

ROBERT R.  
**MCCORMICK**  
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Poynter.



**Covering Guns:  
A McCormick  
Specialized Reporting Institute**

**April 1 - 3, 2013**

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**SCHEDULE**

(All sessions will take place @ Loyola University)

**MONDAY, April 1**

- 4:00 p.m. Welcome and Introductions  
~ **Al Tompkins**
- 4:15 p.m. What Journalists Should Know About the Second Amendment  
~ **David B. Kopel, Research Director, Independence Institute;  
Adjunct Professor of Advanced Constitutional Law,  
University of Denver's Sturm College of Law**
- 5:30 p.m. Food and Beverage Break
- 5:45 p.m. Anatomy of a Lawsuit: Behind the District of Columbia v. Heller  
~ **Robert A. Levy, Chairman, Board of Directors, Cato Institute**
- 6:30 p.m. Break
- 6:40 p.m. Gun Control in the Aftermath of Newtown  
~ **Robert A. Levy**
- 7:15 p.m. Q/A Kopel and Levy  
~ **Butch Ward** moderates
- 7:45 p.m. Mix and Mingle at Loyola – Drinks and Hearty Appetizers
- 8:30 p.m. Adjourn

**TUESDAY, April 2**

- 9:00 a.m. What Journalists Should Know About Who, When, Where,  
Why People Get Shot and What Might Work to Stop It  
~ **Roseanna Ander and Harold Pollack, The Chicago Crime Lab**
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. The Secret Life of Guns  
~ **David Fallis, Investigative Reporter, The Washington Post**

12:00 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Guns 101: Gun Types, Ammo, Myths  
~ **Don Haworth, Chicagoland Firearm Training**  
3:00 p.m. Board Bus to the Gun Range  
4:00 p.m. Range Time and Continued Instruction  
7:00 p.m. Return to Hotel (Snacks on the Bus)  
8:00 p.m. Dinner on your own

**WEDNESDAY, April 3**

8:00 a.m. The Global Gun View: What Journalists Should Know About How Other Countries Treat Guns  
~ **Joyce Lee Malcolm, Patrick Henry Professor of Constitutional Law and the Second Amendment, George Mason School of Law**  
9:30 a.m. Break  
9:45 a.m. Mental Health and Gun Violence  
~ **Dr. Gary S. Belkin, Associate Professor of Psychiatry at NYU Langone Medical Center and Senior Director for Psychiatric Services for the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation**  
11:00 a.m. Break  
11:15 a.m. Testing the Truth About Gun Claims: The Politifact Way  
~ **Bill Adair, Politifact**  
12:15 p.m. Lunch and Guest Speaker  
~ **Linda Lutton, WBEZ Chicago – This American Life**  
2:00 p.m. Plans for Future Coverage  
2:45 p.m. Goodbyes and Safe Travels

Special Thanks to Loyola University staff!

**Don Heider**

**Meghan Ashbrock**

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# Covering Guns: A McCormick Specialized Reporting Institute

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# **Covering Guns: A McCormick Specialized Reporting Institute**

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## **FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES**

In alphabetical order

**Bill Adair** is the editor of PolitiFact and the Washington Bureau Chief for the Tampa Bay Times, formerly the St. Petersburg Times. He has worked in Washington since 1997 and has covered Congress, the White House, the Supreme Court, national politics and aviation safety. Adair is the author of “The Mystery of Flight 427: Inside a Crash Investigation,” a behind-the-scenes account of how the National Transportation Safety Board solved one of the biggest mysteries in aviation. He is the winner of the Everett Dirksen Award for Distinguished Coverage of Congress and the Society of Professional Journalists Sigma Delta Chi Award. He lives in Arlington, Va. with his wife and three children.

