



HARVARD Kennedy School

JOAN SHORENSTEIN CENTER
on the Press, Politics and Public Policy

**SHORENSTEIN CENTER ANNOUNCES BOOK PRIZE WINNERS
AND FINALISTS FOR THE 2010 GOLDSMITH PRIZE FOR INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 29, 2010

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CAMBRIDGE, MA — Two winners of the Goldsmith Book Prize and six finalists for the Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting have been announced by the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. The winner of the Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting, which carries a cash award of \$25,000, will be announced at an awards ceremony on March 23 at the Kennedy School.

The Goldsmith Prizes are underwritten by an annual gift from the Goldsmith Fund of the Greenfield Foundation. The book prizes, which include an award of \$5,000, were created to honor the best academic and trade books of the year on journalism. The Investigative Reporting Prize, which carries a \$10,000 award for finalists, is intended to recognize and encourage journalism which promotes more effective and ethical conduct of government, the making of public policy, or the practice of politics by disclosing excessive secrecy, impropriety and mismanagement, or instances of particularly commendable government performance.

"The inspiring thing about this year's awards is that the competition was so fierce, demonstrating that there are still journalists out there doing this critically important work in these hard times," said Alex S. Jones, Director of the Shorenstein Center.

The 2010 Goldsmith Book Award Winners are:

Matthew Hindman for *The Myth of Digital Democracy*
Princeton University Press (Academic book)

John Maxwell Hamilton for *Journalism's Roving Eye: A History of American Foreign Reporting*
Louisiana State University Press (Trade book)

The six finalists for the 2010 Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting are:

J. Andrew Curliss and Staff

The News & Observer (Raleigh, NC)

"Executive Privilege: The Perks of Power"

The News & Observer's year-long investigation of former North Carolina Governor Mike Easley exposed pay-to-play politics at its worst. Their reporting revealed how Easley accepted numerous unreported gifts from supporters in return for political influence and "sweet deals."

The facts uncovered in this series launched state and federal criminal investigations, led to resignations and firings, exposed election law violations and spurred government reforms.

Mark Greenblatt

KHOU-TV, Houston, TX

“Under Fire: Discrimination and Corruption in the Texas National Guard”

KHOU-TV exposed rampant sexual discrimination, abuses of power, cover-ups to Congress, financial corruption and theft by the National Guard’s top commanding generals. As a result, the Texas governor fired the accused commanders, the FBI and DA have launched criminal probes and three new state laws have been passed, requiring better oversight of the Guard by both the Governor’s office and the state assembly.

Sean P. Murphy

The Boston Globe

“Gaming the System: Public Pensions the Massachusetts Way”

Sean P. Murphy exposed how state officials took advantage of loopholes in the state retirement system to enrich themselves at taxpayers’ expense. The result of his investigations prodded the Massachusetts State Legislature and Governor Deval Patrick to enact and overhaul pension laws. The story also led two ex-legislators to publicly renounce hundreds of thousands of dollars in future pension benefits.

Raquel Rutledge

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

“Cashing in on Kids”

In her year-long series covering Wisconsin’s child-care program, Raquel Rutledge exposed a system plagued by fraud, deceit and criminal activity which cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars and repeatedly put children in danger. Her reporting led to criminal probes and indictments and prompted lawmakers to pass new laws aimed at eliminating fraud and keeping criminals out of the day care business.

Joe Stephens, Lena H. Sun and Lyndsey Layton

The Washington Post

“Death on the Rails”

Reporters from *The Washington Post* uncovered repeated lapses in safety in Washington’s Metro subway system and a systemic breakdown in safety oversight. As a result of the *Post* series, the Metro has instituted sweeping reorganization; there has been a congressional demand for reform, and in a historic step, the federal government announced it would move to take over regulation of subways and light rail systems across the nation.

A.C. Thompson

ProPublica and *The Nation Institute*

In collaboration with: **Gordon Russell**, **Laura Maggi** and **Brendan McCarthy**, *The New Orleans Times-Picayune* and **Tom Jennings**, *Frontline*
“Law and Disorder”

ProPublica's A.C. Thompson, in collaboration with journalists from *The Nation*, *The New Orleans Times-Picayune* and PBS's *Frontline*, exposed the existence of white vigilante violence and questions about the New Orleans Police Department's use of deadly force days after Hurricane Katrina. This series provoked an FBI investigation resulting in a federal grand jury examining police conduct. These hearings are expected to yield indictments.

Special Citation

The judges also decided to award a special citation to the staff of *The Seattle Times* for its breaking news coverage following the brutal murder of four policemen.

The Goldsmith Awards Ceremony

When: 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Where: John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum
Harvard Kennedy School of Government
79 JFK Street
Cambridge, MA

What: Presentation of the Goldsmith Prize for Investigative Reporting, the Goldsmith Book Prizes and the Goldsmith Career Award for Excellence in Journalism.