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**PATRICIA CORNWELL, THE INTERNATIONALLY-ACCLAIMED # 1
BESTSELLING AUTHOR, SIGNS NEW TWO-BOOK DEAL WITH CURRENT
PUBLISHER, PENGUIN PUTNAM INC.**

**-- Cornwell and Penguin Putnam Are Both Elated To Be Extending Their Long
Term Relationship --**

New York, NY, January 9, 2002—Patricia Cornwell, the international #1 best-selling author of the hugely popular Dr. Kay Scarpetta novels, has agreed to pen two new Scarpetta books for her publisher, Penguin Putnam, it was announced today by Susan Petersen Kennedy, President of the company. Ms. Cornwell is one of the most highly acclaimed and globally recognized authors in the industry. Her books are published in 34 countries and 31 languages. Her novels have been #1 *New York Times* bestsellers in both hardcover and paperback in the United States and have also held the #1 spot on bestseller lists around the world.

To date Ms. Cornwell has written eleven Kay Scarpetta bestsellers, the most recent one was *The Last Precinct* which was published by Penguin Putnam in hardcover in 2000 and in paperback last year. Her current best-selling hardcover book, *Isle of Dogs*, a new novel featuring Andy Brazil, was published in October of 2001 and was also a #1 *New York Times* bestseller.

Susan Petersen Kennedy said, "Patricia Cornwell has been a part of our publishing family since 1995 when we published the paperback edition of *The Body Farm* which became a #1 *New York Times* bestseller. In the following year we began publishing both her hardcover and paperback books and right from the start we all knew it was a perfect fit. Patricia is one of the most gifted, modern day novelists in the industry. We deeply admire her brilliance and talent, and are repeatedly awed by the depth of research she personally conducts for her books. She is very highly regarded by us all and we are very happy to be working with her for many years to come."

Patricia Cornwell said, "Putnam has done a wonderful job for me. Why would I want to be published anywhere else?"

Esther Newberg, Patricia Cornwell's long time literary agent and Senior Vice President, Co-Director of the Literary Department of International Creative Management, Inc., added, "The team at Putnam Berkley have published Patricia with style and great attention to detail. We are grateful and look forward to our future projects together."

The two new Scarpetta books are in addition to the two as yet-to-be published Scarpetta novels and the one non-Scarpetta novel Ms. Cornwell already has under contract with Penguin Putnam. In addition she is currently working on a non-fiction book about her

research on the famous "Jack The Ripper" case, which was the subject of a recently nationally televised Diane Sawyer interview with Ms. Cornwell, that aired on ABC-TV's *Primetime Thursday* in December of 2001. Ms. Cornwell's interview has generated an enormous amount of interest in the unsolved case and her book on the subject is sure to be a huge hit with her millions of fans globally. The Jack the Ripper book is due out in the fall of this year and the next Scarpetta is scheduled for publication in 2003. Ms. Cornwell's hardcover books will continue to be published under G. P. Putnam's Sons and the paperback editions under Berkley Books. Putnam President Carole Baron said, "I have always been a Cornwell fan and I am very much looking forward to working closely with her on all the books."

Patricia Cornwell is the only woman in the United States to receive England's coveted Gold Dagger, widely considered to be the most prestigious crime-writing award in the world. A former award-winning police reporter for the Charlotte Observer, Ms. Cornwell worked for more than six years as a computer analyst in the chief medical examiner's office in Virginia, where she witnessed hundreds of autopsies and even assisted as a "scribe," recording the measurements of the wounds of murder victims. During that time she was also a volunteer with the Richmond Police Department, and has spent time with law enforcement around the world. Those experiences inspired her to create Dr. Kay Scarpetta, a tenacious chief medical examiner of Virginia who tracks serial killers in the best-selling novels.

Born in Miami, Ms. Cornwell now resides in New York and Connecticut. A graduate of Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina, she has continued her ties with the school through scholarships to assist gifted students who are interested in writing.

Ms. Cornwell is involved in several philanthropic endeavors. Most notably, she was a founding partner with the State of Virginia in forming the Virginia Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine, which is housed in downtown Richmond, Virginia. Her donation of \$1.5 million helped launch this project which is the nation's first Institute to train forensic scientists and pathologists. She currently serves on the Institute's Board.

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