

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
SEPTEMBER 1, 1993

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RTNDF TO HONOR DAVID BRINKLEY AND JAMES QUELLO AT ANNUAL FIRST AMENDMENT BANQUET

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Radio and Television News Directors Foundation (RTNDF) Executive Director Eric Swanson announced today that the Foundation will honor David Brinkley, anchor of ABC's *This Week With David Brinkley*, and James Quello, acting Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, at the Foundation's Annual Banquet and Celebration of the First Amendment on April 6, 1994.

Brinkley, a 49-year veteran of broadcast news, will receive the Leonard Zeidenberg First Amendment Award, which is named for the late *Broadcasting* magazine senior correspondent. RTNDF presents the award annually to a radio or television journalist who through their work has made a major contribution to the protection of First Amendment freedoms.

Brinkley joined ABC News in September 1981 and has been anchor of the Sunday morning news program, *This Week With David Brinkley*, since its premiere in November 1981. He has covered every Presidential election since 1956 and has received numerous awards including ten Emmy Awards, three George Foster Peabody Awards and the Radio-Television News Directors Association Paul White Award.

Quello will receive the First Amendment Leadership Award, which is given annually to a business or government leader who has made a significant contribution to the protection of the First Amendment and free speech. He has been a member of the Federal Communications Commission since 1974 and in February 1993 he was designated by President Clinton to serve as interim Chairman, pending designation of a permanent chair.

RTNDF promotes high quality television and radio journalism through research, education and professional training for journalism students and news professionals. The Foundation's work is supported by contributions from private foundations, media companies, other businesses, and individuals involved in journalism and communications.

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