

LAUREN MCGAUGHY

laurenmcgaughy@gmail.com | 512-423-6024

Experience

Investigative Reporter and Editor | The Texas Newsroom - Austin, TX | 12/2023-Now

- Hired as the first dedicated investigative reporter and editor for The Texas Newsroom, a statewide collaboration of NPR affiliate stations in Texas. Tasked with training and mentoring reporters and producing investigative work.

Investigative Reporter | The Dallas Morning News - Austin, TX | 12/2019 – 11/2023

- Investigative series "The Memory Room" revealed how police use hypnosis to solve crimes; resulted in parole for story's subject and state police banning the practice after winning records fight with state attorney general.
- Other highlights: Led statewide fight for Jan. 6 records. Broke news linking FBI probe into Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton with alleged affair. Revealed how gerrymandering of state prisoners helps keep the GOP in power.

State Politics Reporter | The Dallas Morning News - Austin, TX | 02/2016 - 12/2019

- Op-ed of Sutherland Springs mass shooting led to national conversation about media treatment of trauma victims.
- Ban on brass knuckles in Texas repealed after my coverage of state's contradictory weapons policies.
- Broke multiple stories regarding allegations of bribery, fraud and self-dealing against the Texas AG Ken Paxton.

State Politics Reporter | The Houston Chronicle - Austin, TX | 04/2014 - 02/2016

- Led coverage of state policies on K-12 education, gun and weapons laws and LGBTQ issues.

State Politics Reporter | The New Orleans Times-Picayune - Baton Rouge, LA | 10/2012 - 04/2014

- Investigative series "Louisiana Purchased" revealed politicians skirting campaign finance rules.

National Politics and Elections Reporter | RTTNews - Washington, DC | 04/2012 - 10/2012

- Lead politics reporter for new wire service. Covered Democratic convention and 2012 election.

Foreign Affairs Reporter | The Asahi Shimbun - Washington, DC | 06/2009 - 11/2011

- Lead local reporter covering State Department, focused on U.S. policies on China and North Korean.

Awards

- Headliners Foundation Showcase Award for Enterprise and Innovation – The Memory Room (2020)
- Association of LGBTQ Journalists (NLGLA) Excellence in Legal Coverage Award - 15 years of TX gay rights (2019)
- NLGJA Excellence in Newswriting Award - LGBTQ Delegates at the Republican National Convention (2017)
- Texas APME Award for Deadline Writing - Sutherland Springs Shooting (2017)
- IRE Award, Peabody Award, Regional Edward R. Murrow Award - "Louisiana Purchased" (2013-2014)
- Louisiana APME Award for Spot News Photography - Photograph of Mother's Day Second Line Shooting (2013)

Education

- **Georgetown University**, BSFS, East Asia Studies major and Islamic Studies minor (2007)
- **UCLA**, MA, Chinese Studies with a focus on gender and identity (2008)

Skills

- FOIA and public records
- Campaign finance
- Data journalism
- State and federal court records research