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## MARTIN J. MINNELLA FORMS NEW LAW FIRM

Middlebury, CT., July 16, 2012 – Atty. Martin J. Minnella, formerly of Moynahan and Minnella, has joined with three other seasoned lawyers – Joseph Tramuta, and Marc Edwards – to form Minnella, Tramuta, & Edwards.

Minnella's former practice in the law offices of Moynahan & Minnella had been based in Waterbury. One of Minnella's new partners, Tramuta, was a member of that firm.

"I look back fondly on more than 20 years with my dear friend and partner, Tim, who will become an integral part of the new firm as an attorney of counsel," said Minnella. "I'll miss our day-to-day collaboration. But at the same time, I look forward to working in the town where I live, and building a new chapter of my law career."

His career highlights to date include "not guilty" verdicts and acquittals for a bank robbery defendant despite testimony of his codefendant; a federal counterfeiting case against five men charged with 65 counts by U.S. Secret Service; a veteran teacher accused of sexual assault by two students; a policeman of assault charges, who was later reinstated to his job; a restaurant owner in a murder case, despite a confession; sexual assault charges in a case where Minnella showed that the alleged victim had a history of filing false reports, and many more.

In 1981, Minnella was featured in People Magazine and on Good Morning America regarding the infamous Brookfield, CT., murder case in which Minnella's defense cited demonic possession. The case became the basis of a 1983 TV movie, "*The Demon Murder Case*," starring Kevin Bacon, Joyce Van Patten and Andy Griffith.

"Tim plans to stay at our East Main Street building and will continue his practice, albeit more selectively... he'll try cases that interest him, but will also turn his attention to his many outside business ventures," Minnella said.

Practice areas of the new firm will feature criminal defense (for which Minnella is widely known), family law, immigration, personal injury, real estate, and employment and labor law. The firm is based in Middlebury's Village Square at 530 Middlebury Road.

A graduate of Temple University, Minnella holds a law degree from the New England School of Law in Boston. He helped found the Connecticut Association of Criminal Defense and was honored with the American Juris Prudence Award from Lawyer's Cooperative Publishing for excellence in the study of criminal law, civil procedure and constitutional law.

Minnella is married with five children and resides in Middlebury.