

Timothy J. Gibbons

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Summary of Qualifications

Covering a variety of topics — as an editor and a reporter, in the United States and abroad — has let me develop expertise in dealing with government bureaucracies, private and public companies and ordinary people. I'm as comfortable fighting to get FOIA requests filled as I am delving into SEC documents and as skilled at deciphering military reports as I am at digging stories out of city budgets. I can spend a morning designing a database to track train accidents and the afternoon talking to people injured in one. My wide-ranging experience allows me to take a broad approach to enterprise pieces and projects, while my work as an editor at a magazine and at newspapers has cultivated my story development and long-range planning skills.

Journalistic Experience

Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville, Fla.

August 2002 – present

Municipal Government Team Leader: Oversee the team reporting on the consolidated city/county government of the largest (by area) U.S. city, shepherding coverage of urban affairs, politics and city finances. Focus my own reporting on the executive branch, where budget shortfalls, pension problems and economic development challenges confront a sometimes beleaguered mayor.

Military Affairs Reporter: Wrote about issues of importance to active-duty service members and veterans in a city home to the third-largest Naval concentration in the United States, an Air National Guard fighter wing and Army and Marine commands, as well as one of the 20th largest veterans communities in the country. Also covered the local defense industry, including Northrop Grumman Corp. and Boeing Co. as well as a host of smaller players.

Transportation & International Trade Reporter: Covered one of the country's 20 largest seaports, a growing airport system, a Class I railroad and a variety of transportation and logistics firms — together one of the largest industry sectors in Jacksonville. Examined how the rest of the world affects the local marketplace by writing about trade agreements, import/export issues and other items of concern in a global economy. Also covered road construction and public transportation issues, including infrastructure safety and highway capacity woes.

Workplace Issues Reporter: Covered a wide-ranging beat for the business section, writing about economic development, technology and “the intersection of life and the workplace.” Headed up the newspaper's Sunday business section — a targeted publication aimed at the city's growing young professional community — a role that got me involved with editing, story selection and long-term planning.

Oskar's, Hamburg, Germany

October 2001 - May 2002

Redakteur (Editor): Led the English side of this bilingual magazine targeted at German and American high school students. Developed story ideas and worked with photographers, freelance writers and layout artists to bring pieces to completion. Also wrote articles (in English) for the magazine and translated from German to English.

Arthur Burns Fellowship, Berlin, Germany

July 2001 - October 2001

Fellow/Freelance Reporter: Wrote articles dealing with German history and culture, immigration issues and business affairs for the Berliner Morgenpost and Bild, the fifth largest paper in the world. Freelanced for a number of publications, writing pieces about German-American relations in the aftermath of Sept. 11 and economic relationships between the two countries.

Convenience Store News, New York, N.Y.

November 2000 - May 2001

Freelance Reporter: Wrote technology-focused articles for this trade publication, focusing on car washes and related industries.

The News-Journal, Daytona Beach, Fla.

February 1999 - August 2000

General Assignment Reporter: Served as the “heart attack” reporter for the western half of Volusia County, jumping on the news of the day for quick-turn-around, in-depth reactions to breaking events. Also developed my own long-range projects, mainly focusing on education and crime reporting.

City Government Reporter: Covered city council, zoning and planning committees and other bureaucracies in the suburban area between Daytona Beach and Orlando, competing with one of the largest papers in Florida.

The News-Herald, Willoughby, Ohio

May 1997 - February 1999

Metro Reporter: Covered eight cities and towns in the highly competitive suburban Cleveland market. Wrote about city agencies and politics as well as digging out feature stories from among the communities covered.

Religion Editor: Supervised a team of correspondents, edited wire copy and took photographs for a weekly section. Also wrote features and news stories about the local religious community.

Business Reporter: Covered national and local businesses in suburban Cleveland. Wrote several feature stories a week, handled breaking financial news from public companies and produced weekly enterprise stories.

The Austin American-Statesman, Austin, Texas

Summer 1996

Copy Editor Intern: Served as a rim editor for the news, sports and feature sections. Worked full time, doing the job of personnel who were out of state working for the company's Olympic task force.

The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

1992-1997

Correspondent: Covered a variety of local government and school board meetings. Wrote general assignment news and feature stories for the city desk and feature articles for the business section. Served as lead sports reporter for a zoned edition of the paper.

Academic Experience

Columbia University, New York, N.Y.

2000-2001

Graduated with a Master of Science degree in journalism, concentrating on print media and focusing on international affairs and business. Rode freight trains to interview subjects for a long-form magazine article looking at the lives of modern hobos. Served on the board of school's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. Designed and produced a Web version of the Reuters Forum Journal. Served as an editor of the journalism school yearbook.

Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va.

1993-1997

Graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in May 1997. Majored in journalism/news editorial and minored in history. Board member of the university chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta, a national honor society. Member of Phi Alpha Theta, a national honor society in history.

Awards

- 2012 Florida Press Club: 1st place – Breaking News; 3rd place – Government News; 3rd place – Health Writing
- 2010 Florida Press Club: 3rd place - Breaking News; 3rd place - Serious Feature Writing
- 2009 South Florida SPJ: 2nd place - Local Political/Government Reporting
- 2008 Florida Awards of Excellence: 1st place - General Reporting, Series
- 2008 Florida Press Club: 1st place - General News
- 2008 SPJ Sunshine State Awards: 2nd place - Deadline Business Reporting
- 2006 Florida Press Club Awards: 3rd place - Breaking News Coverage
- 2006 SPJ Sunshine State Awards: 3rd place - Deadline Business Reporting
- 2001 Arthur F. Burns Prize for Reports and Features, recognizing reportage on German-American relations
- 2001 New York Financial Writers Association Thomas E. Mullaney Scholarship, recognizing outstanding potential in business and financial journalism
- 2000 Columbia University's Robert Reinhold and Hough Scholarship Fund scholarships
- 1996 Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Outstanding Internship Prospect

Miscellaneous

- **Computer-aided Reporting:** Proficient in building and working with databases and spreadsheets. Have completed advanced training in Microsoft Access and Microsoft Excel.
- **Electronic Media:** Experienced in producing news for television and online venues. Hosted a weekly business news segment for a television station partner of the Florida Times-Union.
- **Teaching:** Since Spring 2003, have served as an adjunct journalism professor at the University of North Florida, teaching Advanced Writing for the Media and running the related writing lab. In Spring 2008, created and taught Business Journalism, a 3000-level course.
- **Language:** Read and understand basic German.