**Roseanna Ander** serves as the founding executive director of the University of Chicago Crime Lab and the University of Chicago Urban Education Lab. The University of Chicago Crime Lab and Urban Education Lab each works to help develop, implement and evaluate promising social policy interventions in a way that generates objective outcome data about what works and why, that is as rigorous as the gold standard for evidence used in medicine, another area where lives are at stake. It is based in part on the success of MIT’s “Poverty Action Lab” which has quickly become a world leader in applying similarly rigorous research methods to understanding how to address poverty and other social problems in the developing world. In January 2010 Ander was appointed to the International Association of Chiefs of Police Research Advisory Committee and to the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission. In March 2011 Ander was named co-chair of Chicago Mayor-Elect Rahm Emanuel’s Public Safety Transition Committee. Prior to joining the University of Chicago, Ander oversaw the Joyce Foundation’s Gun Violence program, which makes annual grants of \$3.3 million to support research and public policies aimed at reducing deaths and injuries from firearms. Ander also served as the developer and lead program officer for the foundation’s grantmaking on Early Childhood Education. Prior to joining Joyce, she was a Soros Justice Fellow with the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office where she worked on a range of issues including truancy, domestic violence and consumer protection. Ander has also worked for the Harvard Injury Control Center, the Harvard Center for Children’s Health, and the Harvard Project on Schooling and Children. She holds a bachelor’s degree from Boston University and a master’s degree from the Harvard School of Public Health.

**Dr. Gary S. Belkin** is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and currently serves as Senior Director for Psychiatric Services for the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation. Dr. Belkin's career has involved progressive responsibility in policy and systems development for public health and mental health services in US urban settings. "Global mental health" is an emerging field. It reflects a transition from interest in how mental health issues in different cultural and national settings, to a potentially formidable public health and social development-oriented research and policy program aimed at innovation in delivery that promotes access to care and impacts broader social outcomes and social determinants of illness. The need to re-conceptualize the components of a public mental health approach, the ways delivery of care can be embedded in primary care systems and community practices and structures, and the strategies needed to incorporate mental health and behavioral outcomes and determinants in health and social policy more broadly, are increasingly day-to-day challenges for public health work. Succeeding at such a broad agenda needs a globalized perspective and scope of action and knowledge. Therefore, in addition to his policy roles, Dr. Belkin is developing a set of projects around which to "grow" the newly established Program in Global Mental Health within the Department of Psychiatry.

**David Fallis** is a staff writer on the Washington Post's investigations unit. In 2012, he was part of a team that investigated how the personal finances of federal lawmakers intersect with their legislative activities, which won a Dirksen Award for Distinguished Reporting. His 2010 examination into the sources of crime guns was awarded an Investigative Reporters and Editors Freedom of Information medal and an Emmy. His reporting on deplorable conditions in Virginia's assisted-living facilities won the Heywood Broun Award in 2004. In 2002, he was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the Goldsmith Award for an investigation of questionable shootings and in-custody deaths involving Prince George's County police. Before joining the Post in 1999, he wrote and edited for the Tulsa World. He holds a B.A. in journalism degree from the University of Oklahoma and teaches investigative reporting part-time at George Washington University.

Chicagoland Detective Services, Inc. conducts a wide variety of firearm training for both businesses and individuals. **Don C. Haworth**, president of Chicagoland Detective Services, Inc., is a NRA certified pistol and shotgun instructor who has taught both civilian and security personnel. The classes are conducted at various times and dates. Several firearm ranges are used throughout the Chicagoland area. Haworth holds an Illinois State Firearm Instructor License. This license allows him to teach the mandated 40-hour firearm program to all K-9 handlers, private detectives, security agencies, locksmiths, alarm contractors and fingerprint operators as well as their employees who are required to carry a firearm during the course of their employment.

**David B. Kopel** is research director of the Independence Institute; an associate policy analyst with the Cato Institute, in Washington; and adjunct Professor of Advanced Constitutional Law at the University of Denver's Sturm College of Law. His website is [www.davekopel.org](http://www.davekopel.org). He is a regular panelist on Colorado Public Television's "Colorado Inside Out," and a blogger on the Volokh Conspiracy (the world's leading law e-blog).

**Robert A. Levy** is chairman of the Cato Institute's board of directors. Robert A. Levy was a driving force behind the landmark 2008 case District of Columbia v. Heller, in which the Supreme Court struck down the district's gun laws and recognized an individual right to keep and bear arms. Not only was he one of the lawyers on the case, but he also personally funded the litigation. He joined Cato as senior fellow in constitutional studies in 1997 after 25 years in business. He also sits on boards of the Institute for Justice, the Federalist Society, and the George Mason University School of Law. He founded CDA Investment Technologies, a major provider of financial information and software, and was its CEO until 1991. Levy clerked for Judge Royce C. Lamberth on the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., and for Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. From 1997 until 2004, Levy was an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown University. He has written numerous articles on investments, law, and public policy. His writing has appeared in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Washington Post, National Review, and many other publications. Levy has also discussed public policy on national radio and TV programs, including ABC's Nightline, CNN's Crossfire, Fox's The O'Reilly Factor, MSNBC's Hardball, and NBC's Today Show. His latest book, co-authored with William Mellor, is *The Dirty Dozen: How Twelve Supreme Court Cases Radically Expanded Government and Eroded Freedom*. Levy received his Ph.D. in business from the American University and his J.D. degree from the George Mason University School of Law.

