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**OFFICE DEPOT FOUNDATION HELPS WITH RECOVERY AND REBUILDING;
PROVIDES RELIEF SUPPLIES, FREE OFFICE DEPOT SERVICES
IN TORNADO-RAVAGED JOPLIN, MISSOURI**

*Partners Include Feed The Children, Joplin Schools,
Community Foundation of Southwest Missouri and Joplin Humane Society*

BOCA RATON, Fla., June 9, 2011 – For the second time this year, the Office Depot Foundation – the independent, non-profit foundation that serves as the primary charitable giving arm of Office Depot (NYSE: ODP) – is reaching out to help a community devastated by a deadly tornado.

“Disaster relief, recovery and rebuilding are the focus of one of the Office Depot Foundation’s key strategic priorities,” Foundation President Mary Wong said today (6/9) during a visit to the Office Depot store in Joplin. “As was the case a few weeks ago in Alabama, we are committed to assisting the people of Joplin to the best of our ability. We are especially proud to support initiatives that will help small businesses and non-profit organizations to get back on their feet.”

In the aftermath of the tornado, the Joplin Office Depot store, located at 3132 Rangeline S. Road, has been providing free fax, internet and e-mail services, along with cell phone and laptop charging, to customers in need of these essentials.

Today, the Foundation announced several donations to assist children and families, local schools, small businesses, non-profit organizations, Office Depot associates and even pets with immediate relief as well as long-term recovery and rebuilding:

- Through July 31, the Foundation will support the Joplin Recovery Fund of the Community Foundation of Southwest Missouri by designating all donations made through Office Depot Foundation Change Collection Program cans in Office Depot stores throughout Missouri to this initiative.
- The Foundation launched this program with an initial contribution of \$1,000 to the Joplin Recovery Fund, which will support community redevelopment efforts by making targeted grants to non-profit organizations serving the Joplin area.
- A \$10,000 Office Depot Foundation donation to Feed The Children sponsored the delivery of a semi tractor-trailer filled with food, personal care items and coolers – enough to assist 400 families in Joplin on Thursday. Recipients of the supplies included Office Depot associates whose homes were damaged or destroyed, along with local residents served by the Pentecostal Church of God International Headquarters. Office Depot



- associates and church members volunteered to help unload the truck today at Office Depot.
- The Foundation will give 5,000 new backpacks to Joplin Schools to help children in the area now – and before school starts again.
 - A \$1,000 donation to the Joplin Humane Society will assist with relief and recovery efforts for pets and their owners.
 - In addition, the Foundation has given 120 of its special Teddy B. Caring stuffed bears to Comfort Bears – a project created by two young boys in Joplin to collect teddy bears for children affected by the tornadoes.

On a larger scale, the Foundation has been assisting small businesses in Joplin since the day after the tornado struck. The Office Depot Foundation-sponsored National Disaster Help Desk for Business, which is managed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center, immediately reached out to the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce to offer help. Through their joint efforts, the U.S. Small Business Administration opened a Disaster Recovery Center in Joplin, to which the Foundation has donated office supplies and other items. The Help Desk also has been instrumental in connecting the Galveston Chamber of Commerce and the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce in New York with the Joplin Chamber to offer mentoring and support.

Businesses and non-profit organizations needing assistance – as well as those that want to help with relief and recovery – can call the Help Desk toll-free 24 hours a day at 1-888-MY-BIZ-HELP (888-692-4943) to access valuable resources and guidance.

The Office Depot Foundation is accepting donations to support its recovery and rebuilding efforts at www.officedepotfoundation.org/donations.

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About the Office Depot Foundation

The Office Depot Foundation is an independent foundation (tax exempt under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3)) that serves as the independent charitable giving arm of Office Depot, Inc. In keeping with its mission, Listen Learn Care®, the Foundation supports a variety of programs that help children succeed in school and in life; enable civil society (non-profit) organizations to become more efficient and effective; help people and businesses prepare for disasters, then recover and rebuild afterwards; strengthen local communities through grants, product donations and volunteerism; and encourage community development through entrepreneurship and economic innovation. For more information, visit www.officedepotfoundation.org.

About Office Depot

Celebrating 25 years as a leading global provider of office supplies and services, Office Depot is Taking Care of Business for millions of customers around the globe. For the local corner store as well as Fortune 500 companies, Office Depot provides supplies and services to its customers through 1,641 worldwide retail stores, a dedicated sales force, top-rated catalogs and global e-commerce operations. Office Depot has annual sales of approximately \$11.6 billion, and employs about 40,000 associates around the world. The Company provides more office supplies and services to more customers in more countries than any other company, and currently sells to customers directly or through affiliates in 55 countries.

Office Depot's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ODP. Additional press information can be found at:

<http://mediarelations.officedepot.com> and <http://socialpress.officedepot.com/>.

