

abc 57 FOR YOUR INFORMATION **PRESS RELEASE**

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MOLLY JIRASEK RETURNS TO MICHIANA AS NEWS DIRECTOR OF ABC57



SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 SOUTH BEND, IN After starting her career in television journalism in South Bend, Molly Jirasek returns to Michiana as News Director of WBND, ABC57.

Jirasek comes to the area after serving as a producer at *NewsNation* in Chicago for three years.

Prior to that, Jirasek was the Assistant News Director at WEEK-TV in Peoria guiding it to its first ever regional Edward R. Murrow award for social media coverage in 2019. The Murrow award is given to the best-of-the-best in television reporting.

"We are continuing to grow our ABC 57 News team, first with the addition of Jennifer Copeland as co-anchor of our early newscasts and now, bringing on Molly as News Director. These additions reinforce our place in the market as the most home-grown and experienced television newsroom in Michiana," said station Vice President/General Manager, Aaron Ramey. "Molly will take our news product to the next level."

"I found my passion for journalism growing up watching the local news in Michiana. I consider it a great honor to serve my hometown community. My mission is to deliver news that matters to you, that you can trust, and offer complete transparency along the way," said Jirasek.

The Indiana University graduate began her career at WSJV and WSBT in South Bend where she was a multi-media journalist, producer and anchor.

Jirasek grew up in South Bend and is a graduate of St. Joseph's High School. Her start date is October 3rd.

About Weigel Broadcasting Co.

Weigel Broadcasting Co. is a family-owned media company based in Chicago, Illinois. The company owns and operates national television networks, as well as local broadcast stations throughout the country. Weigel is the leader in the multicast television network space with MeTV, Memorable Entertainment Television, the number-one rated and distributed multicast network, as well as the Movies! Network in cooperation with the Fox Television Stations, the Catchy Comedy Network, the H&I - Heroes & Icons Network, the Start TV Network in association with the CBS Television Stations, and Story Television. Weigel produces the original network TV programs *Toon In With Me*, *Svengoolie* and *Collector's Call*. Weigel's local stations include CBS, ABC, The CW, MyNet and Telemundo network affiliates. Weigel and its affiliate companies broadcast network and independent television stations serving New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Dallas, San Francisco, Houston, Washington, D.C., Phoenix, Seattle, Denver, Orlando, Cleveland, Portland, St. Louis, Nashville, Salt Lake City, Hartford, Milwaukee, Des Moines, South Bend, Evansville and Rockford. Weigel is the creator of the nationally syndicated music format MeTV FM. For more information on Weigel, visit: <https://www.weigelbroadcasting.com/>.