



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

**Department of Transportation
Transportation Safety Office**

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Oregon Association of Broadcasters
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To Whom it May Concern:

It is my honor to write this letter nominating Elkhorn Media Group, and specifically 104.7 KCMB, for Station of the Year. Eligibility for this award includes *community involvement and industry leadership. Stations that are at the forefront of community service and localism in their market, and those who are leading the Oregon broadcast industry by promoting the industry and reaching out to the next generation of broadcasters.* I can think of no stronger candidate for this recognition.

I have worked directly with Elkhorn Media Group for over ten years and prior to that in a more indirect role. In this time, I have been a part of several local committees and coalitions where EMG staff, and specifically staff from the Union and Baker county service areas, have stepped up in service roles including executive committee membership on local youth serving coalitions to prevent youth substance use and abuse, chairing the local suicide prevention committee, and participating with local county safety fairs, just to name a few. Staff from Elkhorn Media Group work hard to not only know their community professionally but know them personally. Their hearts are evident in the messages that they share with the public and the services they provide to their local communities. The work they do is more than just a job to them. They are supporting and caring for their hometowns and that care and compassion shines through.

The service area of Elkhorn Media Group is unique for so many reasons. While they cover a large area of the state in land, the coverage includes rural and frontier counties in the state with few resources. These tight knit communities depend on each other and on Elkhorn Media Group stations to provide them with the most up-to-date information across the board. It doesn't matter if it's road conditions and closures, law enforcement activity in an area, voting results, or information about upcoming events, the communities in eastern Oregon rely on Elkhorn Media Group for these updates.

As a community partner to Elkhorn Media Group, I look to them when I have important safety messages that I need to share with the area that I serve. I have the utmost confidence in this group of people; in their professionalism, kindness, care, compassion, and community commitment. It's amazing to see what can be accomplished by their team and how quickly they can produce products and update communities. I honestly don't know when they sleep!

Sincerely,

Billie-Jo Nickens
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