



**Town Square  
Television**

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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**DATE:** **October 11, 2019**

### **TOWN SQUARE TELEVISION VIDEOGRAPHERS AND REPORTERS HONORED AT UPPER MIDWEST REGIONAL EMMY® AWARDS**

The Northern Dakota County Cable Communications Commission (NDC4) and Town Square Television, its affiliated non-profit corporation, are pleased to announce honors in this year's Upper Midwest Regional Emmy® Awards.

Town Square Television videographer Tommy Platek received a Regional Emmy® Award in the Photographer: News category. His award entry included samples of his videography work on the local News Magazine *Insight 7*. Other nominees included news photographers from KMSP-TV (two nominees), KSFY-TV, and KARE-TV. In his acceptance speech, Platek thanked Town Square Television for providing him the opportunity to apply his creative skills in telling the compelling stories of the local community, and applauded community television for its important place in the media spectrum. Platek states, "I was so honored and thankful to receive this award. Being recognized among the talent in this market shows the relevance and effectiveness that community media can have in our community."

*Insight 7* Producer Dennis Rafferty lauded Platek's achievement at the age of 29, describing the award as a "lifetime goal" for news photographers.

Platek and Reporter Adam Carter were also nominated for two other stories from *Insight 7*, "Cops at the Castle" in the Light Feature News Report category, and "Smiley Sandy" in the Arts & Entertainment: News Single Story/Series category.

NDC4 Government Programming Manager Dennis Rafferty, who also wears the hats of Producer, Videographer, Editor, and Reporter, was nominated for Regional Emmys® in three categories. “Librarian on Wheels” from *Insight 7* was nominated in the Education/Schools: Single Story/Series category; “Flooded with Support” from *Insight 7* was nominated in the Photographer: Video Essay category; and a compilation of Rafferty’s work was nominated in the Videojournalist (No Time Limit) category. Other nominees in this category included videojournalists from WOI-TV, EDINA TV, KARE-TV (two nominees), and Midco Sports Network.

Executive Director Jodie Miller says, “We could not be prouder of Tommy, Dennis, and Adam. Working at our small but mighty non-profit media station requires our team to juggle many responsibilities along with honing their shooting, editing, and reporting skills, and they are recognized among a very large field of elite nominees and recipients in this region. We are grateful for the support of our seven member cities and our community in fulfilling our local media mission.”

The Upper Midwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences includes more than 600 members in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Western Wisconsin. The Upper Midwest Chapter is a membership organization dedicated to excellence in television by honoring exceptional work, past and present; providing professional development and outreach; and nurturing the next generation of television professionals. The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Emmy® Awards were presented at a ceremony at the Mystic Center in Prior Lake, MN, on October 5, 2019.

NDC4 is a joint powers cooperative formed by the cities of Inver Grove Heights, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, South St. Paul, Sunfish Lake, and West St. Paul to administer and enforce the cable television franchise ordinance for each of the seven cities. NDC4 is the local franchise authority representing cable subscribers’ consumer interests, and also oversees seven local community access channels on Comcast and CenturyLink cable systems. Town Square Television is a non-profit organization producing local television programs and providing access to video production equipment, studios, training, and cable television channel time for community members who wish to televise their own programs. For more information, call 651-451-6100. To view the above-mentioned video stories and programs, visit [www.townsquare.tv](http://www.townsquare.tv).