As a WBEZ education reporter, **Linda Lutton** covers schools, education, and issues affecting youth in the Chicago region. Prior to joining WBEZ in 2008, Lutton worked as a freelance reporter and radio producer in Michoacán, Mexico. Before that, she was the lead education reporter at the Daily Southtown, where she covered education across 85 school districts in Chicago's south suburbs. Her radio stories have appeared on Morning Edition, Marketplace, PRI's The World, and This American Life. Lutton's investigation into a corrupt south suburban school superintendent won a national 2005 Education Writers Association first prize award for investigative journalism and a Chicago Headline Club Watchdog Award. She received a 2004 Studs Terkel Award for excellence in reporting on Chicago's diverse neighborhoods. Lutton worked on WBEZ's award-winning radio series "Fifty-Fifty: The Odds of Graduating." Her radio work has been recognized with a Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism, several Edward R. Murrow regional awards, and a Third Coast Audio Festival

documentary award, among others. Lutton has a B.A. in Urban Studies and English from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Born and raised in Minnesota, Lutton has lived in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood for 19 years. Her husband is Mexican artist-muralist Hector Duarte. They have three children.

**Joyce Lee Malcolm** is an expert in International Gun Policy-Constitutional Law. Her work was cited several times in the recent U.S. Supreme Court opinion in *District of Columbia v. Heller*. She was just named Patrick Henry Professor of Constitutional Law and the Second Amendment by George Mason School of Law.

**Harold Pollack** Chicago Crime Lab Co-Director, is the Helen Ross Professor of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration, and faculty chair of the Center for Health Administration Studies. He has published widely at the interface between poverty policy and public health, including a number of studies about harm reduction for injection drug users and efforts to reduce drug abuse and dependence. His recent work appears in *Addiction*, *Health Services Research*, *American Journal of Public Health*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and other publications. He has been appointed to three expert committees of the National Academy of Sciences.

**Al Tompkins** is one of America's most requested journalism and multi-media instructors. After nearly 30 years working as a reporter, photojournalist, producer, investigative reporter, head of special investigations and News Director, Tompkins joined The Poynter Institute where he is Senior Faculty for Broadcast and Online. He is the author of "Aim for the Heart," a textbook about multimedia storytelling that has been adopted by more than 90 universities worldwide. He has taught in 48 states, Canada, Egypt, Denmark, South Africa, Iceland and the Caymans. Tompkins is the recipient of some of journalism's highest awards including The National Emmy, the Japan Prize, The American Bar Association's Silver Gavel, The Peabody, seven National Headliner Awards, The Robert F. Kennedy Award and The Iris Award. He was inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame and honored with The Governor's Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Tompkins helped to author the national codes of ethics for both the National Press Photographers Association and the Radio and Television Digital News Association. He has taught workshops for hundreds of clients in the last dozen years including NBC, The Weather Channel, Telemundo, Univision, Entravision, CBC, CNN, Fox, ABC, KING, KHOU, WFAA, WFTV, WTSP, KY3, WTKR, WTVF, KTUU, National Public Radio, Bay News 9, News 8 Austin, WTHR and many more. He has also taught at college campuses including Harvard, Boston University, Western Kentucky University, Indiana University, University of Texas-Austin, University of Nebraska, Kansas University, San Jose State, Belmont University, Indiana State, Ball State, Middle Tennessee State and many others.

