



PRESS RELEASE

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USO to celebrate first anniversary at McCarran as airport announces new program to collect donated sundry goods at airport checkpoints

LAS VEGAS – In advance of Friday's one-year anniversary of the USO Las Vegas center's opening at McCarran International Airport, representatives from Clark County today joined with the USO and visiting military personnel to announce the results of the recent "Sundries for Soldiers" collection drive, as well as reveal details of a new plan that will soon allow the public to more easily support the USO's mission when traveling out of McCarran.

Throughout October, Clark County employees who work at McCarran, Henderson Executive Airport, North Las Vegas Airport and the downtown Government Center – as well as others employed by airlines and other airport partners – donated more than 1,495 pounds, or three pallets' worth of sundry items to be passed along to traveling military men and women by way of the Las Vegas USO center. Items on the "Warriors' Wish List" ranged from travel-sized toiletries to DVDs, batteries, canned foods, old magazines – even "Silly String," a popular party favor that is used by soldiers on the battlefield to help locate improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

"I am very proud of our employees for their efforts to make life more comfortable for our country's military men and women. These donated items may seem small to those of us at home, but out in the field they mean so much more to those who put their lives on the line to protect our freedoms each day," said Steve Sisolak, Vice Chairman of the Board of Clark County Commissioners and Chairman of the local USO advisory board.

Randall H. Walker, Clark County Director of Aviation, added, "Since it opened last Veterans Day, the USO center at McCarran has welcomed approximately 35,000 military personnel and their loved ones. It was an honor to help restock its shelves with items that are so valued by our men and women in uniform, and we will continue to provide for the USO's needs going forward."

To that end, Clark County, airport and USO officials also said Monday that McCarran will soon install special USO bins near the airport's security checkpoints. Travelers passing by those bins will be able to drop off travel-sized items for donation to the USO, including soaps, shampoos, lotions or other toiletries. Clark County leases the USO nearly 4,000 square feet of space at a rate of just \$1 per year in order to better serve military personnel flying through Las Vegas.