

JON SEIDEL

WWW.SEIDELCONTENT.COM

NEWS REPORTER

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SUMMARY

Aggressive and versatile news reporter with more than a decade of experience working countless crime scenes, covering sensational murder trials, driving into natural disasters, investigating politicians and writing about state and local government. Fast, accurate, fair and ready to deliver the news to readers when and where they want it.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

REPORTING

Knows where to find the news whether on the street, in the halls of power, or digging deep into public records.

- Currently assigned to the Everett M. Dirksen U.S. Courthouse, covering high-profile terrorism and public corruption cases for the Chicago Sun-Times, including the indictment of former U.S. House Speaker Dennis Hastert.
- Experienced at covering state government. Worked in Illinois and Indiana statehouses. Tracked legislation, reported on three state-of-the-state speeches and covered the inauguration of Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner.
- Simultaneously covered the 2012 murder trials of Drew Peterson and Christopher Vaughn in Will County, Ill.
- Participated in White House press pool coverage of President Barack Obama.
- Trusted by the Chicago Sun-Times to cover the funeral of its longtime movie critic, Roger Ebert.
- Covered a wide variety of breaking news as general assignment reporter at the Sun-Times for more than two years.
- Skilled at using public records to shed new light on breaking news.
- Followed days of protests during Chicago's 2012 NATO Summit, tweeting and posting photos and video to web.
- Interviewed Michael Jackson's mother one year after his death in the home where the Jackson 5 grew up, rehearsed.
- Resolved readers' consumer affairs troubles for Chicago Sun-Times column, landing more than \$150,000 in savings.
- Scoured public records to expose politicians' spending habits while covering Gary City Hall in Indiana.
- Traveled to Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina, and reported from the field as Hurricane Frances hit Florida's coast.

WRITING AND EDITING

Fast, accurate writer known for producing clean, compelling copy on deadline no matter how complicated the story.

- Revises and updates breaking news stories multiple times a day to keep online reports fresh.
- Thoroughly checks every fact in a story for accuracy, relevance and fairness.
- Known for compelling live coverage of breaking news events through social media.
- Treats every tweet and social-media post with the same care devoted to a front-page story.

ON THE AIR

Comfortable in front of a camera or behind a microphone. Appeared on "PBS NewsHour," C-SPAN's "Washington Journal," NPR's "Here & Now," CNN HLN's "Nancy Grace Mysteries," CBS' "The Insider," TV One's "Fatal Attraction," WLS 890 AM's "John Kass & Lauren Cohn" and "Roe & Roeper" shows in Chicago, WBEZ 91.5 FM and Lakeshore 89.1 FM.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Relied upon by editors to meet daily, weekly and long-term deadlines. Familiar with WordPress, DTI Content Publisher, Videolicious and other desktop and mobile publishing systems. Routine user of computer systems maintained by circuit clerks in Cook, Lake and Will counties in Illinois and federal PACER system.

WORK HISTORY

Staff Reporter (2012-Present): Chicago Sun-Times;

Reporter (2011-2012): Sun-Times Media, Chicago, Ill.;

Staff Writer (2004-2011): Post-Tribune, Merrillville, Ind.;

Summer Reporting Intern: Florida Times-Union (2004); News & Observer, N.C. (2003); Kenosha News, Wis. (2002)

EDUCATION AND MEMBERSHIPS

Bachelor of Science in Journalism, Ball State University, Muncie, Ind.;

Chicago Headline Club, board of directors, digital media chairman;

Ball State University, news-editorial advisory board member

HONORS ADDENDUM

2012

Young Alumnus Award, Ball State University Department of Journalism
Third Place, Best Coverage of Government (Circulation over 40,000), Indiana SPJ Pro Chapter

2011

First Place, Spot News Reporting (Circulation over 40,000), Indiana SPJ Pro Chapter
Second Place, Best Coverage of Government or Politics (Circulation over 40,000), Indiana SPJ Pro Chapter

2010

Second Place, Best Coverage of Government (Circulation over 40,000), Indiana SPJ Pro Chapter

2009

First Place, Investigative Reporting (Circulation under 300,000), Chicago Headline Club
Third Place, Investigative Reporting (Circulation over 40,000), Indiana SPJ Pro Chapter

2008

Second Place, Non-Deadline Team Reporting, (Circulation over 40,000), Hoosier State Press Association
Third Place, Non-Deadline Reporting (Circulation over 40,000), Hoosier State Press Association

2007

Third Place, Deadline Reporting (Circulation over 40,000), Indiana SPJ Pro Chapter

2006

Third Place, Feature Writing (Circulation over 40,000), Hoosier State Press Association
Third Place, Deadline News (Circulation over 40,000), Hoosier State Press Association

2005

First Place, Deadline Reporting (Circulation under 300,000), Chicago Headline Club

2004

Indiana Collegiate Journalist of the Year, Indiana Collegiate Press Association