

After several months of searching, the best candidate has emerged....and he is one of the family.

Joe Hengemuehler, current News Director for KOLD has been selected as the station's new general manager.

Joe took the reigns as news director in October, 2015. His command leadership was evident to me immediately. He started almost concurrent with the arrival of a new, news research project. Plans and immediate action were necessary and Joe took charge. In addition to blocking and tackling improvements across the board in the newsroom, KOLD's 10pm news ratings are at a 6 book high and have been trending upward since last summer.

Before KOLD Joe spent more than 25 years in markets as varied as Washington, D.C., Phoenix and Oklahoma City. Under his leadership, his news teams have been nationally recognized with a George Foster Peabody award for investigative reporting and an Edward R. Murrow Award. His news teams were consistently recognized with Emmy Awards for Overall News Excellence. In addition to his journalism background he has owned a focus group research firm as well as a company specializing in video content marketing.

Following Nick's retirement Joe has served as interim general manager. In this capacity he has quickly demonstrated his ability to grasp the job, lead on a broad scale and tackle unique problems and opportunities swiftly with sound judgment. He has earned the trust and respect of those who work with him.

I'll be in Tucson in a few weeks so we can catch up and celebrate his appointment together.

Until then please join me in congratulating Joe as your new leader!