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For more information contact:
Anthea Penrose, Public Relations Manager (727) 893-8461

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

New Managing Editor named at *St. Petersburg Times*

St. Petersburg, FL — Executive Editor **Neil Brown** announced today that **Stephen Buckley** will be the next managing editor of the *St. Petersburg Times*.

Beginning Monday, Jan. 10., Buckley, 37, will direct the news operations based in St. Petersburg and oversee the day-to-day news report. He is the first journalist of color to assume this leadership position at the *Times*.

In making the announcement, Brown recalled that, “Stephen first walked into our newsroom at age 16, a high school intern who turned a stint as a copy clerk into a chance to write stories for the sports pages. Then, as now, those who worked with him saw a person of tremendous promise, capacity and strength.”

While attending Duke University, Buckley worked as an intern in the Detroit bureau of the *Wall Street Journal* and also as an editorial writer for the *Philadelphia Daily News*. Upon graduation from Duke, he joined *The Washington Post* and spent the first five years of his career in local news, first as a night cops reporter and then covering education. His work earned him two assignments overseas, first as Africa bureau chief based in Nairobi, Kenya, then Brazil bureau chief based in Rio de Janeiro. The latter stint came after six months of intensive study learning Portuguese.

In July of 2001, after 12 years with the *Post*, Buckley returned home to St. Petersburg, as *Times* national correspondent.

“In just his first six months,” Brown noted, “Stephen produced enough distinctive stories that he won the Florida Society of Newspaper Editor’s Paul Hansell award, an honor bestowed on the Florida journalist deemed to have that year’s best body of work.” In 2003, he became Assistant Managing Editor/World, rebuilding the *Times*’ Washington bureau, supervising the creation of the Times 2 page, editing major stories and projects, and was, according to Brown, “an important voice in the conversation about how to keep the newspaper relevant and interesting to readers.”

Brown concluded his announcement by stating that, “Stephen’s credentials stood strong amid a field of outstanding candidates from both inside and outside the *Times*. His easy-going, engaging manner and clear passion for helping colleagues do their best work led me to conclude that this appointment is very right for our *Times*. Stephen’s appointment is a great credit to our entire organization and our belief that investing in our staff is the very best way to reach our goals.”

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