**Butch Ward** is Senior Faculty at The Poynter Institute, where he teaches leadership, management, editing, reporting and writing. During his 27-year career at The Philadelphia Inquirer and Baltimore News-American, Butch played a variety of roles, including managing editor at both newspapers. Before joining Poynter, Butch spent three years being covered by journalists as vice president for corporate and public affairs at Independence Blue Cross in Philadelphia. Since joining Poynter, he has taught and facilitated programs in newsrooms and for a variety of news associations and groups, including the Committee of Concerned Journalists, American Society of News Editors and APME NewsTrain. He has taught leadership and narrative writing to journalists in South Africa and Australia, and has led Poynter's efforts to help journalists in seminars, conferences and Webinars explore more effective ways to cover elections for their communities. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, Butch lives in Wallingford, Pa., with his wife, Donna, who helps run the library for a kindergarten academy of 250 students. Their daughter, Caitlin, is pursuing a nursing degree. Their son, Coley, and his wife, Suz, live in Boulder, CO; their baby daughter, Cassidy, is the most beautiful grandchild in the whole, wide world.

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## **PARTICIPANT & OBSERVER BIOGRAPHIES**

In alphabetical order

**Jonathon Berlin** writes, “I live in Chicago with my wife and kids. In my work, I help the Tribune graphics staff look for fresh, clear and imaginative ways to present the news. We take an energetic approach to the news looking to bring stories home to Chicagoans. While not working, I enjoy jogging, exploring Chicago and other outdoor activities. Though, in Chicago, part of the year, it's not fun to be outside.”

**Clifford Davis** states, “I served in the U.S. Army Infantry with a 14-month deployment in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon my honorable discharge, I returned to school and graduated as the ‘Outstanding Graduating Senior in Journalism’ from the University of North Florida. I was also honored to be selected as a 2011 Poynter College Fellow.”

**Caitlin Dineen** has spent the last five years of her career working to become a police and public safety reporter. As a result, Dineen has moved to various states (from Connecticut to New Jersey to North Carolina) to pursue that goal. She got her first taste for crime and breaking news while working at a small daily paper in Connecticut and covering the stabbing death of a beloved University of Connecticut football player during homecoming weekend. Now, working at her third daily paper, Dineen has settled into the beat she wants to maintain for the rest of her journalism career. She dedicates her 1 to 10 p.m. shift covering public safety trends, acting as a watchdog to local police and public safety agencies and reporting breaking news in the Cape Fear region of North Carolina. As a breaking news junkie, it is not uncommon for Dineen to get tips before her shift starts and after she calls it a night. That's when she'll hop out of bed or grab her notebook early to get the scoop and report to editors remotely. Outside work, Dineen's getting used to sweet tea and learning to speak slower than the quick pace she's accustomed to from years of reporting in New England and fast-paced Atlantic City.

**Veronica Gallegos** writes, “Humble roots and a relentless pursuit of education has enabled me to accomplish a life long dream of reporting for CBS news. I can attribute my success thus far in life to countless hours behind the chair in my mother's hair salon absorbing the stories of customers' woes and sense of triumph realizing their dream of working and living in our country. Upon being the first person in my family to graduate high school and college, it was evident this genuine and humble community needed a voice. As a young impressionable Latina, journalism was the only fulfilling option for me. So, I dedicated my life to being a reporter. Currently, I am working as a full-time reporter for a CBS affiliate in the Rio Grande Valley. Luckily, I have the opportunity to deliver news that affects not only the local community I serve but the nation as a whole. In my humble opinion, the truth can only be uncovered by brave, inquisitive, and educated journalistic integrity in this geographic territory. It would be an honor to relay the knowledge I learn from this seminar to the local news community I serve.”

**Dahleen Glanton** says, “After more than 30 years as a journalist, I still enjoy telling stories. Even now, I am always looking for fresh challenges and new things to write about. Recently, I've had the opportunity to write about escalating violence in Chicago, an assignment that has taken me into neighborhoods throughout the city and given me an opportunity to talk with a variety of people, from

teenagers to longtime community activists. Nearly every interview, every casual conversation and every community gathering have led me to another story, each one as compelling as the other. This is what I love about my job.”

**Jana Gray** writes, “I started as a news photographer in my hometown of Yakima, Wash. and loved it! I used to sleep with a scanner. Next I worked as an assignment editor. I really enjoyed organizing, went to KBAK in Bakersfield, then on to KGET in Bakersfield as assistant news director. Then, I went to work for KHQ in Spokane as assignment editor and moved up the ladder from there. I went to executive producer, then to news director, and all the titles in between! Content has always been my passion. I love digging and talking. Now I’m in a new location for me in Salinas/Monterey Calif. I work at the same company that owns KHQ but in a different state. Love the sunshine!

**Jake Griffin** is currently the investigations editor at the Daily Herald in suburban Chicago where he writes a weekly, award-winning column on tax spending and government accountability. He is a graduate of Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, Mo.

