

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WTNH CHANNEL 8 WEATHERMAN GIL SIMMONS TO VISIT
WATERBURY HOSPITAL**

WATERBURY – Gil Simmons of WTNH Storm Team 8 will be forecasting the weather at Waterbury Hospital on November 19 from 10 a.m. to noon at the hospital’s main entrance using WTNH’s Skymax Mobile Weather Lab. The public is invited to meet Simmons and tour the mobile weather lab on this day. Free give-aways will be offered and Simmons will be available for photos and autographs.

The event will mark the launch of the hospital’s new smoke free campus on November 20. All employees as well as the public will no longer be able to smoke anywhere on hospital property, including all parking lot areas and satellite medical buildings.

The Skymax Mobile Weather Lab is a one of a kind Dodge Durango that allows Storm Team 8 Meteorologists to track the weather on the ground anywhere in CT. The Lab uses the Global Positioning System (GPS) within the car to locate the exact position in order to figure out current weather conditions. The Weather Lab provides an optimal learning experience for children on basic weather information.

Gil Simmons is the only meteorologist in Connecticut to receive the Certified Broadcast Meteorologist Seal of Approval from the American Meteorological Society. He joined Channel 8 in 2003 and is the meteorologist for the *Good Morning Connecticut* morning show from 5 a.m.-7 a.m. and for *My TV 9* from 7 a.m.- 8 a.m. Simmons spent six years on Active Duty with the United States Marine Corps as a meteorologist and oceanographer and is well-known throughout CT.

Waterbury Hospital is the largest private employer in the Greater Waterbury region, and serves a vital role in the economic vitality of Western Connecticut. It is a private, non-profit acute care teaching hospital licensed for 367 beds and affiliated with the Yale School of Medicine, the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and Connecticut Children’s medical Center. Founded in 1890 as Waterbury’s first and Connecticut’s fourth hospital, Waterbury Hospital is a full-service community health-care institution with centers of excellence in primary care, cardiac services, behavioral health and orthopedics.

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