Please join me in congratulating Laura Evans Baines on her promotion to News Director for KIRO 7 in Seattle, starting Monday, May 8. Laura is currently the News Director at NewsCenter 7 WHIO-TV in Dayton. At WHIO-TV, she has earned the reputation as a strong newsroom leader and successful team builder.

Laura joined CMG and the WHIO-TV team in November 2021.

Over the last 18 months, her team earned a 2022 Regional Murrow Award, increased overall news market share to 72% in 2022, and extended the station's coverage all the way to L.A. to report on the Cincinnati Bengals in the Super Bowl. Before coming to us, Laura was the interim news director and assistant news director at KING 5 in Seattle - another reason she was the perfect candidate to be our News Director at KIRO.

Laura's move will be quick. She starts May 8 in Seattle, where she'll move with her husband, Ryan, and 8-year-old daughter, Sydney. Laura is a great example of promoting from within and CMG's desire to develop its people and awards employees who raise their hand for the next big opportunity.

Laura is a perpetual learner. She's earned her Master's degree in Digital Audience Strategy from Arizona State University's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism. She's currently working on her Doctorate in Business Administration.

I am very proud of Laura and the entire WHIO news team, and I'm excited for her to join KIRO's amazing newsroom.

Please join me in congratulating Laura and welcoming her to the KIRO 7 News team!

