



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On behalf of Salvos Stores – Southern Territory

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### **Devastating Fire Damages Carlton Salvos Stores**

At approximately two am this morning, a fire broke out at the front of Carlton Salvos Stores. The store at 747 Nicholson Street received extensive damage by the fire.

The police and fire brigade suspect donations left out the front of the store were set alight. The police acted as security, watching the store all morning after the fire. The arson chemist is yet to determine the exact cause.

The fire destroyed the front of the store. Luckily no one was injured.

Salvos Stores CEO Allen Dewhirst commented 'We are extremely disappointed someone would purposefully cause damage to a charity. It is tragic to think of the time and money that will need to be put into the store to restore it to its original state. It's money and time which would be otherwise spent on helping the community.'

This incident is a timely reminder to people to donate during store opening hours. All stores are open Monday to Saturday and selected stores are open on Sunday to collect donations.

Salvos Stores Southern Territory operates 210 retail stores in Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania and Northern Territory. Salvos Stores operate as a fully functioning retail business, recycling pre loved goods and relying heavily on the generosity of the public. Overall Salvos Stores operates as a thriving business with the added benefit of contributing positively to the excellent work of The Salvation Army.

For more information about Salvos Stores opening hours please go to [www.salvosstores.com.au](http://www.salvosstores.com.au).

#### **In brief -**

What: Devastating fire damages Carlton Salvos Stores

Where: 747 Nicholson Street, Carlton

When: Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> of February, 2012