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J.P. Turner & Company

J.P. Turner Raises More than \$10,000 for the Empty Stocking Fund

Press Release

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Contributions provided gift packages for 550 Atlanta-area children

Atlanta, GA, December 22, 2008: The state of the current economy is challenging. The country is in a recession and the unemployment rate continues to rise. For J.P. Turner & Company, LLC owners Tim McAfee and Bill Mello, this was all the more reason to give this past holiday season.

At their urging, J.P. Turner embarked on an ambitious goal – to raise \$10,000 for the Empty Stocking Fund, an Atlanta-based charitable organization that provides holiday gifts to children living in poverty. According to Don Crawford, director of The Empty Stocking Fund, this year’s fundraising efforts have been much more challenging as a result of the down economy.

“We served approximately 5,000 more children this year. At about \$20 per child, that means our expenses will be up by about \$100,000,” Crawford said. “Conversely, our year-to-date donations are down by about \$100,000. Combined, this leaves us with a \$200,000 deficit. While every little bit helps, campaigns like J.P. Tuner’s make a big difference.”

After pledging dollar-for-dollar matching contributions, McAfee and Mello launched the campaign on Monday, Nov. 24. By mid-December J.P. Turner corporate employees and their nationwide network of independent financial representatives had raised more than \$10,000 which, according to Crawford, enabled the organization to empower parents and guardians of nearly 550 children living at or below the poverty level by providing them with an opportunity to give their children gifts at Christmas time.

“Even in these difficult times, we have much to be grateful for,” said Heidi Wheatley, director of marketing for J.P. Turner and the company’s 2008 Sponsor-A-Child campaign coordinator. “Now more than ever it’s important to give back to the community, to those less fortunate. The fact that we exceeded our goal was not surprising to me. Bill and Tim are generous people and set the tone company-wide. All of us are just trying to pay forward the generosity they show us every day.”

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Although Christmas has come and gone, The Empty Stocking Fund is still in need. Donations are accepted year round. Please consider making a donation today.

The Empty Stocking Fund has been bringing holiday cheer to metro Atlanta's underprivileged children since 1927. Each year, the generous contributions received from thousands of Atlanta citizens along with local businesses and foundations enable the non-profit organization to provide gifts for tens of thousands of children from birth to 13 years of age living in Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry and Rockdale counties. To learn more about the Empty Stocking Fund visit www.emptystockingfund.org.

J.P. Turner & Company, LLC, is a full-service investment banking, securities brokerage and advisory services firm headquartered in Atlanta with some 150 branch offices nationwide. J.P. Turner was founded in 1997 by Bill Mello and Tim McAfee, who have assembled a strong leadership team composed of seasoned financial brokers and advisors, like themselves, that truly understand the challenges faced by independent representatives in the field. The company is a member of SIPC, TICA and the National Investment Banking Association. J.P. Turner has been voted one of the top independent broker/dealers by *Investment News*. For additional information on J.P. Turner & Company visit www.jpturner.com. JPT123008-801

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