Horus Alas

Writer | Reporter | Designer

(240) 784-0286 | heliocentricnonchalance@gmail.com | LinkedIn | Web portfolio | Silver Spring, MD

Editorial Experience

The Loudoun Times-Mirror - Education and Public Safety Reporter
Aug. 2021 - present; Leesburg, VA

Reported on key issues impacting K-12 education in Loudoun County, including critical race theory, mask and vaccine mandates. Broke stories on threats prompting a school board member to resign, rifts between sheriff's office and school administration.

U.S. News & World Report - Reporter
Oct. 2020 - Aug. 2021; Washington, D.C.

Reported for U.S. News' three main government rankings verticals: Best States, Best Countries, and Cities. Wrote and produced data-driven stories with interactive graphics, and contributed stories to annual launch for mentioned verticals.

Maryland Matters - Freelance Reporter
March 2020 - Oct. 2020; Silver Spring, MD

Reported on immigration policy, activism and local politics throughout the state. Focused on IGSA contracts with ICE, especially in Howard County.

Tracked immigration bills in the General Assembly.

Capital News Service - Reporter
Aug. - Dec. 2019; Washington

Wrote and reported on political, social, and cultural events in Washington pertinent to Maryland audiences. Focused on Maryland's Congressional delegation, federal appropriations, impeachment investigations, and the Supreme Court.

Education

University of Maryland - Master's in Journalism
Aug. 2018 - Dec. 2019; College Park, MD

Honed newswriting and reporting techniques with a focus on national politics and interactive web design.

University of Maryland - Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy
Aug. 2013 - Dec. 2015; College Park, MD

Studied ancient philosophy and world literature; surveys in Plato, Aristotle, Shakespeare, classics.

Skills

Reporting
- Local, state, national and international reporting
- Survey, report, data analysis-based writing
- AP Style, copyediting, print page proofing

Photography
- Used Nikon D750, D5100; 70-200 mm telephoto, 24 to 70 mm wide-angle lenses
- Cutlines, photo credit, image attribution

Digital Design
- Proficiency with html, css, interactive graphics
- DataWrapper, D3, Timeline JS
- Photoshop, GitHub, WordPress, InDesign

Languages, Writing
- Fluency in English and Spanish
- Proficiency in Latin, French, and Italian
- Well-honed grasp of feature, enterprise writing