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**Connecticut Production Coalition Corrects the Record on  
State's Film, TV and Digital Media Tax Credits**

***Incomplete, inaccurate data contribute to opponents' wrong  
conclusion on thriving industry.***

**Stamford, CT, June 15, 2009** – The Connecticut Production Coalition (CPC) today responded to criticism of the state's film, television and digital media tax credit program. Opponents of the program issued a report, based on a draft document containing incomplete numbers, from the Connecticut Film Office resulting in a gross underestimate of tremendous investments that the film, television and digital media industry are attracting to the state.

“The Connecticut Production Coalition is extremely disappointed that opponents of Connecticut's film, television and digital media industry have resorted to mischaracterizing draft, incomplete data to serve their own ends,” said Kevin Segalla, President of the Connecticut Film Center and one of the founders of CPC. “Even the Connecticut Film Office, who compiled these preliminary numbers made it clear that this is a draft document that doesn't account for millions and millions of dollars spent right here in Connecticut.”

The report issued by Connecticut Voices for Children utilized preliminary numbers compiled by the Connecticut Film Office. In most cases, the amounts reported did not reflect the full amount spent by production companies in the state. In other instances, productions that maintained major operations in Connecticut for extended periods of time were not even included in the draft document, including:

- Confessions of a Shopaholic: Spent nine months in Connecticut incurring millions of dollars on stage facilities, hotels, office space, food, equipment and supplies – Connecticut expenditures not included in draft document
- Young American Heroes: Shot and produced entirely in Connecticut, spending more than \$1M – Connecticut expenditures not included in draft document
- dLife TV: Spent nearly \$2M in Connecticut over the course of nine months of production – Connecticut expenditures not included in draft document

- NBCSports.com and NBCOlympics.com: Based in Connecticut and do all of their work here – Connecticut expenditures not included in draft document

Opponents go so far as to claim that productions that didn't spend any money in the state were still somehow eligible to collect tax credits. "A complete and utter falsehood" according to Segalla. Productions have spent from tens of thousands to tens of millions of dollars buying goods and services from Connecticut businesses, and it is this critical economic activity that makes productions eligible for the credits.

"Virtually all of the approximately \$2 million dollars for our productions were spent in Connecticut," said Chris Campbell, television producer and CPC member. "The incentive program enabled these projects to be done in Connecticut and without the program we would likely had to do the projects elsewhere."

Using preliminary data to create inaccurate conclusions, opponents are seeking to undermine an incentive program that has generated an estimated \$1.5 billion in new economic activity in our state. These incentives have been vital to bringing the jobs and investment that are just what Connecticut needs in these difficult times.

"I'm not sure a single amount attributed to our company is accurate," said Brandon Curiel, President, Venan Entertainment. "For our company alone, they somehow missed nearly \$1.2M dollars. This program is vital to our company and our employees and I'd be happy to show any skeptics just how each and every dollar we applied for went back into our state's economy".

Thanks to the incentive program, companies such as Blue Sky Animation and NBC Digital have relocated to Connecticut, bringing hundreds of high skill, high paying jobs. In just a few short years, the amount of film, television and digital media dollars being spent in the state has grown from \$700,000 to more than \$600 million. In order to keep pace with increasing workforce demands, programs to train Connecticut residents in industry jobs have been established, putting in a place a vital component to ensure continued job creation.

"Our industry is working hard to create jobs, attract business and succeed in Connecticut," said Segalla. "We hope that lawmakers will rely on detailed, accurate information in their deliberations; the growth of this industry and its ongoing contributions to our state's economy are too important to be undermined by incomplete and misleading information."

### ***About The Connecticut Production Coalition***

The Connecticut Production Coalition (CPC) is an independent private sector coalition of companies and individuals who care about establishing and growing a strong and robust film, television and digital media sector in Connecticut. CPC was founded by Howard Baldwin, Baldwin Entertainment Group; Karen Baldwin, Baldwin Entertainment Group;

Chris Campbell, Palace Digital Studios; Tom Carruthers, Connecticut Film Festival; Ephraim Cohen, The Fortex Group; Brandon Curiel, Venan Entertainment, Inc.; Donna Elkinson, Elkinson + Sloves, Inc.; A. Searle Field, United Studios of America; Andrew Gernhard, Synetic Cinema Intl.; Bruce Heller, Connecticut, Film Center; Mike Kuhar, VisualEFX; John Lanza, Kostin, Ruffkess & Co, LLC; Fred Litty, Sonalysts Media Group; Al Maiorano, Televersemedia; Mark Osora, Sheptoff, Reuber & Co, P.C.; Kevin Segalla, Connecticut Film Center; Jeff Taylor, Elements Post; Neal Thomassen, Angel Eyes Productions, llc.; and Ron Wishna, RM Studios, LLC. To learn more or to join the Connecticut Production Coalition, please visit <http://www.productionct.com> <<http://www.productionct.com>> .

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