

From: Perry Boxx
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Subject: Taking fond memories with me

Team,

As Mark announced today, I will be leaving the station soon to become News Director at WPSD, the NBC affiliate in Paducah. I will be working for General Manager Bill Evans, a man I have loved, admired and trusted for more than 25 years. As News Director there, he's built a powerful news machine. Now he's the GM so I have big shoes to fill.

It is very important to me that you all understand how much this team and Quincy means to me. Though I readily concede there is a certain amount of selfishness in taking this new opportunity.

It has been my pleasure to serve with many of you. There is so much talent still growing. Listen and learn from those who know true things. Even in your most foolish, darkest moments you know who they are. Do not believe the words of false prophets. Speak truth to power always. Remember, that is done, not by expressing your opinions, but in the questions you are not afraid to ask those in power who claim to serve the public.

Demand transparency always. Report as directly and firmly as you can when it is denied you.

There is a reason the 1st Amendment is first. The work we do is a calling. Democracy cannot exist without our work at every level, from the small town weekly newspaper to the newsrooms of Quincy Media to the Network giants. These are not clichés, but solemn truth.

Accept that many in our industry have lost their way. Do nothing to give them support. Do everything to resist them. Every RIGHT thing you do is like a stone thrown in a pond that ripples forth. Do the RIGHT thing. It is said the flutter of a butterfly wing moves the wind across the world. Be that butterfly and move the wind. You have a moral duty to always pass it on. I pass it on now to Molly, Leon & Tim.

Oh and for God's sake turn off your phones and read a history book.

Know though, my cell phone number will not change. I will always have your back.

Believe in yourself. DO your job. Be nice to people. How hard is that?

Finally, as you have heard me say on many occasions: I love my family and friends, the 1st Amendment, the Constitution as a whole and Journalism, in that order. I invite you to join me in that commitment.

The moral arc of the universe is long, but it bends toward justice.

Perry

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