

# SUMMER DASHE

WWW.SUMMERDASHE.COM

## CURRENT TITLES

- GOV. COMMUNICATIONS
- UNIVERSITY LECTURER
- DOCUMENTARY PRODUCER
- TV SHOW HOST
- DISABILITY ADVOCATE

## PAST TITLES

- DIRECTOR OF STORYTELLING
- MAIN ANCHOR
- MANAGING EDITOR
- MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST
- INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER

## EDUCATION

### SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

Convergence Journalism  
2009-2013

## SKILLS

Media Training  
Visual Storytelling  
Content Creation  
Journalistic Ethics  
Writing  
Shooting & Editing  
Communications  
Public Speaking  
Teaching  
Public Relations & Marketing

## SUMMARY

I'm an award winning storyteller and media manager with a knack for bringing out the best in a team. After more than a decade in TV news, I headed into unknown territory launching a newscast for the United States Department of Energy. My job is to translate complicated information about national security, medical research, and environmental management to lawmakers, federal leaders, and the public in an impactful and understandable way.

My passion for training is put to good use teaching multimedia journalism at the University of Tennessee. On weekends, you may find me traveling to shoots for a true crime documentary I was tapped to produce on a case I once covered as a local journalist. Monthly, you can tune into a health show I host on the ABC affiliate in East Tennessee.

Journalism is the purpose I chose in life and disability advocacy is the purpose life chose for me. After being diagnosed with a chronic illness, I began using my skills to help the cause. I've emceed international conferences, taught medical students, and grown a large following on social media. My awareness efforts led to an Emmy nomination and viral recognition for an under-diagnosed condition.

## SOCIAL MEDIA



## CONTACT

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## EXPERIENCE

### VISUAL STORYTELLING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Navarro Research and Engineering (Contractor to U.S. Department of Energy)

#### January 2022-Present

- Launched the United States Department of Energy's first newscast on-air and online
- Shoots, writes, and edits stories that appear on-air and online
- Secured spots for Energycast on TV stations in 24 counties across Tennessee from Nashville to Knoxville
- Covers stories on groundbreaking medical research, environmental clean-up that is changing the landscape, and national security missions keeping citizens safe from the gravest threats abroad
- Writes articles for Energy.gov
- Produces and edits content for official Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube accounts
- Designing TV studio in the federal building in Oak Ridge, TN
- Works with construction, lighting, and top federal leaders to execute Energycast set plans
- Leads Energycast promotional and marketing efforts
- Ensures visual storytelling efforts clearly communicate work impacts to the community, lawmakers, and top federal leaders
- Built relationships both within the federal government and local community to enhance communication
- Prioritized conversational writing to smoothly communicate complex science, national security, medical research, and environmental missions and projects
- Interviewed local, state, and federal government leaders on camera to improve visual communication efforts
- Organized, quick, and calculated under pressure and solution oriented
- Encourages employees and committed to making the workplace genuinely positive to foster passionate and quality work
- Always finds the heart in every story

### LECTURER

University of Tennessee School of Journalism and Electronic Media

#### August 2022-Present

- Syllabus includes lessons on reporting, producing, shooting, writing, editing, and ethics
- Expands skills to social media storytelling
- Responsible for educating class of juniors and seniors
- Takes students out in the field for real life journalism experience
- Focuses on career readiness
- Lessons follow NPPA values
- Leverages connections within the news industry to connect students with job opportunities
- Teaches importance of relationship building with community and PIOs
- Fair, honest, and encouraging teaching style

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## EXPERIENCE

### DOCUMENTARY PRODUCER

Hacker Films

**August 2021-Present**

- Producing true crime documentary sharing the story of one of America's most high profile crimes, the disappearance of Heather Elvis
- Coordinates shoots and interviews with family, friends, and officials closest to the story
- Manages PR and marketing for the film, communicating with journalists and media members
- Manages Facebook account for the film that has amassed more than 17,000 followers in just a matter of months
- Prepares interview questions, organizes shoot locations and crew plans, and develops storyline

### TV SHOW HOST

WATE-TV

**September 2022-Present**

- Invited to come back to host a monthly medical show shortly after leaving full-time position listed below
- Thirty minute show airs monthly on the ABC affiliate in East Tennessee
- Interviews doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals about relevant health topics

