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CONTACT: Laurie Goldberg, 310-975-1631  
Laurie\_Goldberg@discovery.com

Amy Hagovsky, 240-662-2931  
Amy\_Hagovsky@discovery.com

**DISCOVERY'S 'MOONSHINERS' TELLS THE STORY OF MODERN DAY BOOTLEGGERS  
KEEPING HISTORY ALIVE – AT THE EXPENSE OF THEIR FREEDOM**

(Silver Spring, Md.) – Think the days of bootleggers, backwoods stills and "white lightning" are over? Not a chance! It's a multi-million dollar industry. But perhaps more importantly to the moonshiners, it's a tradition dating back hundreds of years, passed down to them from their forefathers. It's part of their history and culture. While this practice is surprisingly alive and well, it's not always legal.

Discovery Channel's all-new series **MOONSHINERS** tells the story of those who brew their shine – often in the woods near their homes using camouflaged equipment – and the local authorities who try to keep them honest. Viewers will witness practices rarely, if ever, seen on television including the sacred rite of passage for a moonshiner – firing up the still for the first time. They will also meet legends, including notorious moonshiner Marvin "Popcorn" Sutton. The series premieres on Discovery Channel Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 10PM e/p with the remaining episodes airing Wednesdays at 10PM e/p beginning December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Deep in Appalachia, where many shiners live, there are some areas where more sugar is sold than local residents could consume on their own. The main ingredients in moonshine "mash" are water, sugar, corn and yeast. It's also no accident moonshine season is from June to October – the height of the corn harvest and the peak of foliage to hide the illegal operations.

The origin of moonshining in the United States has been linked with the Whiskey Rebellion during the 1790's. Under President George Washington, a Federal tax was imposed on whiskey, which farmers strongly resented – leading to a backlash and rise in illegal distillers. Even the origins of NASCAR have been linked back to the skilled driving of moonshiners eluding law enforcement.

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**MOONSHINERS** is produced for Discovery by Magilla Entertainment, where Matt Ostrom and Brian Flanagan are executive producers. For Discovery, Dolores Gavin is executive producer.

**About Discovery Channel**

Discovery Channel is dedicated to creating the highest quality non-fiction content that informs and entertains its consumers about the world in all its wonder, diversity and amazement. The network, which is distributed to 100.8 million U.S. homes, can be seen in 210 countries and territories, offering a signature mix of compelling, high-end production values and vivid cinematography across genres including, science and technology, exploration, adventure, history and in-depth, behind-the-scenes glimpses at the people, places and organizations that shape and share our world. For more information, please visit [www.discovery.com](http://www.discovery.com).

**About Discovery Communications**

Discovery Communications (Nasdaq: DISCA, DISCB, DISCK) is the world's #1 nonfiction media company reaching more than 1.5 billion cumulative subscribers in 210 countries and territories. Discovery is dedicated to satisfying curiosity through 130-plus worldwide television networks, led by Discovery Channel, TLC, Animal Planet, Science and Investigation Discovery, as well as US joint venture networks OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network, The Hub and 3net, the first 24-hour 3D network. Discovery also is a leading provider of educational products and services to schools and owns and operates a diversified portfolio of digital media services, including [HowStuffWorks.com](http://HowStuffWorks.com). For more information, please visit [www.discoverycommunications.com](http://www.discoverycommunications.com).

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