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News Release

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CIPRIANI TRIAL TO AIR ON CONNECTICUT NETWORK

Hartford, CT – The criminal trial of Benedetto Cipriani began in Hartford Superior Court yesterday, and the Connecticut Network announced plans to cover the proceeding gavel-to-gavel for its duration. This will be the first time a criminal trial has received gavel-to-gavel television coverage since the start of the Judicial Branch’s criminal court pilot project in January of this year.

“Criminal proceedings offer a unique and fascinating educational window on our judicial branch,” according to Paul Giguere, the network’s President and CEO. “Covering this trial in its entirety and illuminating not just the facts of the case but the Court’s process helps further the Connecticut Network’s educational mission to broaden public understanding about state government.”

CT-N will air each day’s court session in its entirety on the following evening in prime time; Thursday’s proceedings, for example, will air this evening. The trial is expected to last approximately three weeks; consult the network’s daily schedule at ct-n.com for details.

Mr. Cipriani is accused of hiring three men to murder auto shop owner Robert Stears, whose wife had an affair with Cipriani. Stears, his business partner and a mechanic were killed; Cipriani is charged with three counts of accessory to murder and one felony count of conspiracy to commit murder.

CT-N is available full-time on expanded basic cable statewide. Visit ct-n.com to find the channel location for the network in your community or to watch online. All Connecticut Network programming is closed captioned for the hearing impaired.

Winner of the 2007 Helen M. Loy Freedom of Information Award and national Sunshine Award from the Society of Professional Journalists, Connecticut Network is the state’s source for complete and balanced television and webcast coverage of state government and public affairs. CT-N is managed and operated by the Connecticut Public Affairs Network, Inc., a nonprofit company founded to educate citizens about state government. For more information, visit CT-N’s website at www.ct-n.com.

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