**Sheila Hagar** has written for the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin since 1998. While she has often freelanced for much larger papers and done projects for magazines, it's the U-B readers who have lived her life — and often their own — through her “Home Place” columns. In 2004, Hagar joined the staff full-time at the U-B, becoming the health, social services and entertainment reporter. She continues to write “Home Place,” as well as her blog of the same name.

**Vivian Ho** has worked for the San Francisco Chronicle since 2011, covering crime and breaking news as a Go Team reporter with a desk in the Hall of Justice. She reported on Occupy demonstrations, Anonymous protests, the Edwin Ramos trial, the World Series riots and the Chevron refinery fire as well as on homicides, criminal street gangs, sexual assaults, domestic violence cases and police personnel matters. She also writes for Chronicle Watch, a weekly column exploring stubborn issues in the Bay Area. Before she joined the Chronicle, Ho reported for the Boston Globe and the Worcester Telegram and Gazette.

**Leah Hope** is an award-winning reporter for ABC 7 News, Chicago's number one station for news. She focuses on special investigations and other important stories affecting the lives of Chicagoans. She joined ABC 7 in 1997. Prior to joining ABC 7, Hope worked at KATU-TV, the ABC affiliate in Portland, Ore. At KATU-TV, she anchored weekend evening newscasts and reported during the week. Previously, she held the same positions at WISH-TV in Indianapolis, Ind. Hope began her broadcasting career as a general assignment reporter at WBOC-TV in Salisbury, Md. Hope's work covering issues in the African American community has been honored on both national and local levels. In 2003, she won two awards from the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) for reports on a group of "Lost Boys" attacked by a Chicago gang and changes in the cosmetic industry that reflect the changing face of America. The NABJ Chicago Chapter awarded Hope the 2003 Russ Ewing Excellence in Journalism Award and recognized her again with the 2004 Excellence in Enterprise Journalism Award for a series of reports on affirmative action. Hope received an Emmy award for the half-hour primetime special, "9/11/02 The New Homeland." She contributed to "People, Places, and Things You Should Know: Women in Science and Technology," which won the 2001 Gracie Award from American Women in Radio and Television. Hope has been awarded several Peter Lisagor Awards, given by the Society of Professional Journalists, for stories ranging from breaking news coverage to consumer and business reporting. She was honored by the Chicago chapter of the Council on Islamic American Relations with the 2007 Media Award for ethical reporting. Hope is as a visiting faculty member at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St. Petersburg, Fla. She is a Journalism Advisory Board member at Columbia College and belongs to several journalism organizations including: Investigative Reporters and Editors Association, the National Association of Black Journalists, American Women in Radio and Television, the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Outside of journalism, her community involvement includes work in the arts. She is a member of the Leadership Advisory Council at the Art Institute of Chicago, Museum of Contemporary Art and Instituto Cervantes of Chicago. Hope's charitable work took her to

Minneapolis on bicycle to participate in the 2001 Chicago AIDS Ride. She has been involved in several breast cancer awareness campaigns to promote early detection. Hope received her B.S. degree in broadcast journalism/political science from Syracuse University in New York. She is the great-granddaughter of John Hope; the first African-American president of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga. Hope is married and resides in the Chicago area.

**Matt Hugie** writes, "Like most teenage boys, I wanted to be a sideline reporter or play-by-play guy. I quickly learned, however, that I was addicted to news, not sports. I graduated from Weber State University with a bachelor's degree in communication. Like most junkies, my blood starts to rush as breaking news pours into the newsroom. My addiction is only satisfied when my organization is first to post the story on the web, Facebook and Twitter. Then my attention turns to making the assignments that will allow our staff to provide the best breaking news coverage in the market."

**Matt Kauffman** has been a reporter at The Hartford Courant since 1986, and is currently assigned to the paper's investigative desk, where he works on longer-term projects. He recently completed a reporting assignment in partnership with the PBS show "Frontline" on the cultural divide over guns in America. He also specializes in computer-assisted reporting, and his blog, The Scoop, covers investigative and data-driven journalism. In 2007, Kauffman was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Investigative Reporting for a series he co-authored on mentally ill troops sent to war. He has also received a Polk Award, the Selden Ring Award, the Worth Bingham Prize and the Heywood Broun Award, and has twice been a finalist for the Gerald Loeb Award. He was also named a "Master Reporter" by the New England Society of Newspaper Editors. Outside the paper, Kauffman teaches graduate-level courses in investigative reporting and computer-assisted reporting at Quinnipiac University. Before joining the investigative desk in 2004, he was a business writer and columnist, covered legal affairs, and wrote from the paper's New Haven bureau. Prior to joining The Courant, Kauffman covered local news for the Wausau Daily Herald in Wisconsin and was a reporter and editor at New Jersey Reporter magazine. He graduated from Vassar College with a degree in political science, and lives in West Hartford, Conn., with his wife and two sons.