### DIRECTOR OF STORYTELLING/MAIN ANCHOR

WATE-TV

**August 2020-December 2021**

- Emmy award winning storyteller who oversaw storytelling efforts and training for newsroom employees including editors, photographers, reporters, digital journalists, producers, and news managers
- Top notch communicator who respectfully taught others and developed 10 session storytelling workshop to train team on writing, editing, and shooting techniques for successful visual and written storytelling
- Virtual storytelling workshops sent out to Nexstar stations across the country, the largest parent company of TV stations in the U.S.
- Trusted and respected manager often approached by newsroom employees seeking advice and guidance
- Expert in ethics who implemented new protocols to maintain integrity and foster responsible coverage based on industry-wide discussions through involvement and memberships with three national journalism organizations
- Award winning writer and newsroom leader who approved written scripts for air and articles for online publication
- Excellent under deadline and created "breaking news checklist" to manage high-stress and fast paced coverage situations with priority on "accuracy above all" approach
- Hosted "Instagram Takeover" for Radio Television Digital News Association (RTDNA) to offer career advice to followers

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## EXPERIENCE

### ANCHOR/MANAGING EDITOR

WPDE-TV

**July 2015-July 2020**

- Managed and anchored for the number one rated evening news team in the market
- Led media training for local university employees, first responders, and medical professionals to teach communication and interviewing skills
- Launched the stations first investigative team with work leading to state law changes
- Attended several of the nation's top storytelling workshops through NPPA, RTDNA, and SPJ
- Led storytelling training for visual and digital journalists
- Ambitious, gritty, and unafraid to stand up for what is right
- Fostered relationships with sources to earn trust
- Dogged commitment to first amendment rights led to a bill introduced in South Carolina to promote transparency within government agencies
- Relentless in the face of intimidation and uncovered criminal activity within a police department that ended with arrests, indictments, and multiple internal investigations
- Built the largest social media following of any news anchor in the market on Facebook
- Versatile personality proven in launching weekend cooking segment
- Earned more than a dozen journalism awards for writing, editing, videography, communication, investigative, and digital skills
- Wrote article for RTDNA on succeeding with chronic illness.

### ANCHOR/MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST

KLTV-TV

**June 2013-June 2015**

- Shot, wrote, and edited reports for the number one rated news station in East Texas
- Anchored and produced several newscasts building writing, technology, and public speaking skills
- Embraced team mindset
- Responsible for digital and social media coverage on weekends

### REPORTER

The Dallas Morning News

**August 2012-May 2013**

- Daily crime and feature reporter for the paper and DallasNews.com
- Conducted interviews, took photos and videos, and wrote various stories

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## VOLUNTEER WORK

### DYSAUTONOMIA INTERNATIONAL

Medical Nonprofit

#### 2019-Present

- Spoke at the annual international conference for autonomic dysfunction and emceed the awards ceremony in front of more than 2,000 attendees from around the world
- Educates and spreads awareness using social media
- Report on POTS, a form of Dysautonomia, gained viral recognition on Facebook and Twitter
- POTS report earned an Emmy nomination and won several other journalism awards for the story shot, edited, and written as a multimedia journalist all while sick with the condition
- Advocates for medical education, eliminating medical bias, and better treatment for disabled people especially those with invisible illnesses
- Consults on media coverage and strategy

### OAK RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Educational Program

#### 2022-Present

- Teaches public speaking skills to high school leadership students
- Created syllabus and lesson plan to empower future leaders
- Incorporates video and written skills to improve student communication focusing on career readiness

### AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

Medical Nonprofit

#### 2013-2021

- Volunteer for AHA since 2013 with various chapters from Texas to South Carolina to Tennessee
- Held various roles including Heart Ball event planning and fundraising committee and executive leadership team
- Energetic, engaging, and uplifting emcee of Heart Ball and Heart Walk five years in a row and subject of "Open Your Heart" impact video on POTS

## AWARDS

- Three time Emmy winner for breaking news, team coverage, and evening newscast
- Two time Emmy nominee for health and investigative reports
- Three time EMMA Award Honorable Mention for investigative and general news reports
- Nine time Radio Television Digital News Association first place winner for anchor team of the year, health/medicine, general news, and education reports
- South Carolina Broadcasters Association STAR award winner for convergence coverage