



October 3, 2005

BY HAND

The Honorable John G. Roberts Chief Justice of the United States The Supreme Court 1 First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20543

Dear Mr. Chief Justice:

Senator Arlen Specter's legislation and the several questions raised by other Senators during your confirmation hearings are indications of the great interest and raised expectations many people have regarding television access to the Court as you begin your tenure.

Knowing that you are well familiar with C-SPAN and our longstanding interest in this topic, I am writing to detail C-SPAN's commitment to coverage of the Court and to offer our technical expertise to you and the Court to help facilitate any exploration you may undertake of televised Court proceedings.

In 1988, C-SPAN committed to Chief Justice Rehnquist that if the Court would allow camera access, C-SPAN would televise every oral argument *in its entirety*, without editing and without commentary. Our commitment still stands.

In 1988, we also participated in the first and only demonstration of television equipment in the Chamber. We would be pleased to organize a new demonstration using the latest digital equipment and would offer C-SPAN technical staff and producers to the Court for any consultation it may request regarding the equipment, logistics, and cost of televising arguments in the Chamber.

Our network's 26 years of experience in producing long-form television, combined with the quality and small size of today's digital television equipment virtually guarantee the Court a high-quality and discreet technical system.

I have enclosed a description of C-SPAN's coverage of the federal judiciary and of our relationship with the Court over the past twenty years that demonstrates our commitment to complete and fair coverage of the Court. That commitment extends to assisting you in any way we can, should you wish to explore televised coverage of oral arguments.

With best regards,

Brian P. Lamb

Enclosure

CC: Kathy Arberg

Public Information Officer