

DSS continues Toys for Tots tradition



More than 1,200 gifts—including bikes, skateboards, stuffed animals, action figures, and toy trucks—were donated to the Toys for Tots drive, Dec. 17, 2024. Photo courtesy of DSS

By Eric Weiner

The Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service (DSS), in partnership with the United States Postal Service, is celebrating the 24th anniversary of the Department's Toys for Tots drive, Dec. 17, 2024.

Held at the Harry S Truman Building in Washington, the ceremony's speakers included then-Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Deputy Secretary of State Kamala Harris, and DSS Director John J. McGowan.

Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security Gentry Smith, and Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Walker M. Fi
hundreds of donated toys that would go to brighten the holidays for many families.

"The commitment to the program exemplifies the strong partnership between the Department and
in supporting the community through generous acts of kindness during the holiday season," said
"This year was critically important for supporting families in need, and I am grateful for the DSS and
Toys for Tots drive a success."

DSS uniformed protection officers distributed and collected donation boxes at Department annex
the DSS Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) in Blackstone, Va. Department staff in the
gifts, including bikes, skateboards, stuffed animals, action figures, and toy trucks. Countless more
for Tots website.

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