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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

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### **NHPR'S NEWS COVERAGE HONORED BY RTNDA Coverage of Healthcare and State Contracting Controversy receive awards**

CONCORD – NHPR's coverage of healthcare in New Hampshire, and state contracting issues that led to an Attorney General's investigation, has been honored by the Radio and Television News Directors Association, a leading national professional organization.

The ongoing coverage of both topics garnered NHPR a pair of Edward R. Murrow Awards for excellence in electronic journalism. NHPR competed against radio stations throughout New England, and will now compete for national honors.

Cited by the judges were:

- "The State's Paid Volunteer" The coverage focused on the activities of a volunteer in the Benson administration. NHPR reporter Josh Rogers found that the volunteer and a state official misled the Executive Council in its approval of an \$885,000 contract with an online benefits management service, and engineered a way for the volunteer to receive thousands of dollars in commissions for which she was ineligible. As a result of NHPR's coverage, the Attorney General launched an investigation.
- "Profiles in Health Care" The station looked at the health care system through the stories of 11 individuals all connected in some way to the same family physician. Among the voices listeners heard were a housekeeper at the Tilton School, the owners of a thriving tire store, a self-employed carpenter, a single mother who works as a bookkeeper at McDonald's and many others. In addition, NHPR connected those personal stories with the health care proposals of the presidential candidates through material on its web site and a broadcast of "The Exchange" with Laura Knoy in front of a live audience in Laconia.

NHPR's President and General Manager Mark D. Handley said the awards honor the station's commitment to in-depth coverage of important topics. "The Murrow Award acknowledges the hard work and tremendous dedication of NHPR's team of producers, reporters, and editors," Handley said. "We're committed to providing thorough, in-depth reporting about New Hampshire. This coverage is made possible by the support of our listeners"

NHPR serves more than 150,000 listeners each week through a network of seven stations and transmitters. NHPR is the only statewide source of news, information, and entertainment for the Granite State, striving to earn the respect of its listeners by offering in-depth and unbiased reporting of the issues facing New Hampshire residents. NHPR views the importance of providing a comprehensive information source for New Hampshire as one of the station's highest priorities. Contributions from listeners and businesses in New Hampshire make up more than 90 percent of the revenue necessary to operate NHPR.

NHPR broadcasts in Concord and Manchester at 89.1 FM; in Nashua at 90.3 FM; in Dover at 104.3 FM; in Hanover and Littleton at 91.3 FM; in Keene at 90.7 FM; in Berlin at 107.1 FM; in Jackson at 99.5 FM in Jackson; and on the internet at [nhpr.org](http://nhpr.org).