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Natalie Cabieses Named KCCI-TV News Director

Des Moines, IA, March 10, 2025 – KCCI announces Natalie Cabieses is being promoted from Assistant News Director to News Director at KCCI News 8, Iowa's News Leader. Cabieses is the fifth news director in the station's 70-year history. She succeeds Allison Smith, who left the station in December 2024.

Cabieses has been an integral part of KCCI's newsroom since her arrival in February 2024. President and General Manager Brian Sather said she is a gifted leader with an incredibly bright future ahead.

"Natalie is known for being able to make strong decisions, fast and keep a calm demeanor," said Sather. "She was instrumental in developing our news and weather coverage before, during and after the Greenfield tornado. Her compassion and news judgement is a big reason KCCI is Iowa's News Leader," he added.

"As a Latina woman I am incredibly humbled to be in this position to not only cover the news fairly and accurately, but also to empower young women who may be able to see themselves in my chair one day," Cabieses added.

Cabieses said it was during breaking news coverage of the Greenfield tornado which gave her the spark to lean into a larger role at the station. "I was proud of the way our team came together to bring viewers critical information in a life-threatening situation. I learned a lot about how every department at KCCI is committed to serving our viewers," said Cabieses.

Cabieses is a proven journalist. Before joining KCCI, she served as Executive Producer at WISN-TV in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she oversaw coverage of the Kyle Rittenhouse trial. Prior to that, Cabieses covered major stories



throughout Florida, including the Pulse Nightclub shooting and several hurricanes during her time at WFTV ABC9 in Orlando and WBBH-TV and WZVN-TV in the Fort Myers-Naples, Florida TV market.

Cabieses holds a bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism from the University of Central Florida.

About KCCI

This year, KCCI celebrates 70 years of broadcasting and serving Central Iowans. KCCI 8 News produces more than 38 hours of award-winning local news each week. KCCI, "Iowa's News Leader," is proud to provide news, sports, weather and entertainment to the area on KCCI, online at KCCI.com and on mobile devices with their numerous digital offerings. KCCI is committed to educating Iowa voters by providing in-depth coverage of Iowa's first in the nation Presidential Caucus. KCCI also offers TV's most memorable entertainment on its digital channel, MeTV Des Moines 8.2 and exciting hits on My Des Moines 8.3. KCCI proudly supports the community by partnering year-round with local non-profits to give back to the Des Moines-Ames area.

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