

1. Description

My idea is to capture a slice of a day in the life of Cincinnati city councilmember P.G. Sittenfeld. The goal is for me to tail him to capture a "day in the life of"-type of narrative, trying to blend into the background and capture both public, serious moments as well as private, relaxed moments. I'll be following PG all over town, so the essay won't be limited to any particular location.

2. Why?

I think this would be a pretty compelling story as P.G. is a very unique person. He's incredibly high-functioning and juggles a ton of responsibilities and a very busy schedule. He's also a bit eccentric and there are likely a few funny moments I could try to capture. I want to show who he is when he's not under a microscope; I think it'd be interesting to see him in moments of downtime in-between appointments or after the end of a workday.

3. Individual photos

I listed an extra photo because many of these moments will be so fleeting that I probably won't get *all* of them.

1. To capture the most public and professional version of PG, I'll get a shot of him speaking at a podium at an event. The composition of the photo is going to depend heavily on the venue and where I'm able to shoot from, but I'm imagining shooting from a little bit low to make him look taller and more authoritative, and possibly using the backs of the crowd's heads to frame with form.
2. On the other end of the public/private spectrum, I'd like to shoot a casual moment of PG driving in his very messy car. I'm thinking that I'll be sitting in the passenger seat and using the widest angle lens I have to capture as much of the car around him as I can.
3. PG is a notorious cheese coney lover, so I'd like to get a shot of him eating at Skyline. I'm imagining a detail shot with a shallow depth of field of a cheese coney in his hand, probably with his face not even in the frame.
4. In between meetings, I'd like to get a shot of PG looking focused working at his laptop. I'm imagining the shot would be slightly from above opposite him (i.e. so we see the back of the laptop), with a fairly shallow depth of field. In a perfect world, I'd shoot this in a dark setting so that we see the light reflecting from the laptop.
5. I'd like to get a shot of PG speaking in a city council meeting. This photo will depend heavily on where I'm able to shoot from in the room, but one idea I have is to shoot near the end of the desk and get some nice diagonal lines across the frame and probably some repetition of form with the name placards, microphones, etc at every councilmember's desk.

6. PG has a newborn baby at home, so I'd like to get a shot of a tender moment with PG holding the baby or otherwise interacting with the baby. This is going to be very dependent on the moment, so I'm going to have to figure out the composition/framing details on the fly.
7. PG is an avid social media user and if he's at an event or with a noteworthy/interesting person, he'll often take a selfie, and I'd like to catch him in the act of doing so. Preferably, I would shoot so that I can see everyone's faces and the arm holding the phone is a bit to the side and not blocking too much. However, if I happen to be behind them when the moment comes, I think there's also potential in an over-the-shoulder shot where you can see their faces on the phone's screen (though I'll have to be mindful to keep the phone small enough to be considered fair use).