

Rick,

Here's the text of an email I sent to staff yesterday. Katie Greathouse, mentioned in the third paragraph, is our assistant news director. We're excited about being able to bring Scott on board. I was thrilled someone like him was available.

Staff,

I'm thrilled to welcome Scott Flannigan to KMIZ as our new news director. Scott is a veteran of the business and has run four different newsrooms, most recently at Meredith Corporation's KCTV in Kansas City and WALA-TV in Mobile. Prior to his 14-year run as a news director he spent a decade on the assignment desk in Birmingham and Miami.

Scott has overseen the development and growth of digital news in three of his shops. He's covered multiple hurricanes, started an investigative unit and led his team's transition to HD. He's worked with Magid research the last 10 years and brings a track record of success with him.

I would like to sincerely thank Katie Greathouse for holding things together down in the newsroom over the last couple months. Her ability to implement aggressive coverage plans and champion our brand on a daily basis made a marked improvement in our newscasts almost immediately. I expect her to play a vital role in Scott's ramp up as our news director.

Scott begins that stint on June 21. I know we're all excited to have him on board and look forward to watching him dive into the day-to-day work and then the research project a month later. I'll have more details on his onboarding in future memos and meetings. Please make him feel at home when he starts later this month.

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