

Subject: Chris Ford departure letter to WHEC Staff

Date: Mon, 14 Mar 2016 09:48:23 -0400

Dear Colleagues,

One of my favorite things about working here at News10NBC has been the station's long heritage of service to the people of Rochester.

WHEC was a true pioneer in both radio and television here in the Flour City. But those well-worn call letters, no matter how long they've been around, don't generate an audience on their own. A successful station thrives thanks to talented people, people who dedicate themselves every day to producing the best possible product for the community that they serve. And year after year, a new generation of broadcasters writes a new chapter for WHEC.

I am so grateful for the opportunity to have played my own small part in the history of WHEC these past 2-plus years. But now it's time for another new chapter of WHEC station history to begin. So it is with a heavy heart that I have submitted my letter of resignation to Derek, effective in just a few weeks.

Nicole and I have had a long talk about our future, and we've decided that the best opportunities for both our careers may lie somewhere else down the road. We honestly haven't decided where we're headed next. As for me, there are a few things that I am already considering, and I will also look to see what else is out there. I anticipate staying in the business; I love journalism a little too much to give it up. Fortunately for me, Nicole supports this plan!

I am so proud of the work that we've done together since I arrived in January 2014. But as proud as I am of what we have achieved as a team, I know that there was a lot of great journalism produced before I ever arrived here at WHEC- and there will be a lot more produced after I'm gone. That is thanks to all of you. Never forget: without you, it's just a transmitter. You are the reason that people tune in.

Legendary NBC news anchor David Brinkley once said: "The only way to do news on television is not to be terrified of it." Well, anyone who works here at WHEC knows that there is no reason to be afraid. That's what happens when you get to work with the best. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to work alongside each and every one of you.

I know that there are very exciting days ahead for News10NBC. I will be rooting for all of you, and I can't wait to see where you take this great station next!

Sincerely,

Chris Ford | News Director | WHEC-TV News 10 NBC