

Tech skills

- Advanced R
Intermediate Python
- MySQL, Postgres, SQL Server,
Google BigQuery, GCP
- ArcGIS, QGIS, ArcPy,
- Microsoft Office Suite

Language Skills

- Fluent in Spanish

Awards

- SABEW Best in Business, Winner 2020 in Government for Meatpacking series
- American Legion 4th Estate Award Winner in 2020 for "Turned Away"
- ONA Univ. of Florida Investigative Data Journalism Award, Winner 2019 for "Lessons Lost"
- SABEW Best in Business, Winner 2016 in Investigative for "Landlord Games"
- ONA Univ. of Florida Investigative Data Journalism Award, Winner 2015 for "Trouble with Taxes"
- SABEW Best in Business, Winner 2014 in Explanatory for "Poor Health"
- Best Investigative/Enterprise Story, San Diego SPJ 2012
- Best Investigative/Enterprise Story, San Diego SPJ 2011
- Best Residential Real Estate Report in a Daily Newspaper, NAREE 2010

Education

- M.S. GIS Development
December, 2023
University of Wisconsin - Madison
- M.A. Journalism
May, 2007
University of Missouri
School of Journalism
- B.A. Writing Intensive English,
Spanish, Cum Laude
May, 2004
Marquette University

Experience

USA TODAY

June 2019 - Present

Data Journalist, Investigations

Remote

Worked with investigative, technology, enterprise and national teams to report and produce award-winning stories and projects. Coordinated data gathering, normalization, analysis and reporting for projects about climate, the environment, housing and ambulance diversions. Routinely performed analyses on deadline. Helped beat reporters identify data useful for stories on their beats.

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Feb. 2013 - June 2019

Watchdog Reporter, Data Journalist

Milwaukee

Focused on data-driven investigative stories and projects. Worked in tandem with beat reporters to turn quick-hit and long-term stories. Developed sole-byline enterprise pieces in areas not traditionally covered by a single beat. Acquired, cleaned and analyzed myriad data sets for stories as well as for the Data On Demand section of jsonline.com. Organized data sets and provided analysis for national projects on the economy, education and health care. Worked to find useful data sets for the Milwaukee community and teamed up with developers and designers to create unique online experiences for our readers.

inewssource

Oct. 2009 - Feb. 2013

Data Journalist

San Diego

Obtained, cleaned and analyzed data sets for investigations in Southern California, including award winning stories on deficiencies in the City of San Diego's Public Utilities Capital Improvements Program, fire response times, whooping cough vaccine efficacy during an epidemic and immunization exemption rates. Analyzed NASA's ASRS database for Investigative News Network members for stories about aviation safety in California and Washington. Reported on the end use of green energy grants from the ARRA. Managed data negotiation, cleaning and analysis, and designed web pages for publication. Coordinated publication for web, radio, television and print.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Jan. 2008 - Oct. 2009

Data Journalist

St. Louis

Researched and reported for stories about real estate, campaign finance, army recruitment nationwide, school test scores, and violent crime, particularly sexual assault, on college campuses in Missouri and Illinois. Obtained and cleaned databases for stories and online features and searchable databases.

Scripps Howard News Service

Aug. 2007 - Dec. 2007

National Projects Data Intern

Washington

Completed a national survey of infant death investigative protocols for the Philip Meyer award-winning "Saving Babies" national project. Wrote articles about infant death investigator training in Washington state and about poor death investigations and a weak coroner system in north Texas for the project. Used SPSS 12.0 to analyze the multiple cause of death index from the CDC to find SIDS death statistics for the "Saving Babies" project. Analyzed and wrote articles about Scripps Foundation surveys.