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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE 2012 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

**WAKE FOREST, NC – July 16, 2012** – On Tuesday, Aug. 7, neighborhoods, businesses, faith organizations, and community groups throughout Wake Forest are invited to join the Wake Forest Police Department (WFPD), Target, and thousands of communities across the United States for the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out.

National Night Out (NNO) teams law enforcement agencies with citizens, community leaders, civic groups, and local businesses to promote safe, healthy neighborhoods. The NNO observance, always held on the first Tuesday in August, is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

The WFPD and Target, the national sponsor for NNO, are marking the occasion by hosting a “National Night Out Parking Lot Party” from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Wake Forest SuperTarget, 12000 Retail Drive.

The event promises something for everyone, including food and special prizes, an inflatable playground, a martial arts demonstration, and fire, police, and EMS vehicle displays. A Wake Med Hospital Air Mobile One helicopter is also scheduled to fly in and make what is sure to be a memorable landing.

A number of area church choirs are also scheduled to perform, while several popular mascots will be in attendance to mingle with area residents and pose for pictures, including the Chick-fil-A Cow, McGruff the Crime Dog, and Daren the Lion. American Legion Wake Forest Post 187 will also be on site selling hamburgers, hot dogs, and soft drinks to support veteran-related programs in our community.

The police department will sponsor a child identification booth where parents can have their children photographed and fingerprinted. “Safe Kids” child safety seat technicians will also be on hand to demonstrate the proper installation of child safety seats and community crime prevention officers will distribute information on topics such as vehicle security, home security, and personal safety.

The police department will also offer a K-9 demonstration and D.A.R.E. presentation, share information on upcoming Community Watch initiatives and provide rosters designed to help new neighborhoods develop their own Community Watch programs.

For more information about this year's National Night Out observance, contact Public Information Officer Bill Crabtree at [bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov) or visit [www.wakeforestnc.gov/residents/police\\_nationalnightout.aspx](http://www.wakeforestnc.gov/residents/police_nationalnightout.aspx).

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For more information about the Town of Wake Forest, contact Public Information Officer Bill Crabtree at (919) 435-9421 or [bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov).