



# Richmond Police Department

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## **PRESS RELEASE - Charitable Event Update**

# **“STUFF A CRUISER”**

Off-duty Richmond police officers Tony Zoglio, Ryan Donohue, and Brock Taylor volunteered their time on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the **Ocean State Job Lot in Wyoming** to collect donations of **new toys, games, and gifts** for children and families in need in the Chariho area through **MATTHEW’S WISH** (<http://matthewswishri.com/about.html>). They were joined at the event by **Matthew Thayer**, a Chariho High School student who created **Matthew’s Wish** in 2016 to make sure that children in the Chariho area would know the joy of a new toy or gift regardless of their life’s circumstance or financial hardship their family may be facing.

Our officers stood outside Job Lot for four hours in the cold and snowy conditions greeting shoppers and interacting with dozens of generous people and families who stopped by to help. This year’s Stuff a Cruiser event surpassed last year’s successful toy drive as it led to **three (3) cruisers being stuffed full** with over 240 toys. In addition, donors offered \$368 in cash donations which was exchanged for a stack of \$25 Job Lot gift cards to be donated to children and families with a hardship that our officers encountered while responding to calls in their patrol area. This year’s success was due in no small part to our community partner, Ocean State Job Lot, who hosted our event and also donated \$300 worth of merchandise to assist.

This provided a great opportunity for our officers and the community to have positive interactions with one another and join together on behalf of others in need. All of the toys were delivered to RICAN (RI Center Assisting those in Need) as part of **Matthew’s Wish 2017**, which was celebrated with a Toy Convoy/Parade consisting of emergency vehicles and volunteers on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017, which traveled from the Chariho Plaza in Wyoming to the RICAN facility in Charlestown.

We offer our **heartfelt thanks** to **Ocean State Job Lot** and the people who stopped by and donated so generously to their community, and showed their support for our friend and community hero, **Matthew Thayer**.

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**“STUFF A CRUISER”**

## STUFF a CRUISER - Toy Drive 2017



Officers Tony Zoglio, Brock Taylor, and Ryan Donohue (& son Colton) partnered with Matthew Thayer (front-center) to collect TOYS for Matthew's Wish. It was a cold snowy day at Ocean State Job Lot in Wyoming, but the public was very generous, filling THREE (3) police cruisers with toys for area children!



*Special **THANKS** to our community partner, Ocean State **Job Lot**, and all of the generous people who stopped by to offer a donation or kind word in support of this charitable event and Matthew's Wish. You have made a positive impact on the lives of children in the community!*

**"STUFF A CRUISER"**