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MEDIA CONTACT: Kafi Rouse
(757) 398.3152
kbrouse@wgnttv.com

STEVEN SOLDINGER INDUCTED TO THE VIRGINIA COMMUNICATIONS HALL OF FAME IN 2009



On April 2, 2009, Steven Soldinger of Portsmouth, Virginia was inducted to the Virginia Communications Hall of Fame “for substantial achievements that have brought honor to the profession and renown to the Commonwealth of Virginia.” These words adorn the Certificate of Achievement that was presented to Soldinger, along with a Medal of Honor, to demonstrate the appreciation and acknowledgement of Soldinger’s life’s work in media.

Steven Soldinger, currently the Vice President and General Manager of CBS Television owned CW 27, WGNT-TV (Norfolk, Va.), CW 69, WUPA-TV (Atlanta, Ga.) and CW 44, WTOG (Tampa, Fla.) has had a extraordinary career in broadcast which began in the Greater Hampton Roads area of Virginia more than 35 years ago.

When asked about his feelings on receiving this prestigious award, Soldinger stated, “I was overwhelmed with joy. I’ve worked all these years because I love this business. Being recognized by my colleagues and friends is very humbling and this is a night and an honor I will never forget.”

The awards ceremony was held at the Jefferson Hotel of Richmond, Va. It was during this time that Soldinger received one of the highest honors in media. The Hall of Fame, established by Virginia

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Commonwealth University's School of Mass Communications in 1986, recognizes individuals who have shown exceptional achievement in the fields of print, broadcast, public relations, advertising and interactive media, including cable and the internet. Inductees are nominated and selected by their peers.

The Virginia Communications Hall of Fame continued its tradition of excellence in 2009 with the election of Soldinger. Before returning to Norfolk, Steve was Chief Operating Officer/ Vice President, Television of Equity Broadcasting Corporation where he dramatically increased the company's portfolio of stations, created a national rep firm, helped to develop industry-leading technology and advances in "central casting," and negotiated major carriage contracts with cable operators and networks. Previously, he ran his own group called Soldinger Communications where he was awarded several Construction Permits for full power television stations. Prior to that, he served as General Manager and Group Manager of WBFF Fox 45 and WNUV WB 54 Baltimore, as well as WXLV ABC 45 and WUPN 48 in Greensboro, N.C. He also served as Corporate Vice President, Television for Outlet Communications Inc.; General Manager for WYED/WNCN Raleigh/Durham, N.C.; General Manager/ Executive Manager for WCCB-TV Fox Charlotte, as well as the Hornets Sports Network; Owner and General Manager of WVAB Radio; Account Executive with WBAL Baltimore; Account Executive/ News Reporter from WTVR-TV CBS Richmond, Va.; and News Reporter/ Photographer at WWBT NBC Richmond, Va.

As a second generation broadcaster, Soldinger was exposed to television through his father Harold who for 18 years managed at WTAR-TV Norfolk and an equal number of years at WAVY-TV. Soldinger's television career began in Norfolk, at WNOR Radio and WAVY. Since returning to Norfolk, Soldinger has ushered in The New CW Network, in addition to overseeing the transformation of WGNT as the host station to WTOG and WUPA. These three stations are owned and operated by the CBS Television Network Stations Group. WGNT remains the top rated CW station in the country and a leader in community outreach.

CW 27, WGNT-TV currently reigns as one of the highest rated CW affiliates in the country. CW 27 is a dominant television force in Hampton Roads, leading our market with top-rated entertainment like Dr. Phil, Judge Judy, Judge Joe Brown, Gossip Girl, House of Payne and America's Next Top Model. CW 27 can be seen in HD on channel 707 on Cox Digital Cable in Hampton Roads.

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