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CITY OF TYBEE ISLAND

PRESS RELEASE:
For immediate release

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Upcoming 2010 Census

Tybee Island, GA – (February 1, 2010) Communication about the 2010 Census begins this month, with written questionnaires arriving in March and final responses due by April 1st.

Correctly responding to the Census is important for all levels of government, as many programs are funded based on the population reported for the area. Your representation in Congress is impacted by Census results. In order for Tybee to receive its fair share of State and over \$400B in Federal government funds, please be sure to fill out and return the Census forms in a timely manner! Because the island's population is relatively small to begin with, a few missing responses can easily add up to a large percentage, resulting in significant shortages in funding opportunities for the City of Tybee!

You should never reveal your personal information in an unsolicited telephone call from *anyone*, and it is important to note that you will **never** be contacted by phone or email in regards to this Census. Your responses to the 10 questions in the 2010 Census will be kept anonymously in the Census database. In fact, all Census Bureau employees take an oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of census data. The penalty for unlawful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to five years, or both. Your personal census responses cannot be shared with the Internal Revenue Service, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Central Intelligence Agency or any other government agency, not even to the President of the United States.

If you have questions about anyone claiming to represent the Census Bureau, you can call the regional office in Atlanta, toll-free, at (888) 586-9439.

About Tybee Island, GA.: The City of Tybee Island, Georgia is on the outermost barrier island off the Savannah area coast. With a wild bird sanctuary, over three miles of ocean beaches, and salt marshes on the back river, outdoor recreation activities abound for visitors to the island. As a key defense point to the important Savannah port, Tybee's Fort Screven, Tybee Fort Theater, Fort Pulaski, and the Tybee Island and Cockspur Lighthouses combine with the unique architectures of the island's raised cottages to form a rich backdrop for history buffs. Attracting a strong artistic community, there are several local supporting art galleries. Keeping the island interesting year round are several arts festivals, the Annual Pirate Fest, the Beach Bum Parade, St Patrick's Day celebrations, the Hot Rod Run, the Beach Bash, and the Christmas Parade, as well as fireworks displays on Independence Day Eve and New Year's Eve off the Parker Pier and Pavilion. The Marine Science Center cooperates with Georgia's DNR to protect threatened sea turtle species by searching for nests, protecting their eggs, and making sure hatchlings make it to sea. For visitor information, stop by <http://www.tybeevisit.com/>, and to find more about the City of Tybee Island, visit our web site at <http://www.cityoftybee.org/>.

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