



FLORENCE CITY-COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

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For Immediate Release

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Florence Civic Center Hosts Hurricane Relief Concert South Carolina Country Music Stars To Perform

Florence, SC. October 17 – South Carolina artists Julie Roberts, Aaron Tippin and the Pee Dee's own Josh Turner will perform in concert at the Florence Civic Center on Thursday, October 27 at 8 pm with net proceeds going to benefit the city employees of Katrina-ravaged Waveland, Mississippi. The town of 7,000, located 35 miles east of New Orleans, was completely leveled by the storm.

Employees of the City of Florence have adopted the 130 city employees of Waveland, most who lost everything. The Florence employees are holding a variety of fund raisers and many employees are donating a portion of their salary to the relief effort through payroll deductions. The fund will help get Waveland municipal employees back on their feet and will pay in part for temporary mobile housing for these employees so they'll have somewhere to live as they work to restore their city's services.

The SMG employees at the Florence Civic Center organized the benefit concert as their way to contribute to the city's Waveland relief fund. SMG is the management company that oversees the Center. The company manages facilities throughout the country. Three SMG managed buildings in New Orleans were damaged by hurricane Katrina and several others along the Gulf Coast were used as shelters for storm victims of Katrina and Rita.

Kendall Wall, General Manager of the Civic Center, added, "Everyone at the Civic Center is delighted to contribute to these fund raising efforts. We were really excited when things began to fall into place and we were able to get these wonderful South Carolina country artists to come in and create something special here in their home state. This is going to be a great concert for a great cause. We hope Florence area patrons, as well as all nearby Carolinians, will come enjoy and support this worthy effort. We want to be able to hand the City an impressive check to send on to Waveland."

Florence area residents know that Josh Turner hails from Hannah/Pamplico in Florence County. Julie Roberts is from Lancaster and Aaron Tippin grew up in Travelers Rest.

Josh Turner, one of country music's brightest new stars, visited the Civic Center last fall for a well-attended concert. He was nominated for two CMA awards then: Best New Artist and Song of the Year for "Long Black Train." He's just released a hot new single titled "Your Man."

(more)



The beautiful, country soul singer, Julie Roberts, spent her youth singing in South Carolina school plays and beauty pageants. Now she's enjoying recognition with her debut CD with songs like "Break Down Here" and "Down Home." Her obvious talents are recognized as she is a 2005 CMA Horizon Award nominee.

Aaron Tippin is a mainstay in the country music world having sold more than five million albums in his career. And, he's no stranger to raising money for disaster victims. The proceeds of his song, "Where the Stars and Stripes and The Eagle Fly" went to the Red Cross after 9/11. He's been collecting donations for the Bush/Clinton Katrina Fund at his concerts since Sept. 4.

The Hurricane Relief Concert is being promoted by the Florence Civic Center and Celebrity & Fans, Inc. of Sumter. Sponsors are Eagle 92.9 Country Radio, the Florence Morning News and Pepsi.

Tickets for the concert are \$27.50 Reserved Seating and \$32.50 VIP Gold Circle. Groups of 20 or more are \$20.00 per ticket. They are available at the Civic Center Box Office, FYE - Magnolia Mall in Florence, charge by phone at Ticketmaster, 843-679-9333 or on line at www.ticketmaster.com

For additional information log on to the Florence Civic Center's web site at www.florenceciviccenter.com or call the Civic Center at 843-679-9417.

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Photo Attachments: Josh Turner
Julie Roberts

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