**Danielle Koleniak** joined the NBC2 news team in December, 2011. She reports on the weekday morning newscasts. "It's so great to be back home in Southwest Florida doing what I love to do! I'm passionate about journalism and my community," says Koleniak. She grew up mostly in Florida and graduated from Florida Gulf Coast University with a degree in communication. Her career in television started before she received her diploma. In college she worked behind the scenes at a local news station and then worked at Fuse TV in New York City. Before NBC2, Koleniak spent a year in the Florida Panhandle at WJHG-TV where she reported on the Deepwater Horizon oil spill devastation and Panhandle recovery. In her spare time, Koleniak enjoys Southwest Florida's beautiful beaches with friends and family, volunteering, and attempting to bake sweets for her brave coworkers.

**Jack Kuenzie** is a University of Missouri journalism graduate. He spent seven years in radio news, mostly as a political reporter at Clear Channel WHO in Des Moines. Kuenzie transitioned to TV in 1982 and is now in his 29th year at WIS-TV in Columbia, S.C. His experience includes coverage of Hurricane Hugo, two papal visits, Challenger explosion and Hubble Telescope launch, arrest and trial of Susan Smith, major plane and train crashes, Operation Lost Trust and Mark Sanford political scandals, presidential campaigns from Carter to Obama, lowering of the Confederate flag and recovery of the CSS Hunley.

A native of Colorado, **Kurtis Lee** ventured to the east coast where he attended Temple University and graduated cum laude with a degree in journalism and political science. Specializing in reporting through multi-platforms, after graduation in 2009 he moved to Washington, D.C. where he worked as an online writer for the PBS NewsHour. Lee joined The Denver Post in February 2011 and covers everything from local and state politics to the surrounding suburbs. He's also an anchor for Denver Post TV, the newspaper's daily video broadcast of top breaking news stories. While not at work, it's likely Lee's watching the Nuggets, Broncos or Rockies as he's an avid sports fan.

**Bryan Luhn** writes, “My father worked at KTVT in Fort Worth for years, so I caught the television bug early. But it wasn't until I took a reporting class at Southwest Texas State University that I discovered my passion. After completing an internship with the CBS Evening News, I landed my first job as a jack-of-all-trades in a tiny market in north Texas. We did it all: reporting, producing, shooting and editing, and we became better journalists because of it. It wasn't long before I realized my strength was creating compelling newscasts and stories, and I embarked on a career behind the scenes. Throughout my 18 years in news, I have led coverage on a host of major stories, including school shootings in Paducah, Ky., and Columbine, the shootings at the Fulton County Courthouse in Atlanta, hurricanes, and a host of political primaries, conventions and elections. My work, and that of my colleagues through the years, has been honored with a Murrow Award, several Emmy and AP awards and many nominations. But in my opinion, there is no greater honor than a viewer complimenting you for a great story or newscast, or telling you that your work makes a difference in their life.”

