

# **SERGIO CHAPA**

## **Multi-Platform Journalist**

### **Professional Experience**

#### **KGBT-TV**

Interactive Manager

January 2008 to Present

Harlingen, TX

Primary duty is to maintain and produce original content for station's website [www.valleycentral.com](http://www.valleycentral.com). Daily activities include reviewing and approving content from staff as well as user-submitted content. Creating an interactive experience for viewers through station website and social networking media. Other work includes sending or receiving video via FTP or satellite as well as reporting, writing, producing or editing original reports and videos for both Internet and broadcast.

#### **Al Día / The Dallas Morning News**

Crime and Courts Reporter

July 2006 to January 2008

Dallas, Texas

Award-winning work writing in both Spanish and English documenting the "cheese" heroin epidemic, crime, natural disasters, court cases, public safety issues and social change impacting the Hispanic community in northern Texas.

#### **The Brownsville Herald / El Nuevo Herald**

Police, Courts, Border Security and Illegal Immigration Reporter

October 2004 to July 2006

Brownsville, Texas

Award-winning work covering crime, courts, border violence, border security, illegal immigration, corruption and smuggling operations along the U.S./Mexico border while writing in both English and Spanish.

### **Education**

The University of Texas at Austin (Bachelor of Journalism – Public Relations)

Class of 2002

Extracurricular Activities: Daily Texan student newspaper; KVRX 91.7 FM student radio

### **Organizations, Professional Activities, Awards & Achievements**

National Association of Hispanic Journalists (Lifetime Member and Chapter President)

February 2004 to Present

Lone Star Award - "Fuera del Closet: Gay Latino Immigrants in Dallas"

June 2008

Texas APME Award – "Los Rostros de Cheese"

April 2008

GLAAD Award – "Tacos y Tacones"

April 2008

### **Skills**

**Mass Media:** Identifying stories with news value; deadline writing; cultivating and maintaining community sources; document-based research; on-line research tools; using PACER; monitoring police radio communications

**Computers:** Microsoft Office programs, Adobe design programs; Designing web pages; Designing online databases; HTML; Flash; CSS; PHP; MySQL; ASPX; Parsing XML or RSS feeds; Customizing APIs; PC or MAC

**Multimedia:** Creating interactive maps, graphics & Flash videos; generating pageviews and audience interaction using social media such as twitter, youtube, myspace, facebook, digg, reddit, etc.

**Photography:** Panasonic P2 Card Camera; Mino Flip Cam; 35mm digital photography; Adobe Photoshop editing;

**Television/Film:** Non-linear video editing with Final Cut Pro or Avid NewsCutter; WorldNow Producer; Ektron CMS; Writing scripts for television newscasts; iNews;

**Languages:** English/Spanish bilingual with some coursework in French