Hey Rick:

I won't bury the lead…I'm retiring at the end of December.

It's hard to believe it's been 11 years since I left the newsroom, but I still faithfully read your newsletter every week and smile at how many people I still know who are fighting the good fight.

I loved almost every day of my 33 years in journalism. Eight full time jobs — as a reporter, producer, documentary filmmaker and News Director at WTIC and WNYT. Even after I left my last News Director job in 2009, I never really got out of the news biz completely. I still coach a few reporters and anchors and taught a graduate level course on Investigative Reporting at Quinnipiac University a year or two ago.

And I loved the last 11 years I spent in the world of philanthropy, working for a wonderful literacy program called PJ Library, which sends Jewish children's books to 680,000 kids every month around the world in 29 countries and seven languages.

Frankly, I'm ready to relax a bit. I'm eager to play more golf and tennis, ride my bike, watch more sunsets on Siesta Key in Sarasota, drink more single malt scotch, and travel if we ever get back to that. I might do some project work in philanthropy or journalism or teach…or not.

I feel incredibly blessed to have had two careers where going to work didn't really feel like work because I was so totally invested in the mission. I'm proud of the work I have done. It was meaningful and often tremendously fun. I have had great colleagues, in both fields, who are smart, interesting, and passionate about making the world smarter, more interesting, more (com)passionate and just better.

I'd be grateful if you passed along my email: paulericlewis@gmail.com

Keep up your good work, Rick. It really does keep many people connected. Stay well and safe.

Best regards,
Paul