## N E W S R E L E A S E



**TIETH TELEVISION** 

A UNIT OF FOX TELEVISION

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TWENTIETH TELEVISION ANNOUNCES DEVELOPMENT ON TWO NEW COURT SHOWS

## **Telemundo's Cristina Perez Shooting Pilot from Court Veteran Peter Brennan**

## Twentieth Also Developing Court Show with Cleveland Judge Lynn Toler

LOS ANGELES, November 1, 2005 – Twentieth Television, a leading producer of top court shows, today announced that it is developing two additional first-run court strips for the 2006-07 season. The announcement was made today by Bob Cook, president and COO of Twentieth Television.

The first program features Cristina Perez, host of Telemundo's highly-rated court show "La Corte de Familia" ("Family Court"), scheduled to shoot an English-language pilot this month. The strip is being developed by court veteran Peter Brennan, who launched "Judge Judy" and "Judge Joe Brown."

Twentieth Television's second court show in development for '06-'07 features Lynn Toler, former Cleveland Heights Municipal Court Judge and litigation attorney specializing in various civil matters.

"With 'Divorce Court' enjoying its seventh season, and 'Judge Alex' -- leading all new first-run strips this year – already renewed for a second year, Twentieth Television continues to be at the forefront of the court genre," Cook said. "We pride ourselves in being able to identify and deliver strong talent to this genre. Cristina Perez and Lynn Toler bring exceptional backgrounds and an on-air presence to the screen, and we are excited to be developing these two projects with them."

Paul Buccieri, Twentieth Television's president of programming, added, "You must keep two factors in mind when developing for court: superior on-air talent and the importance of storytelling. In Cristina, we have a legal expert with strong crossover appeal who's already proven herself in the court genre through her work on Telemundo. Add the expertise of Peter Brennan, and you have a very solid foundation for a quality court strip."

"Lynn Toler is an amazing legal mind who's experience is tailor made for court," Buccieri concluded. "Her broad array of expertise lends itself nicely to the demands of eloquently addressing and ruling on the multitude of cases we seek in our court shows."

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The first female television judge in Spanish-language network history, Perez is the host of Telemundo's popular court show "La Corte de Familia," which airs as a strip on the Hispanic network and is one of the highest rated Spanish-language programs in the U.S. In the program, Perez presides over cases related to divorce, physical and verbal abuse, custody, paternity claims, child and spousal support and infidelity. She also co-hosts a program on Radio Univision. Perez made her television debut with "La Corte Del Pueblo" ("The People's Court"), which aired on KHWY-TV/Los Angeles. Born in New York and raised in both Mexico and the U.S., Perez owns her own law firm in Los Angeles with her husband Christopher Gonzalez, specializing in immigration and naturalization, corporate and media law. She received her Juris Doctorate from Whittier Law School and two Bachelor of Arts degrees from UCLA.

As executive producer, Brennan launched both "Judge Judy" in 1996 and "Judge Joe Brown" in 1997. Most recently, he executive produced the news magazine "A Current Affair." His other credits include "Hard Copy" and as creator of "Good Day New York" for WNYW/New York, which laid the foundation for Fox Television Stations' successful "Good Day" franchise of morning programs.

With an undergraduate degree in Arts and American Literature from Harvard and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Toler quickly established herself as one of Cleveland's top attorneys, specializing in an array of civil matters. Between 1986 and 1994, she served as an arbitrator for Cuyahoga County's Common Pleas Court. In 1994, she was elected Administrative Judge in Cleveland Heights Municipal Court, where for eight years she presided over hundreds of small claims, domestic violence, homicides, assault and stalking cases. She currently is an adjunct professor at Ursuline College in Ohio, teaching a civil rights law course. In 2001, Toler was host of Twentieth Television's court show "Power of Attorney."

A leader in the domestic program production and distribution arena, Twentieth Television provides a wide array of first-run and off-network programming, as well as feature film packages, to the syndication and cable marketplaces. First-run programs distributed by Twentieth Television include "Geraldo at Large," the new strip hosted by award-winning broadcast journalism legend Geraldo Rivera, and the popular court shows "Divorce Court" and "Judge Alex," the number one new first-run program of the 2005-06 season that has already been renewed for a second year. Twentieth Television also oversees the domestic sales of one of the most extensive libraries of off-net programming in the entertainment industry. In fall 2005, the company launched the groundbreaking drama "24," starring Kiefer Sutherland, and The Peabody Award-winning sitcom "The Bernie Mac Show" in off-net syndication.

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