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**Brown named Director of Communications, Marketing and Public Relations**

Rocky Mount, N.C. – City Manager Rochelle D. Small-Toney has appointed Kirk Brown as Director of Communications, Marketing and Public Relations. Brown, 58, has more than three decades of award-winning journalism experience, including coverage of national politics and county government.

Brown most recently was a reporter for The Greenville News in South Carolina. He also has worked for the Anderson Independent-Mail, The Palm Beach Post and Florida Today. Brown, a graduate of the University of Iowa, has been honored by the South Carolina Press Association and the Florida Press Club for his reporting.

“Kirk Brown has proven himself to be an experienced communicator, and I look forward to him bringing those skills to our community as we share vital news and information with our citizens and stakeholders,” Small-Toney said.

Brown is married, and he and his wife reside in Rocky Mount with their 3-month-old daughter, Cora, and a 7-year-old golden retriever named Jack. Brown’s salary will be \$110,000.

“I’m excited to embark on a new professional challenge,” Brown said. “I’m committed to providing the news media and Rocky Mount residents with accurate and timely information about the city, as well as focusing on marketing initiatives.”

About Rocky Mount

The city of Rocky Mount, located in the Coastal Plains of North Carolina, was incorporated in 1867 and lies in Edgecombe and Nash Counties. Rocky Mount is a two-time All-America City on the Tar River. Serving as the Gateway to Eastern North Carolina, the city's 875 employees serve approximately 58,000 residents daily.

The city’s mission is to advance community well-being, safety and quality of life by delivering excellent public services and actively collaborating with the community toward a fulfilling and inspired future for its citizens. As a publicly owned utility, the city of Rocky Mount is committed to safe, reliable service for its customers and operates in Nash and Edgecombe counties, providing customers with electricity, natural gas, water, wastewater (sewer), refuse, recycling and/or stormwater services. To learn more, visit www.rockymountnc.gov for news and updates.

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