



7006 Two Notch Road

NEWS ADVISORY

January 23, 2009

0109-17

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott and Columbia Police Chief Tandy Carter announced today that the Columbia Police and Richland County Sheriff's Department are joining together for "Guns for Roses" -- Valentines Day 2009.

Sheriff Leon Lott and Chief Tandy Carter announced the program during a press conference held today (January 23, 2009, 2:00 PM) stating that this gun buy back program will allow residents of Richland County and the City of Columbia to turn in a firearm for a rose and a gift card to Best Buy. Sheriff Leon Lott and Chief Tandy Carter are partnering in "Guns for Roses" in an effort to reduce the number of firearm related crimes in our communities.

Sheriff Leon Lott and Chief Tandy Carter will partner with Best Buy on Two Notch Road to provide \$100 gift cards for handguns and \$50 gift cards for rifles and shotguns. This event will take place at Friendship Baptist Church at 1237 House Street in Columbia on Saturday, February 14th from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Sheriff Leon Lott added that if we can take one gun off the street, that saves a life, then this program is a success.

The partnership and program will allow people to safely dispose of unwanted weapons -- the process for turning in the weapons is:

- A person who drives to the event should place the unloaded weapon in a plastic or paper grocery bag and it should be left in their trunk.
- A person who walks to the event should place the unloaded weapon in a gym style bag.
- As you enter the parking area you will be greeted by a Police Officer or Deputy Sheriff who will take possession of the weapon.
- You will receive a voucher/ticket and asked to park your vehicle; taking your ticket inside the Church gymnasium, where you will redeem your ticket for a rose and gift card.

Points of Contact for this release:

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Guns for Roses
Turn in a gun for a rose & gift card

February 14th • Valentine's Day • 9am - 3pm
Friendship Baptist Church at 1237 House St.
(Off Gervais St.)

  

www.rcsd.net
www.columbiapd.com