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Dolan Media Company acquires Politics in Minnesota, names Sarah Janecek Director of Political Coverage

ST. PAUL, MN – (March 14, 2008) – Political reporter, analyst and commentator Sarah Janecek has sold her Politics in Minnesota multimedia news operation to Dolan Media Company and has joined the company as its director of political coverage.

The sale closed March 14. It included:

- Online service *Politics in Minnesota: The Morning Report*, which gathers relevant news headlines and Internet links from across all media for delivery to more than 3,000 controlled subscribers every morning five days a week.
- Online service *Politics in Minnesota: The Weekly Report*, an insider news service and commentary covering politics and state capitol news and commentary for email delivery to nearly 700 paid subscribers each Friday.
- Online service www.politicsinminnesota.com, a frequently updated Web site with current political news, online reference material, and archives of the morning and weekly reports.
- Print publication *Politics in Minnesota: The Directory*, a biennial directory providing exhaustive vital information, insights and listings covering the Minnesota Legislature and executive departments. *The Directory* is widely considered to be the most authoritative reference source in the Minnesota capitol and each edition sells nearly 2,000 copies.

Janecek, an attorney and former lobbyist, will lead Dolan Media's stepped-up coverage of politics and state government. Ricé Davis, Politics in Minnesota's office manager, was named its business manager, Janecek said, and reporters Peter Bartz-Gallagher, Dan Feidt and Pam Steinle will continue with Politics in Minnesota.

Simultaneous with the closing, Dolan Media and its *St. Paul Legal Ledger* said it was negotiating with the State of Minnesota for space in the capitol pressroom. Janecek said the space was being outfitted for up to eight reporters and would include multimedia facilities for video reporting as well as high-speed web access.

Politics in Minnesota and *Legal Ledger* reporters will share the pressroom space and will coordinate capitol coverage. *Legal Ledger* Publisher Steve Jahn said his twice-weekly newspaper has been steadily increasing its capitol coverage with reporter Charley Shaw and currently is adding to its reporting staff under Managing Editor Bill Clements.

Politics in Minnesota staffers already have begun producing video reports and the staff is planning podcasts and other electronic products and services, Janecek said. Dolan Media expects to install robust technology behind the Politics in Minnesota operation to enable new product development as well as reliable delivery of current products.

The transaction was announced jointly by Janecek and Dolan Media President and Chief Executive James P. Dolan, who pointed out that capitol news “is more important than ever, and in this time of shrinking newsroom staffs elsewhere, we see opportunity to grow.”

Dolan said Janecek’s duties, while concentrating on Minnesota for now, in the future will encompass more of Dolan Media’s political and legislative coverage in other states. The company expects to work with other Dolan Media newsrooms to introduce many of the products and services that are so successful in Minnesota to other states where Dolan Media’s Business Information Division operates, he said.

Janecek said Politics in Minnesota is moving out of its Como Avenue offices in St. Paul, with most staffers moving to the Capitol pressroom and one to Dolan Media’s Finance and Commerce publishing offices in downtown Minneapolis.

Politics in Minnesota’s readership includes legislators and staffs, executive branch officials and staffs, political junkies and activists across the political spectrum, state agency officials and staffs, local government officials across the state, media, Congressional members and staffs, and the private sector public affairs community including corporations, trade associations and lobbyists.

Dolan Media Company is a leading provider of business information and professional services to the legal, financial and real estate sectors. Its Professional Services Division provides specialized services to the legal profession through its American Processing Company, which serves the foreclosure bar, and through its Counsel Press, LLC, the nation's largest provider of appellate services. The company’s Business Information Division produces business journals, court and commercial media and other publications, operates web sites and conducts a broad range of events for targeted professional audiences in each of the 21 geographic markets that it serves across the United States.

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