**Paul Meincke**, veteran reporter, joined ABC 7 News nearly 25 years ago, as a general assignment reporter in August 1985. He came to Ch.7 from WEWS-TV, the ABC affiliate in Cleveland, Ohio. While there he was a General Assignment Reporter from 1981 through 1985 and served as substitute anchor on both weeknights and weekends. Meincke began his reporting career at WHBF-AM/FM/TV in 1972 where he served as a radio reporter for news and high school sports. Meincke went on to be a news anchor at WHBF-TV in Rock Island, Ill. where he anchored the weeknight 10 p.m. news from 1976-78 and he anchored the 6 p.m. newscast from 1978-81 as well. During his time in Cleveland, he won four local Emmys and a United Press International Award. In addition, Meincke received a 1980 Iris Award from the National Association of Television Programming Executives (NATPE) for a documentary on the Rock Island Lines liquidation and three Illinois Associated Press Awards. More recently, Meincke received two Emmys in Chicago as part of a team effort for the news coverage of the specials "The New Homeland," in 2002 and "Plane off Runway," in 2005. Career highlights include reporting from Saudi Arabia for five weeks during the first Gulf War in 1991 and serving as the only Chicago reporter in 1999 in Belgrade (in the former Yugoslavia) when Reverend Jesse Jackson negotiated to have three United States army servicemen released from being held hostage. Throughout his broadcast career, Meincke has received many prestigious awards. In 2001, he was awarded the Richard J. Daley Police Medal of Honor for serving as the intermediary in a tense hostage situation. The Illinois Press Veterans also honored Meincke for his handling of the event. Active with the Boy Scouts for many years, Meincke was honored in 2003 with the Silver Beaver Award, the highest award an adult volunteer can receive in recognition of his time and efforts. He is currently serving as a member of the executive board of the Northwest Suburban Council of Boy Scouts. A native of Rock Island, Ill. Meincke received his B.A. degree in speech in 1972 from Augustana College. Meincke, his wife and four sons reside in the northwest suburbs.

Originally from DeKalb, Ill., **Janai Norman** headed to the “Show Me State” to pursue a career in broadcast journalism at the University of Missouri. Taking the road less travelled, Norman did not graduate from the esteemed Reynolds School of Journalism. Instead she double-majored in Mass Communication and Psychology, looking to understand people and how they communicate from a unique perspective. While in school, Norman began working as a morning show production assistant at the ABC-affiliate in Columbia. She was able to complete an internship at ABC 17 that ended with her first on-air work, before flying to NYC to intern with ABC News. After working with the likes of Diane Sawyer, TJ Winick and Scott Goldberg, Norman returned to Columbia and worked part-time as an ABC 17 News reporter until going full-time upon graduation. In just under a year, she worked to become one of the station’s lead reporters, uncovering stories about the local police department. She also covered Keith Kellner’s murder trial for shooting his estranged wife in an area McDonald’s, and the story of an attractive 20-year-old female Mizzou student charged with child pornography that garnered statewide coverage. Most recently, Norman was hired as a reporter at FOX 23 in Tulsa, Okla., a nearly 80-market jump. She says it’s a great medium market to gain experience before continuing her career she hopes will lead her back to NYC.

**Ciara O'Rourke** writes, "I started studying journalism in college because I wanted to tell stories, and after growing up and attending school in Washington state, I've been lucky enough to report from two foreign countries: France and Texas. I now work at the Austin American-Statesmen and I consider it a privilege to bear witness to other people's lives and a challenge to write what I see and hear so that readers care. Texas has afforded me the opportunity to cover a world where different classes, races, faiths and political beliefs abut, especially in Austin, a relatively liberal city in a conservative state. Outside of the newsroom, I'm a voracious reader, traveler and film fan."

**James Queally** says, "As a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., and son of a detective in the world's largest police force, I swore a long time ago I would never be a cop. So I just wound up writing about them. For the past four years I have covered violent crime, law enforcement news and police trends for New Jersey's largest newspaper, focusing largely on violence in Newark and Camden, two of the country's most dangerous cities. My work is generally a mix of data analysis and healthy street reporting. In the past year I've written about a gang leader bargaining for a truce in Newark on the day of Whitney Houston's funeral and conducted a year-long analysis of non-fatal shootings and their corresponding solve rates, a crime statistic few police departments track. The articles caused the Newark Police Department to change the way it investigates violent crime and to create a unit to probe those crimes. I met Lupe Fiasco on a red carpet in 2009, interviewed David Blaine while he was hanging upside down in 2010 and had famed Harlem gang lord Frank Lucas ask to borrow \$20 and a cigarette from me just eight months ago. I'm convinced I have the greatest job on the planet Earth."

**James Ragsdale**, who works at the Minneapolis Star Tribune, was born in Los Angeles, attended U.C. Santa Barbara and worked as a newsman for UPI in Los Angeles and San Francisco before moving east. He covered coal mining and union issues for the Charleston Gazette before moving to Minneapolis and settling there. He has covered all beats, mostly political but also environment, human services, and St. Paul city government, and wrote editorials for the St. Paul Pioneer Press for six years. Ragsdale is married with three adult children and now covers the legislature for the Star Tribune, including the debate over gun issues.

