

# **SERGIO CHAPA**

## **Multi-Platform Journalist**

2009 West Lamb Avenue • Harlingen, TX 78552  
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### **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 and viewers. 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

Texas APME Award – "Border Battleground" Series

April 2006

Invited Participant - 28th Informative Session for Communicators sponsored by the IME in Mexico City

September 2005

Texas APME Award – "Deadly Blast Rips Nuevo Progreso"

April 2004

Grant Recipient - "La Connaissance de la France" Exchange Program in Paris/Midi-Pyrenees

Summer 2001

### **Websites**

<http://www.valleycentral.com>

January 2008

<http://www.tvontwitter.com>

January 2009

<http://www.mysouthwestga.com>

December 2008

<http://www.sergiochapa.com>

March 2005

## **Filmography**

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| “Tacos y Tacones (aka Tacos & High Heels)”              | November 2007 |
| “Illegal Adrenaline: Street Racing in Northwest Dallas” | October 2007  |
| “Fuera del Closet: Gay Latino Immigrants in Dallas”     | August 2007   |

## **Speaking Engagements/National Media Interviews**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| “Double Discrimination: LGBT Immigrants” Panelist, NLJGA Convention in San Diego                 | September 2007 |
| Two MSNBC interviews as a “cheese” heroin expert   | July 2007      |
| “Ethnic Media as America’s New Global Media” Panelist, NAHJ Convention in San Jose               | June 2007      |
| “Notas Rojas: Covering Crime in Mexico and Latin America” Moderator, NAHJ Convention in San Jose | June 2007      |
| “What You Won’t Learn Watching Law & Order” Panelist, NLGJA Convention in Miami                  | September 2006 |
| “On-Line Resources” Panelist, Poynter Institute’s National Writer’s Workshop in San Antonio      | May 2006       |
| “Putting a Human Face to Immigration” Panelist, NAHJ Region 5 Conference in El Paso              | March 2006     |

## **Skills**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Mass Media:      | Identifying stories with news value, deadline writing, conducting interviews in three languages; 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 Video; PHP; MySQL; ASPX; Parsing XML or RSS feeds; Customizing APIs; PC or MAC         |
| Multimedia:      | Creating interactive maps & graphics, Flash videos, audience interaction using social media such as twitter, youtube, myspace, facebook, etc.   |
| Photography:     | 35mm digital photography; Adobe Photoshop editing   |
| Television/Film: | Panasonic P2 Card Camera operation; Non-linear video editing with Final Cut Pro or Avid NewsCutter  |
| Languages:       | English Spanish and French (some coursework in German, Arabic and Italian)  |