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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# FLORIDA EYE MICROSURGICAL INSTITUTE ENCOURAGES THE COMMUNITY TO DROP OFF SUPPLIES AND LETTERS FOR U.S. TROOPS AT THREE OF THEIR PALM BEACH COUNTY LOCATIONS

*Boynton Beach, FL, November 20, 2009...* In honor of its patients who are serving or who have served in the military, from November 23<sup>rd</sup> through December 23<sup>rd</sup> Florida Eye Microsurgical Institute will be collecting items for U.S. troops deployed in Iraq, Kuwait, and other military zones in association with The Forgotten Soldiers Outreach, Inc. organization.

Randy Katz, M.D., Florida Eye's Diabetic Retinopathy, Retinal Detachment & Macular Degeneration Specialist, recalls one soldier in particular who lost his vision secondary to a retinal detachment. After the retinal surgery the soldier's vision was restored and he was able to serve his tour of duty in Iraq. "These men and women are dedicated and driven and we truly need to stop and give thanks and recognize their efforts – not just during the holidays, but always."

Barry Schechter, M.D., the Institute's Refractive Cataract, Glaucoma, Cornea and External Disease Specialist concurs with Katz. "This is the least we can do for our soldiers who are unselfishly putting the needs of our country in front of their own. We welcome anyone – patients of ours or not, to stop by and drop off items and letters of encouragement for our troops."

Forgotten Soldiers, a not-for-profit corporation, was established in 2004 to continually encourage the men and women who are abroad fighting for our nation by inspiring hope, strength and courage while soldiers are separated from loved ones, families, and friends. Forgotten Soldiers Outreach sends care packages

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#### Page Two

filled with necessary supplies and letters of encouragement to our deployed soldiers. The most needed and appreciated items that the soldiers request are listed at the end of this release, and items may be dropped off during regular business hours at three of the four Florida Eye locations – Boynton Beach, Boca Raton and Wellington.

The Florida Eye Microsurgical Institute offers a full range of comprehensive ophthalmologic care, including routine eye care and examinations, pediatric eye care, dry eyes, advanced corneal, retinal and cataract procedures, laser treatments, glaucoma and diabetic procedures, and various other sophisticated treatments. With its own pediatric wing and fully accredited outpatient surgical center in Boynton Beach, the Institute has additional offices in Boca Raton, Wellington and Juno Beach.

Also at Florida Eye with Drs. Katz and Schechter are Dr. Lee Friedman, FL Eye's Pediatric, ROP & Adult Strabismus Specialist, Dr. Jonathan Chua, General Ophthalmology, and Dr. Jason Gorscak, who specializes in Refractive Cataract Surgery, Glaucoma and Comprehensive Ophthalmologic Care. For more information on the Institute, its physicians and current clinical trials, please contact Gwen Cohan at (561) 736-5050,

gwen@fleyedocs.com, or visit www.fleyedocs.com.



(Pictured left to right...) Lee Friedman, M.D., Barry Schechter, M.D., Randy Katz, M.D., Jason Gorscak, M.D., Jonathan Chua, M.D.,Ph.D.,F.A.C.S.

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#### Page Three

#### ITEMS FLORIDA EYE IS COLLECTING FOR U.S. TROOPS

# (THESE ITEMS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT ANY OF OUR BELOW LOCATIONS DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Sweetened Kool-Aid (powdered)-packets/Crystal Light Packets INDIVIDUAL PACKETS ONLY.... Foiled packets of Tuna, Chicken, Meats (cans are also acceptable) **Letters of Encouragement Cereal Bars in the boxes** Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, Pepperoni Sticks Crackers **AT&T International Phone Cards** AA Batteries - Currently need all sizes of batteries!!! Sun Block White, Camo and Black Tube Socks Hygiene products such as deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc. **Chap Stick Crackers (packets of crackers) Ramen Noodles & Cup of Noodles** Instant Macaroni & Cheese in cardboard containers Easy Cheese **Dry fruits** Black/Mild Cigars (luxury for them) Hand Sanitizer Baby Wipes and Cottonell Wipes (TRAVEL SIZE) **Toilet Paper Sunflower Seeds and nuts Post Cards Disposable Cameras Dental Floss Potato Sticks Small plastic jars of Peanut Butter** Packets of Mayonnaise and other condiments Playing Cards, small handheld games Foot and body Powder **Women Personal Hygiene Products Bug Repellant** Toilet Paper (individually wrapped ONLY due to shipping purposes) Movie DVD's Only (NO Video Tapes) Hand Fan

FOR PACKING EVENTS: FORGOTTEN SOLDIERS NEED: Clear packing tape and Ziplock bags large and small!

Page Four

### FLORIDA EYE LOCATIONS:

## (FOR MAPS TO EACH LOCATION PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE <u>WWW.FLEYEDOCS.COM</u> OR CALL THE MAIN OFFICE AT (561)737-5500.

1717 Woolbright Road Boynton Beach FL 33426 (561) 737-5500

9980 Central Park Blvd. Suite 204 Boca Raton, FL 33428 (561) 451-4514

1397 State Road #7, Suite 380 Wellington, FL 33414 (561) 792-1205

The Juno Beach location will not be participating in the collection of items.