For Immediate Release



Contact: Ekaterine Tchelidze Town of East Hartford Phone: 860-291-7202 Cell: 860-817-8590 etchelidze@easthartfordct.gov

East Hartford PD's K9 Teams Featured in "America's Top Dog"

East Hartford, CT—The East Hartford Police Department is excited to announce that our local K-9 teams were selected to participate in a new TV show series "America's Top Dog." East Hartford's K9 teams are the only selected participants from New England.

A&E Network's ultimate K9 competition series "America's Top Dog," from MGM's Big Fish Entertainment will premiere Wednesday, January 8 at 9PM ET/PT. The series brings together top K9 cops and civilian dogs alongside their handlers as they compete nose-to-nose on the ultimate K9 obstacle course. The series is hosted by veteran sports broadcaster Curt Menefee alongside expert dog trainer Nick White and sideline reporting by seasoned sports reporter and animal rescue ambassador Jamie Little.

In each one-hour episode of "America's Top Dog," four police K9 teams, including fan-favorites from the hit series "Live PD," and one civilian team will face off for the title of "Top Dog" in three rounds of high velocity, furry competition. The skilled teams will be tested on their speed, agility, scenting ability, and teamwork by completing a series of expert tasks on one of the biggest and toughest K9 obstacle courses ever assembled - designed by experts to mimic real-life challenges that these furry heroes face every day on the beat. Teams will navigate a complex maze to locate scented items and apprehend a suspect in a bite suit with a takedown, among a variety of other challenges. Each week's winning team will receive \$10,000 and an additional \$5,000 to donate to the animal charity of their choice. In the final week of competition, top competitors will return to the finale course to battle for the title of "America's Top Dog" and an additional \$25,000 cash prize.

Series host Curt Menefee is an award-winning veteran studio and game broadcaster who currently co-hosts "Fox NFL Sunday" in addition to wrap-up show "The OT." Alongside Menefee, expert trainer Nick White is both a former US Marine and member of the Secret Service with years of experience working with K9s as the owner of a dog training company with locations across the country. Menefee and White watch the action unfold on the course each week and provide in-depth explanation on the competition rounds. Jamie Little is a seasoned motor sports reporter covering the pit road for FOX NASCAR, as well as an animal rescue ambassador who served as a reporter at the 2019 Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. Little

acts as sideline reporter on the course speaking with the teams as they make their way through the competition.