

KATIE WILCOX

Investigative Reporter | Executive Producer | Educator

720-651-0044 · kawilcox@gmail.com · Phoenix, AZ · [Portfolio](#)

SKILLS

Investigative reporting methods, interviews, records requests, data analysis, court records
Writing, editing and coaching reporters on scripts for broadcast and podcast
Shooting and editing video for news, documentary, series, streaming and social media
Collaborating & coordinating multimedia partnerships with NBC, affiliates, TEGNA stations, nonprofits
Public speaking, meeting facilitation, event planning, large event coverage, including Elections, Super Bowl, Town Halls
Newsroom leadership, management, teaching, mentorship, guest lecturer
Studio and field production
Data visualization, Excel, Google Workspace, Tableau, Canva

EDUCATION

University of Iowa · BA, Journalism & Mass Communications, · BA, Economics · Minor, Philosophy

- *Kappa Tau Alpha Top Scholar Award for Highest Class Ranking*
- *Guggenheim Fellowship in Economics*

EXPERIENCE

Investigative Reporter & Editor | Professor of Practice · April 2026 -Current

The Beam | The Howard Center for Investigative Journalism, ASU · Phoenix, AZ

- Break data-driven investigations into Arizona's education system
- Write, shoot, report and edit using innovative reporting tools to tell cross-platform accountability investigations to strengthen Arizona K-12 schools
- Coach and edit a team of student apprentices on reporting methods, investigative techniques, record and data analysis and video production

Clinical Assistant Professor · August 2025-Current

Walter Cronkite School of Journalism · Phoenix, AZ

- Coach broadcast news students in story development: pitching stories, researching and cultivating sources
- Collaborate with Cronkite News instructors to identify various reporting angles across platforms and to share skills and lessons in the classroom
- Instruct students in composing and shooting compelling video, writing clear, concise and engaging narratives, and editing video for broadcast in Cronkite News
- Directing students in large event coverage, including the Charlie Kirk Memorial, leading them in producing day-of and next-day coverage
- Engage students in the classroom to learn the fundamental principles of editing, including an emphasis on news judgement, clarity, accuracy and fairness
- Mentor students to ensure they are career-ready and successful

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Investigative Executive Producer & Reporter · 2019 - 2025

12News | KPNX-TV · Phoenix, AZ

- Launched an investigative unit at 12News, training a diverse group of general assignment reporters and photographers in investigative skills and reporting methods to produce multi-platform investigations resulting in change in law and policy in Arizona
- Led multi-station investigative reporting projects, including “**7 Days, 1,000 Shootings**,” a Tegna-wide project investigating unsolved homicides across the country, resulting in multiple streaming specials and stories that broadcast company-wide
- Edited story structure and scripts, recorded interviews, reviewed all data and public records for podcasts, including the Regional Murrow winner, “**Locked Inside**,” investigating gaps in Arizona’s mental health care system. This reporting resulted in changes in state statute regarding the oversight of the state’s “guilty except insane” program, shut down a group home and company accused of failing to properly provide services and protect residents
- Developed documentaries and series, including streaming-exclusive content, from viewer tip to project pitch to multimedia product, maximizing audience engagement across 12News platforms. Series included:
 - “**Running Dry**,” a years-long continuing investigation into Arizona’s drought and the impact of water shortages in rural communities
 - “**Learning Curve**,” a team reporting project exposing ways in which Arizona’s education system is failing students
 - “**He Made Me Do It**,” a streaming-first investigative series uncovering allegations of abuse that were ignored or overlooked, resulting in renewed investigations into allegations of sexual and domestic violence, training for police departments and an independent nonprofit to prepare one woman’s application for clemency
 - “**Abuse of Force**” reveals years of allegations of intense hazing and sexual violence on a SWAT team, resulting in the team standing down and one leader losing his law enforcement license
- Hosted and planned 12News Special Events, including screenings of 12News documentaries, live voter panels, 12News Town Halls
- Managed editorial meetings, including story assignments to best serve viewers and ensure the highest legal and ethical journalistic standards in long-form and daily reporting
- Field produced and managed large event coverage, including the 2020, 2022, 2024 elections, political campaigns, protests and the Super Bowl
- Analyzed data as a foundational tool to strengthen our reporting and make my staff’s investigations stand out, including thousands of records related to the Arizona ESA program in an ongoing series, “**The Billion Dollar Education Experiment**.”
- Edited and produced every investigation at 12News for six years, including overseeing records requests, fact-checking visualization and supporting research
- Started “FOIA Friday” to engage more reporters and newsroom employees in public records requests and results from the in-depth reporting
- As an on-air reporter, I wrote, shot, and edited investigations that led to change, including an ongoing investigation, “**The Thin Blue Line**,” exposing how one company used its relationship with the National Fraternal Order of Police to enroll retired first responders in phony health care plans. This reporting prompted the Arizona Department of Insurance to open an investigation after previously dismissing complaints, and prompted the company to shut down.

