

Contact: Earl Woodham (704) 716 1843

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 4, 2008 www.atf.gov

ATF OFFERS \$5,000 REWARD FOR WAL MART FIRE Photographs of Witnesses and/or Persons of Interest Released

CONCORD, N.C. – The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the deliberately set fire that occurred at the Wal Mart Supercenter in Kannapolis, North Carolina, on May 5, 2008.

ATF, along with the Concord Police Department and the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI), released photographs of individuals believed to have information that may be useful to the investigation into the Wal Mart Superstore fire that resulted in over \$4 million in damage due to fire loss and business interruption. Photographs of a vehicle believed to be operated by these individuals are also released.

A determination has been made that the fire was deliberately set. Publishing photographs of potential witnesses and/or persons of interest in an ongoing investigation is standard procedure to solicit assistance from the public in identifying those witnesses. Anyone that provides any information or assistance in this investigation can do so anonymously if desired.

It is requested that anyone that may recognize any or all of the persons in the photographs are encouraged to contact the Concord Police Department Crimestoppers number at (704) 920-3000, the NC SBI (800) 334-3000 or the ATF fire hotline at 1-(888) ATF FIRE, (that is 1 888 283-3473). The photographs released today will also be available for viewing on the ATF web site at www.atf.gov.

ATF is the federal agency with jurisdiction for investigating explosions and fire. More information on ATF and its programs is at <u>www.atf.gov</u>.

Page 2 ATF Offers \$5,000 Reward for Wal Mart Fire



