



Press Contact:
Debra Falk
NJTV Communications
212.560.3006 (office)
732.768.6077 (cell)
FalkD@thirteen.org

Growing Team of *NJ Today* Correspondents Cover Garden State News on the Ground and on Twitter

Correspondents report New Jersey news from South to North on air and via social media

February 9, 2012 – *NJ Today*, the week-nightly news broadcast of NJTV, New Jersey’s new public television network, announced new Twitter handles for its team of regional correspondents.

“It’s critical that our show encompass news from all across New Jersey both on air and online,” said *NJ Today* Executive Producer Bob Males. “Twitter enables our correspondents to share news, from wherever they are in the state, as it happens. And it gives our followers and viewers a boots-on-the-ground perspective as news unfolds.”

The team of correspondents, who join Managing Editor and anchor Mike Schneider (@SchneiderNJTV) on the week-nightly broadcast – and now on Twitter – include journalists public television viewers may find very familiar.

Chief Political Correspondent Michael Aron (@MichaelAronNJTV) covers the Trenton Statehouse for *NJ Today*, his beat for over 30 years with *NJN News*.

Desiree Taylor (@DesireeNJTV) is Senior Correspondent with a statewide beat and back-up anchor of *NJ Today*. An Emmy-award winning news reporter with more than a decade of experience, she was a General Assignment News Reporter at *NJN News*. There she also served as back-up anchor, and hosted several special programs, including *Our Voices*, which featured Newark Mayoral candidates, and guest-hosted *Images Imagenes*, a Hispanic public affairs show, *State of the Arts* and *Another View*. Taylor launched her professional journalism career at NBC TV 40 in Linwood, NJ, where she served as a General Assignment News Reporter, substitute Anchor and host of a community affairs show. She has moderated mayoral debates in Jersey City and Newark. She currently resides in Central New Jersey.

Correspondent Lauren Wanko (@LaurenWankoNJTV) concentrates on news in South Jersey for *NJ Today*. A native of New Jersey, viewers may remember Wanko as a reporter at NJN's weekly news magazine, *NJ Works*. Most recently, she anchored the CBS Saturday *Early Show*'s live webcast, *Backstage Live*, and produced features for the CBS Evening News with Katie Couric and with Scott Pelley. She also served as producer for Steve Hartman's Emmy Award-winning series, *Assignment America*, and has appeared in various reporting capacities for CareerTV.

David Cruz (@CruzNJTV) is *NJ Today*'s correspondent covering primarily North Jersey, which is very familiar territory for the 20-year state news veteran and lifelong Jersey City resident. His local journalism career began as a general assignment reporter in Cablevision's nightly TV newscast, *North Hudson News*. From there he went on to become Managing Editor and columnist at the Hudson Reporter newspaper group, where he wrote the popular weekly Latin Beat column and was instrumental in developing the publication's Union City and West New York editions. Cruz also anchored, produced and wrote for WBGO-FM, where he created and hosted the *Newark Today* call-in show with Mayor Cory Booker. Additional experience includes substitute hosting on WNYC-AM's *Brian Lehrer Show* and *Soundcheck* and contributing feature stories to NPR's *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered* and *Latino USA*.

NJ Today also relies on special reports from other field reporters and content partners like *The Star Ledger* and the *Atlantic City Press* to enrich its newscast. The program aims to further expand its news team both on-air and on its website, www.njtvonline.org/njtoday.

Viewers can read more about the *NJ Today* correspondents on the NJTV website <http://www.njtvonline.org/njtoday/team/> and find out the latest network news and interviews on Facebook www.facebook.com/njtvonline/ and Twitter @njtvonline.

####

ABOUT NJTV

NJTV brings quality public television programs and resources to communities throughout New Jersey and its Tri-state neighbors. NJTV's broadcast schedule combines acclaimed national PBS series like [American Masters](#), [Nature](#), [Charlie Rose](#), and [BBC World News America](#) with an array of state-focused news, arts and public affairs shows, including [One-on-One with Steve Adubato](#), [Perspectives](#), [Caucus New Jersey](#), [Due Process](#) and [State of the Arts](#). The station's week-nightly news broadcast, [NJ Today](#), features stories from across the Garden State. NJTV complements its growing news staff by partnering with state-wide media and higher education institutions. The network actively solicits viewer [news tips, story ideas and feedback](#), along with locally-produced [film shorts and long-form documentaries](#), making New Jerseyans part of the

network's editorial team. The network's website, www.njtvonline.org posts the latest local news, information and program schedules, and its Education section offers local educators free, classroom-ready, digital resources through [VITAL NJ](#).

NJTV is comprised of WNJN, WNJS, WNJB, and WNJT, which collectively broadcast throughout NJ. Formerly New Jersey Network (NJN), NJTV is operated under an agreement with the state of New Jersey by Public Media NJ, Inc. (PMNJ), a non-profit affiliate of WNET, parent company of award-winning New York public television stations THIRTEEN and WLIW21. Station sponsorships and partnerships are available.