**Kate Rosenberg** has held almost every job in the newsroom, beginning as a part-time police reporter, or weekend scanner babysitter as it were, to editor-in-chief of a small weekly paper. In between there were stints as Freedom Communications' first MoJo, a process of trial and error in the days of limited Wi-Fi and an even more limited budget. She later held the title of social media editor, setting keyboards on fire in a quest not just to be first, but accurate. At the weekly newspaper she was a one-man band, writing, editing, shooting photo and video, designing pages, updating the website, building an audience, writing editorials and even handling a bit of circulation and marketing. She recently returned to the police beat because none of those other jobs ever seemed to hold her attention as much as being out at a crime scene, fire or any other random place the breaking news reporter can end up. It's the cops that she relates to, the energy of getting the scoop and the people she meets that keeps it interesting for her.

**Alison Smith** writes about public safety and the criminal justice system for the Times-News in Twin Falls, Idaho, which she joined in December 2011. She's also part of the newly formed web team, focused on new content and alternate storytelling on the paper's website, Magicvalley.com. In 2011, she earned a master's degree in community journalism at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. There she was the photo director for Alpine Living, a student-produced travel magazine. She led a team of photographers during their travels in Germany and Switzerland. After losing her own home to a massive tornado in Tuscaloosa in April, 2011, Smith reported on others who lost their homes, livelihoods and loved ones to the tornado for the Anniston Star in Anniston, Ala. She also covered the police beat and worked on a project finding under-covered areas within Calhoun County, the Star's main coverage area. In 2009, she earned a bachelor's degree in journalism with a photojournalism emphasis from the University of Montana in Missoula. There she received the Robert L. Wolfe Scholarship in recognition of professional promise and excellence in photojournalism. She was also involved with the Rural News Network studying the media needs of rural Montanans, and the



Community News Service covering the 2009 Montana Legislative Session for more than 40 newspapers throughout the state.

Over more than 30 years of reporting in cities like Tampa, Houston and Austin, **Craig Smith** has covered more than 40 space shuttle launches and covered historic hurricanes like Katrina, Ivan, Andrew and Hugo. He also worked to build understanding and appreciation of science while working for the American Institute of Physics, near Washington, D.C. Smith enjoys using innovative writing and visuals to make difficult stories easier to understand. He's used sophisticated electronic effects, and props as simple as poker chips, dominoes and modeling clay. His work has been recognized with numerous awards including a regional Emmy, three consecutive writing awards from the Arizona Associated Press and a finalist slot for a science writing fellowship to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As a newsroom manager at KGUN 9, Smith was part of the team that won three best newscast awards from Arizona.

**Janet Rodriguez Smith** writes, "I am a Cuban native who immigrated to the U.S. at the age of 12. After graduating from American University in D.C., I had the opportunity to pursue my degree in journalism as a Spanish television reporter for Telemundo. In my six year career I have been able to cover major news stories such as Pope Benedict XVI's visit to D.C., the passing, signing and effects of the most extreme immigration law SBI070 of Arizona, the Tucson massacre and many more. I have been awarded five Rocky Mountain Emmys."

**Annie Sweeney** writes, "A firm believer in community journalism, I work for and am part of each community in which I have been fortunate to live and work. I talk to everyone and anyone and find great stories that way. I believe in giving a voice to all and ensuring balanced coverage. I am no different than every journalist who works long hours for the return of a strong and objective story that enlightens, educates and empowers the reader. I have covered Chicago cops and crime for about ten years, including breaking news and enterprise pieces on crime trends. Most recently, I have been covering the federal courthouse beat for the Chicago Tribune."

**Daniel Terrill** says, "I'm the reviews editor for Guns.com, a firearm news and reviews website. Along with two others, I helped cultivate the voice of Guns.com and grow it to the publication it is today with a readership of more than one million hits a month. I've been a writer and journalist for a number of years, but I figured out my niche - writing about guns, gun culture, gun politics and crime - early in my career. I graduated from the University of South Carolina and served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. I live in Chicago."

**Chris Vanderveen** writes, "Over the course of the last 17 years I have covered everything from the tragedies at Columbine and Aurora Century 16 to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in Biloxi, Miss. I have won more than 30 regional Emmys and a dozen regional Murrow Awards. Last year, I was awarded a national Murrow Award for Sports Feature as well as the NPPA Reporter of the Year Award."