



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**9th Annual Toy & Coat Drive Kicks Off to Help Families in Need
Empire City Casino to Provide Warmth & Christmas Cheer
to Hundreds of Area Families through Partnership with Catholic Charities**

Yonkers, New York - For the ninth consecutive year, **Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway** and **Catholic Charities** will team up to make the holiday season a little warmer and a little brighter for families in need. Empire City will host the **"Christmas Spirit Toy and Coat Drive"** Tuesday, **November 10** through Wednesday, **December 9**.

Empire City will be accepting donations every day throughout the month-long drive at the main promotions booth. Patrons are asked to bring new, unwrapped toys and/or new or gently used coats anytime during that period. The items will be delivered to Catholic Charities-supported agencies for the Christmas holidays.

"Social responsibility is not just for corporations, it's imperative we all do what we can," said **Empire City Casino president and CEO Timothy J. Rooney**. *"Giving back is about community, and about helping others move forward. There are no greater deeds than charity and service."*

The toy and coat drive has become a holiday tradition at Empire City Casino, and thousands of toys and coats have been donated since 2007 when the campaign was launched.

Empire City Casino is located at **810 Yonkers Avenue (at Central Avenue)** in Yonkers, New York, Westchester County (I-87 to Exit 2). For Empire City information call **914 968-4200** or log on to www.empirecitycasino.com. For **Catholic Charities**, contact Paul Costiglio at 646-794-2240 or email Paul.Costiglio@archny.org.

About Catholic Charities: Catholic Charities, a federation of approximately 90 agencies and programs located throughout the 10 counties of the Archdiocese of New York, helps solve the problems of New Yorkers in need – non-Catholics and Catholics alike— with services that protect and nurture children, resolve family crises, assist the hungry and homeless, support the physically and emotionally challenged, and integrate immigrants and refugees.

About Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway:

Empire City Casino, one of the largest entertainment and gaming destinations in the northeast, features 5,300 of the hottest slots, electronic blackjack, three card poker, craps, roulette, baccarat and sic bo; year-round harness racing & International simulcasting; live entertainment including the best party, tribute and Latin bands, comedy, & more. A plethora of dining options will satisfy even the most discerning palate with Italian cuisine at *Nonno's Trattoria*; trackside dining with live betting at *Empire Terrace Restaurant*; and convenient delicious options at the International Food Court or Lil' Cocina. A new \$50 million expansion added *Dan Rooney's*, a high-energy sports bar, and *Alley 810*, a craft cocktail lounge rounds out the entertainment options with retro bowling lanes. Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway is located at 810 Yonkers Avenue (off I-87 at Central Avenue) Yonkers, NY, Westchester County, open seven days a week from 10:00am to 6:00am. Visit www.empirecitycasino.com or call 914.968.4200 for information.

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