



ATTORNEY GENERAL GEORGE JEPSEN

ATTORNEY GENERAL LOSES HIS HAIR TO ADVANCE CHILDREN'S CANCER RESEARCH

For immediate release

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HARTFORD – Attorney General George Jepsen is sporting a new look today – no hair – after having his head shaved to raise money for children's cancer research during a volunteer charity event Thursday evening in Hartford.

Jepsen was among 37 volunteers to have their heads shaved by six professionals who volunteered their time to help raise money for St. Baldrick's Foundation. The event was organized by Porter Dowling of West Hartford, a junior at Avon Old Farms School, who sacrificed his own thick, blond hair to the effort.

"I have to confess I'm a little apprehensive. But helping to raise money for children's cancer research is a very worthy cause and I'm happy to be able to contribute. Now let's get on with it," Jepsen told the crowd before his makeover began.

Among those watching was Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, who opted to keep his hair. "If I had hair like that, I'd keep it too," Jepsen quipped. Malloy said with his head shaved, Jepsen resembled his late father, Chuck Jepsen. "I remember his Dad, bless his memory. He looks like his Dad," Malloy said.

Volunteers shave their heads to raise money but also as a symbolic gesture to show support and solidarity with people who have lost their hair to cancer therapy. The gesture, Malloy said, "means a lot to people who have lost people to cancer, like my Mom."

Jepsen was in good hands. Wielding the clippers was Jepsen's personal barber, Chris Rosa, of Professional Barbershop in Hartford. "It's a great charity event and I wanted to be part of it," Rosa said. Jepsen had not known beforehand that Rosa was participating.

Dowling organized the event three years ago to help children he met at Boston's Children Hospital while he was undergoing treatment for non-cancerous tumors. Since then, the Hartford event has raised more than \$1 million for the foundation.

According to the organization St. Baldrick's Foundation is the largest volunteer-driven fundraising event for childhood cancer research.

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