

Tom Meagher

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The Marshall Project, New York, N.Y.

June 2014 – present

Senior editor. Previously managing editor for digital and data, deputy managing editor and data editor

As senior editor, I lead collaborative, data-driven reporting projects as well as editing stories and overseeing The Marshall Project's coverage of prisons, jails and the death penalty. Part of the original team that launched this non-profit newsroom covering criminal justice, I led our effort with The Associated Press to document cases of COVID-19 in U.S. prisons. Prior to the pandemic, as deputy managing editor and managing editor, I ran a seven-person digital team, including data journalists, designers, visual journalists and interactive developers. And I contributed reporting and writing about the shortcomings of federal rape statistics to the series that won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting.

Digital First Media, New York, N.Y.

August 2012 – May 2014

Data editor

Led a team of journalist-developers at Project Thunderdome, the centralized news hub for Digital First Media, then the nation's second-largest newspaper chain. We built interactive web applications, supported computer-assisted reporting projects in the company's 75 local newsrooms and offered training in data analysis.

The Star-Ledger, Newark, N.J.

February 2009 – August 2012

Data editor and news editor

At the largest paper in New Jersey, I oversaw a team of reporters charged with developing enterprise stories using data reporting techniques. At the Star-Ledger's New Jersey Local News Service, I directed reporters covering towns in two counties, breaking dozens of front-page stories, including one on \$30 million in public money squandered on a malfunctioning regional sewage plant.

Herald News, West Paterson, N.J.

July 2004 – February 2009

City editor, computer-assisted reporter and city government reporter

I managed more than 15 reporters and assistant editors covering three cities and their surrounding suburbs as city editor. Focused on strong watchdog coverage, I coached reporters through stories about imprisoned firefighters forging documents for work-release programs and contractors who duped homeowners into unneeded mortgages. Prior to that, as the paper's CAR reporter, I was responsible for databases and mapping, and one of my stories exposed a deal between Paterson's mayor and a developer that cost the nearly-bankrupt city more than \$10 million.

Early in my career, I was a night cops reporter for the Lawrence, Kansas, *Journal-World*, a sports stringer for The Associated Press, an intern in Washington, D.C. for the *Spokane Spokesman-Review*, and, in college, a reporter and copy editor at the *Columbia Missourian*.

References available on request.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Data analysis and visualization with Observable notebooks, JS, R, Python, SQL and relational databases
- Web scraping and data cleaning with Python
- Web development with Python, Flask, Django, Ruby, Rails, HTML, CSS and JS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Since 2015, I have taught classes on criminal justice, data reporting and investigative techniques at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. I also regularly speak at conferences.
- Graduate of IRE's Computer-Assisted Reporting boot camp, Advanced CAR Statistics boot camp and Django mini-boot camp

SELECTED HONORS

- Projects that I edited or produced have won national Edward R. Murrow awards, Online Journalism Awards, a gold medal from the Society for News Design, an Eppy from Editor & Publisher and a National Headliner Award, among others.
- My reporting has received a special "Human Rights" award from Malofiej, the world's premier contest for news visualizations and graphics, a Data Journalism Award and more.
- While I managed our digital team, The Marshall Project twice won the "Best Website" Ellie.

EDUCATION

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism Master of Science, 2004

University of Missouri Bachelors of Journalism and of Arts in English, 1999