



TMJF Teams Up with Philadelphia Police Bringing Holiday Cheer to 140 Families
Annual Holiday Dinner Basket Surprise Program Provides Meals and Toys for All

Philadelphia, PA – (December 20, 2017) – On Monday, Philadelphia Eagles Pro Bowl Safety Malcolm Jenkins and [The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation](#) (TMJF) provided holiday meal baskets for 140 Philadelphia families at the Foundation's annual Holiday Dinner Basket Surprise, in collaboration with the Philadelphia Police Department. Fellow Eagles defensive backs **Rodney McLeod, Patrick Robinson, Jalen Mills, Jaylen Watkins, Corey Graham, and Sidney Jones** were also in attendance to help anywhere they were needed. The day consisted of packing, filling and spreading holiday cheer to everyone around.

In keeping with the jersey number (27) that Malcolm wears on the field, The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation selected **27** local social service organizations to serve as partners in identifying five (5) families in need of a festive blessing, from within the community their organization serves. Each partnering organization picked up the festive gifts during the event, and delivered them to the families of their choosing.

"Between myself and my teammates, being able to go around and surprise these families in person I think means a lot," Jenkins said, "especially around the holidays when people are stressed and experiencing food insecurities, while trying to provide a nutritious meal and toys for their children. I know I have been blessed to never have to worry about a holiday meal, exchanging gifts or anything like that. So, this is an opportunity for us to really give back in a meaningful way around the holidays."

The event was hosted by the Philadelphia Police Department at the Police Athletic League center in Strawberry Mansion. In addition to packing and handing out dinner baskets at PAL, Malcolm Jenkins, Eagles players, TMJF volunteers, along with Philadelphia PAL and Community Relations Officers hand delivered holiday dinner baskets to several families with children under the age of 15, surprising each child with toys. Many families received toys this holiday season, thanks to the generous contributions from **Hersha Hospitality, United Bank of Philadelphia, The Ohio State University Alumni Club of Philadelphia and Damari Savile** who each conducted toy drives for the Foundation.

In the past year, Malcolm has continued to work with Commissioner Ross and others in the Philadelphia Police Department to explore and support department efforts to strengthen trust within the community. The ongoing collaboration underscores the spirit of giving during the holidays, and the importance of "giving back" to people living in challenged communities in Philadelphia, where 27 percent of households live below the poverty level.

"This is the third year that The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation has done this and the second year they have invited the police department to come in and partner with them and we are really grateful for that," said Deputy Police Commissioner Joseph E. Sullivan. "It's good to be able to support a fulfilling holiday for people in our communities. For some families, Christmas might have felt like just another day of the week, if not for the holiday food baskets and toys provided by The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation."

Thanks to the assistance of **Brown ShopRite**, the Foundation received select food items for the holiday dinner baskets. In addition, a grant from **Keystone First** was given to the Foundation to help assist in filling the baskets with the necessary food items. **Dunkin' Donuts** (Cecil B. Moore Ave., Philadelphia, PA and Ogontz Ave., Wyncote, PA locations) and **Starbucks** (Flourtown, PA) provided all volunteers with food and drinks to keep them warm during packing of goods.

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Background: The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation's Holiday Dinner Basket Surprise has served more than 1,045 families since 2011. Striving to make an impact in every city in which Malcolm Jenkins has lived, worked, and played, the effort expanded from New Orleans to Philadelphia in 2015. Covering two cities, this year's effort will feed a total of 275 families across New Orleans and Greater Philadelphia. The Foundation will conduct its

Holiday Dinner Basket Surprise in New Orleans on December 23rd. Recently, Malcolm Jenkins was selected as the Philadelphia Eagles 2017 nominee for the NFL's Walter Payton Man of the Year for excellence on and off the field.

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Founded in 2010, The Malcolm Jenkins Foundation (TMJF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to effectuate positive change in the lives of youth, particularly those in under-served communities; by providing resources, innovative opportunities and experiences that will help them succeed in life and become contributing members of their community. The Foundation is committed to youth development initiatives and programs, which emphasize character development, leadership, education, life skills, health and recreation. For more information visit: <http://themalcolmjenkinsfoundation.org/> and follow @TheMJFoundation on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.