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Brian P. Lamb
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

November 22, 2000

BY HAND

The Honorable William H. Rehnquist
Chief Justice
United States Supreme Court
1 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20543

Dear Mr. Chief Justice:

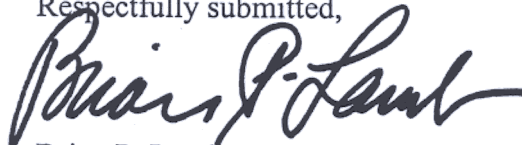
C-SPAN respectfully requests permission to provide television and audio coverage of any hearing the Court may decide to hold regarding the outcome of this year's presidential election. If permission is granted, we would make our coverage available to all accredited news organizations on a pool basis.

We are making this request because as of today, there is at least some indication the Court may be asked to become involved in the legal disputes surrounding the election. Although there is no certainty the Court will decide to become involved, we make our request now in order to allow time for its consideration by the Conference.

We would provide camera and audio coverage of the hearing in much the same way we and other news media organizations demonstrated to the Court in its chamber in November 1988 that unobtrusive television coverage could be easily accomplished. At that time we used only two cameras (one of which was a miniature camera facing the counsel lectern), no lighting other than the available light in the chamber, and the Court's own sound system.

If the Court were to become involved in determining any aspect of the outcome of the election, the public interest in the Court and its role in our government would likely never be higher. We respectfully suggest that televised coverage of that role would be an immense public service and would help the country understand and accept the outcome of the election.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian P. Lamb