall at the Rockport Police Department at 361-790-1101 or nyarnall@cityofrockport.com. Donations can also be made care of BLUE SANTA at the Rockport Branch of Prosperity Bank.