



Rancho Santa Fe Professional Firefighters Association

PO Box 410 • Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067 • (858) 756-5971

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 13, 2006

CONTACT: JULIE TABER

Public Information Officer

Office: (858) 756-6008

Mobile: (858) 775-7608

FIREFIGHTERS & TOYS-R-US PARTNER TO BRING CHRISTMAS TO LOCAL FAMILY

RANCHO SANTA FE, CA – The Rancho Santa Fe Professional Firefighters Association (RSFPFA) and Toys-R-Us of Escondido partnered to bring Christmas to a local family this year. Toys-R-Us, who learned of the Menera family through the RSFPFA, gave bicycles to the family's three children earlier today at their Escondido store.

This was the second time this year that Rancho Santa Fe Firefighters helped this family. The first time came when Rosa Torres, the children's mother, was involved in a head-on collision on Del Dios Highway on October 5, 2006. The firefighters had to rescue Torres, who was critically injured, from her vehicle. Torres survived, but has yet to go home. She is currently receiving treatment, physical therapy, and occupational therapy at a local rehabilitation facility. Torres's husband, Felipe Menera, has been caring for the couple's three children – Melanie, 5; Miguel, 6; and Rafael, 7.

Because Torres, a housekeeper, has been unable to work since the accident, she and her husband did not know how they were going to be able to provide their children with any sort of Christmas this year. Fire Engineer Aaron Wos, who helped rescue Torres from her vehicle, had been following the family's progress with the help of his wife, Kristen, who happens to be the teacher of one of the children. Wos contacted Toys-R-Us and they agreed to assist by donating bicycles and helmets to the family. Each child was able to pick out their own bicycle with the help of Toys-R-Us staff.

Visit the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District's Web site at www.rsf-fire.org for directions to our fire stations, holiday fire safety tips, and much more.

###

Potential Photo Caption: Rancho Santa Fe Firefighters and Toys-R-Us teamed up to bring Christmas to three local children. Back row (l-r): Dale Mosby, Fire Captain; Michael Lynch, Toys-R-Us Manager; and Aaron Wos, Fire Engineer. Front row (l-r): Rosa Torres, Rafael Menera, Melanie Menera, and Miguel Menera.