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Investigative Data Producer · 2016-2019

9NEWS | KUSA-TV · Denver, CO

- Pitched, researched, wrote, produced and reported data-driven investigations in healthcare, policing, gun violence, education and Veterans Affairs
- Obtained, cleaned and organized national databases that became the key source for multiple TEGNA collaborative investigations, including:
 - **Side Effects:** uncovering skyrocketing prescription drug prices
 - **Zombie Campaigns:** revealing retired lawmakers spending campaign funds long after their political careers were over
 - **Distance, Delays and Denials:** an investigation that started in Minneapolis, for which my colleagues contacted me to share the nationwide database to identify trends across the nation, breaking stories across TEGNA markets, revealing veterans who were wrongfully delayed or denied organ transplants
- Analyzed and developed unique databases through crowdsourcing, surveys and merging federal data to explore issues in original reporting that prompted legislation, including in our series **"Show Us Your Bills"** in which I gathered hundreds of medical bills, extracting data to compare costs and identifying hundreds of thousands of dollars in incorrect charges. This also prompted a secondary series, **Lien on Me**, after one contact said that medical debt resulted in a lien on their home. My data analysis found hundreds of other Coloradans sued by the same company, largely for medical debt. This reporting resulted in a change to state law banning surprise medical bills.

Investigative Reporter · 2014-2016

Rocky Mountain PBS · Denver, CO

- Pitched, researched, wrote, shot, and edited multi-media investigations for local and national partners, including USA Today, NPR and PBS Newshour & and local Colorado newspapers
- Secured funding from potential sponsors and donors to support our nonprofit newsroom and continue our reporting efforts
- Analyzed budgets from every municipality in Colorado for a series I produced with 9NEWS, and which aired on both stations and on NPR: **"Citation Nation,"** revealed the cities and towns that brought in more than half their income from traffic citations
- Produced a documentary, **"Precious Loss,"** identifying critical Census and healthcare data that revealed infant mortality rates among people of color remained statistically significant in Colorado, even when accounting for factors like income and education of the mother. This documentary was not only screened before medical school students, but also taught in classrooms for more than a year.
- Hosted documentary screenings and panel discussions across Colorado

Investigative Reporter · 2013-2014

IowaWatch · Iowa City, IA

- As an undergraduate student, I applied for and was awarded grant funding to produce a documentary, **"Breaking the Cycle: Meth Addiction in the Heartland,"** which aired on Iowa Public Television. The documentary explored the generational cycle of addiction by following three generations in two families that each struggled with addiction, sobriety and the intersection with human services and jails. We hosted multiple screenings across Iowa.

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Student News Director · 2013-2014

KRUI Radio · Iowa City, IA

- Managed a team of reporters to produce two daily news broadcasts
- Hosted weekly show and approved scripts, guests and interview topics for daily news

HONORS

2025 Arizona Anti Trafficking Network “Game Changer” Award

16 Regional Emmy Awards: Rocky Mountain and Heartland Regions, 2015-2025*

2018 Investigative Reporters and Editors Award

2018 National Edward R. Murrow

2018 National Headliner

2017 Society for Professional Journalists Sigma Delta Chi

3 Regional Edward R. Murrow Awards, 5 Telly Awards,

Colorado Broadcasters Association award in Innovative Storytelling

CUNY Fellowship in Criminal Justice Reporting

SERVICE

ASU Mentor, IRE Mentor, 12News Community Service Committee, Downtown Phoenix Volunteer,

Volunteer English Teacher - Emily Griffith Technical College

Broadcast Committee Member

Investigative Reporters & Editors | Volunteer position

- Organized and recruited speakers for the 2025 IRE Conference in New Orleans, broadcast track
- Presented the highly attended **30 ideas in 60 minutes** panel for the second year in a row, recognizing important journalism around the country and contacting the local reporters to share their most practical tips and tricks
- Taught hands-on Excel course to multimedia journalists, including pivot tables and basic formulas

Pew Research Reporters Consortium

Washington, DC | Volunteer

- Pew Research invited me to attend the annual Courts and Communities forum to discuss major challenges for newsrooms and journalists in reporting in local courts
- Met judges from around the country to develop sources and story ideas on critical issues like debt, evictions, juvenile justice and bankruptcies