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MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE: **IMMEDIATE**

DATE: **May 2, 2011**

Prisoner Re-entry Initiative

Prisoner re-entry is a critical part of public safety. Each year 17,000 people are released from state prisons. Of those, 95% return to their former communities.

Local and state leaders are working to develop a coordinated strategy for the City of Newport News to address prisoner re-entry. A **Re-entry Initiative Breakfast** will be held **Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. at Newport News City Farm**; 100 City Farm Road; Newport News, VA. This breakfast meeting is part of Mayor McKinley Price's larger effort to reduce youth violence.

Stakeholders attending the Tuesday morning re-entry breakfast include, but are not limited to, Howard Gwynn, NN Commonwealth's Attorney; Newport News Police Department; Sheriff Gabe Morgan; Virginia Department of Corrections; representatives from Congressman Bobby Scott's Office, Senator Jim Webb's Office, and Senator Mark Warner's Office; Mayor McKinley Price; and a coalition of community partners that provide re-entry services. There will be as many as 60 people attending this meeting, all of whom have a stake in reducing crime.

Speaking at the event will be two ex-offenders who will provide valuable insight into what aided their successful transition from prison to community.

WHO: Newport News Mayor's Task Force on Teenage & Youth Adult Violence Reduction

WHAT: Re-Entry Initiative Breakfast

WHEN: May 3, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Newport News City Farm; 100 City Farm Road; Newport News, VA

WHY: Develop a coordinated strategy to address prisoner re-entry and aid in public safety

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For more information, contact Lt. Kathleen Carey at 757-926-8747 or 757-813-6139.