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## **KOAT 7's Chief Meteorologist Joe Diaz to be Inducted into the New Mexico Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame**

**ALBUQUERQUE, NM** — KOAT 7 announced that Chief Meteorologist, Joe Diaz, will be inducted into the New Mexico Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame. With a remarkable career spanning more than 45 years, Joe has dedicated more than 35 of those years in his professional life to KOAT 7, from reporting to delivering critical safety information about severe storms to viewers across New Mexico.

Joe's commitment to providing accurate weather forecasts and essential updates during severe weather events has made him a trusted figure in the community. His expertise and dedication have played a crucial role in keeping New Mexicans safe and informed throughout the years. Joe is a member of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) and is the first in New Mexico (and 68th nationwide) to be named a Certified Broadcast Meteorologist. Joe also holds the seal of approval from the National Weather Association (NWA).

“Our Chief Meteorologist Joe Diaz has kept New Mexico viewers safe and informed through literally every force of nature. And Joe himself is a mighty force in broadcasting”, said General Manager Lori Waldon. “He has served KOAT, New Mexico and our industry with extraordinary professionalism, excellence, and a deep love for his community. We are so proud of Joe and congratulate him on receiving this significant and well-deserved honor.”

“There is no one more deserving of being named to the 2024 NMBA Hall of Fame than Joe Diaz.” said Paula Maes, Executive Director for the NMBA. “Joe has been a part of fabric of New Mexico since 1979. He is committed to people of New Mexico and we proud to honor him.”

The induction ceremony will take place later this summer at the New Mexico Broadcaster Association's annual Excellence in Broadcasting event, where Joe will be formally recognized for his outstanding contributions in broadcast and his unwavering service to the community.

### About KOAT Channel 7

KOAT is New Mexico’s broadcast/digital media leader, providing news, weather, community service and entertainment on multiple platforms including KOAT Channel 7, koat.com, and the KOAT mobile app. Founded in 1953, KOAT is committed to its mission to serve



the state of New Mexico with quality local content. The station has been honored with numerous prestigious national broadcasting honors including multiple recognitions as Television Station of the Year by the New Mexico Broadcasters Association, the RTDNA Edward R. Murrow Awards, the regional Emmy's, Associated Press Awards, and Walter Cronkite Awards. KOAT, an ABC affiliate station, is owned by Hearst Television Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Hearst Corporation, a leading media company whose global holdings include 29 television stations and two radio stations. Follow us on Facebook (koat7) and Twitter (@koat7).

#### About Hearst Television

Hearst Television owns and operates 33 television and two radio stations serving 26 media markets across 39 states reaching over 22 million U.S. television households. Through its partnership with nearly all major networks, Hearst Television distributes national content over more than 120 video channels including programming from ABC, NBC, CBS, CW, MY Net, MeTV, Estrella and more. The radio stations are leaders in Baltimore news/talk and rock music listenership. Its Hearst Media Production Group unit produces original programming across linear and streaming platforms for domestic and international distribution. Its Very Local app, free to download on household OTT devices and available across popular streaming services, offers 24/7 access to local news, weather and an array of local and regional programming. Hearst Television is recognized as one of the industry's premier companies and has been honored with numerous awards for distinguished journalism, industry innovation, and community service. Hearst Television is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hearst.