



Connecticut Network

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News Release

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Connecticut Network Now on AT&T U-verse Channel 83

Hartford, CT – AT&T and the Connecticut Network announced the launch today of CT-N, the state's government and public affairs channel, on AT&T's U-verse programming service. This marks the first major expansion of CT-N's distribution in nearly five years and the first video service provider outside of cable television to pick up the network. Connecticut Network is now available on U-verse channel 83.

"We're extremely pleased to now offer CT-N's coverage of state government to all of our Connecticut AT&T U-verse customers and applaud the General Assembly and the staff of CT-N for their work in making this possible," stated John Emra, AT&T Connecticut's Regional Vice President for External and Legislative Affairs. "CT-N's coverage, coupled with our ability to provide local community access programming from throughout the state, gives U-verse customers unsurpassed access to community and government programming."

"The launch of CT-N on U-verse begins an exciting new chapter in the network's continuing evolution as a multimedia, multiplatform provider of government and public affairs information to every audience possible," according to Paul Giguere, network President and CEO. "Since the network's inception we have worked untiringly to remove barriers between people and their state government, expanding our coverage of the Executive and Judicial Branches, launching CT-N on basic cable, and making closed captioning available on all of our programming, just to cite a few examples. We are extremely pleased with AT&T's agreement with the General Assembly and thank them both for helping to remove yet another barrier to open and transparent government for all."

The launch announcement also drew swift praise from the leadership of the Connecticut General Assembly:

"CT-N's availability on statewide basic cable television systems has vastly increased the openness and transparency of state government for the people of Connecticut," House Speaker Christopher G. Donovan (D-Meriden) said. "Now, with the launch of CT-N on AT&T's U-verse programming service, that transparency is extended even further. Ultimately, the people of our state are the winners here, and CT-N and AT&T should be commended for providing this vital service."

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(continued from page 1)

“The announcement that the Connecticut Network will be part of the service provided by AT&T’s U-verse programming is a positive step and good news,” House Majority Leader Denise Merrill (D-Storrs/Mansfield) said. “It’s important that the public be informed about their government and CTN offers a unique opportunity for our citizens to learn more about their elected officials and the policies that affect their lives.”

“CT-N has opened up state government to Connecticut residents in a way that was never possible before. With this expansion to ATT U-Verse, CT-N will provide increased accessibility to thousands of more people. This is definitely a positive step forward,” House Republican Leader Lawrence F. Cafero Jr., (R-Norwalk) said.

“The expansion of CT-N couldn’t come at a more important time for the people of Connecticut,” said Senate President Donald Williams (D-29th District). “State government will play a pivotal role in helping Connecticut recover from the recession and it is critical that the public is informed and engaged.”

“CT-N helps to educate members of the public about what happens in Hartford and how it affects their families and communities,” said Senate Majority Leader Martin Looney (D-New Haven/Hamden). “I’m confident CT-N will continue to play an important role in ensuring that state government is accessible and accountable to Connecticut families.”

“A well informed public is an essential element of a thriving democracy and for more than ten years, CT-N has provided Connecticut residents with an up-close and unbiased look at their government in action,” said Senate Minority Leader John McKinney (R-Fairfield). “By expanding services on television, on-line and now through the launch of its U-verse channel, CT-N is helping to ensure that an even broader audience will have access to its important programming.”

Connecticut Network launched in 1999 to limited availability, both geographically and in the hours of the day that potential viewers could find it. Over a period of years, the network worked to expand its availability, culminating in a landmark 2005 agreement between the General Assembly and the state’s cable television industry which placed CT-N on expanded basic cable virtually statewide.

Winner of the national Sunshine Award from the Society of Professional Journalists and the Open Government Award from the Connecticut Foundation for Open Government, Connecticut Network is the state’s source for complete and balanced television and webcast coverage of state government and public affairs. For more information, become a fan of CT-N on Facebook, follow the network at www.twitter.com/CTNetworkTV or visit CT-N’s website at www.ct-n.com.

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