

Erin Tiernan

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Portfolio: <https://erintiernan.journoportfolio.com/>

Experience

The Concord Bridge

Enterprise reporter

May 2024 to January 2025

- Lead investigator and enterprise reporter at a new non-profit, non-partisan local newspaper based in Concord, Massachusetts.
- Reinvigorating and expanding access to quality community journalism in an era where local news is on the decline.
- Advancing data-driven and people-focused narratives both in print and online using multimedia storytelling elements.
- Connecting communities to the issues that matter to them and amplifying voices to tell them.
- Experimenting with digital storytelling and reader engagement tools.

MASterList

Author and editor

February 2023 to October 2023

- Curated a daily Massachusetts politics newsletter reaching 30,000 inboxes directly every morning.
- Chased fresh angles for every edition on issues including post-pandemic health equity, housing inequality, failing transportation infrastructure, Legislature accountability and an emerging wind industry.
- Built relationships with experts on relevant issues, created ties with important community voices and maintained sources across the state and national political spectrum.
- Managed all social media accounts and web presence for a growing newsletter.
- Delivered data-driven content and interactive elements to engage readers and improve key metrics boosting both click and subscription rates.

MassLive.com

Worcester managing editor

February 2022 to September 2022

- Mentored and grew a new team of four reporters, driving 1.5 million monthly content views.
- Worked with reporters to develop beats around local business, crime, housing and city government.
- Spearheaded watchdog projects working with data, including a series on city payroll.
- Managed a budget to hire and plan freelance photographers and contributors as needed.
- Planned coverage and managed social media platforms, including delegating to staff.

The Boston Herald

State politics reporter

September 2019 to February 2022

April 2020 to February 2022

- Responsible for State House reporting duties covering the Legislature, governor and state agencies.
- Data-driven insights using SEO and Parse.ly analytics allowed me to drive 4.5 million bylines in 2020 alone.
- Cultivated sources, including lawmakers, lobbyists, advocates, pundits and experts on relevant issues.
- Hit the campaign trail tailing presidential candidates in New Hampshire, reported on congressional and state races during the 2020 and 2022 cycles, and provided policy analysis on bills related to transportation infrastructure, health and housing equity, climate change, affordable child care and more.

Housing and development reporter

September 2019 to April 2020

- Covered Boston City Hall with a focus on housing, gentrification and development issues.
- Tracked the city's construction boom and investigated the socioeconomic impacts of rising rents.
- Investigated the impact of short-term rental apps like AirBnb using r programming to visualize and analyze a city-run database in a reporting project that resulted in a city policy change.
- Helped to manage the paper's social media platforms, including Facebook and Twitter.

- Aided with web duties and breaking news alerts during morning and weekend shifts.

The Patriot Ledger

November 2017 to September 2019

Associate editor and Quincy politics reporter

June 2018 to September 2019

- Monitored Quincy politics, serving as a city hall watchdog.
- Named NENPA's 2019 Reporter of the Year for investigations, including one on housing and another on environmental pollution injustices.
- Built the paper's first housing beat exploring the intersection of development, poverty and the city's changing demographics.
- Filled in on the news desk as an editor on weekends and holidays, planning a multi-section daily print newspaper and managing online web presence.

Crime reporter

November 2017 to June 2018

- Covered Norfolk and Plymouth county courts and police departments.
- Chronicled high-profile trials out of Quincy District Court, including one that resulted in a statewide law change around animal welfare and another on the epic downfall of a conman with dozens of aliases.
- Exposed glaring accountability issues in the Norfolk County Sheriff's office.
- Created daily newsletters and built up the newspaper's social media presence.

Metro Boston - Reporter

October 2016 to 2017

- Reported politics and spot news for daily newspapers and websites based in Boston, Philadelphia and New York City with a combined monthly readership of 4 million readers.
- Researched and reported two to three enterprise stories weekly.
- Navigated analytics tools and manipulated SEO to maximize readership.

Hanover, Norwell Mariners; Somerville Journal - Editor

March 2013 to October 2016

- Managed reporters and interns to produce two weekly newspapers.
- Promoted from a suburban editorial position to the editor of the Somerville city paper.
- Researched and broke watchdog stories on local and regional issues.

Patch.com

January 2012 to December 2012

Rhode Island Field Editor

July to December 2012

- Collaborated with a team of four to coordinate comprehensive coverage across six news websites.
- Increased overall site traffic by 30% through the development of multimedia coverage.
- Assisted in managing 12 social media accounts to drive web traffic and increase reader engagement.

Local Editor

January 2012 to December 2012

- Covered local politics, culture, business, crime and breaking news in Tiverton and Little Compton, which increased monthly readership by more than 66% in seven months.
- Managed social media sites, including Facebook and Twitter.

The Independent - Staff Writer

January 2010 to December 2011

- Worked as a municipal reporter, covering town council and school committee meetings at one of southern Rhode Island's leading weekly newspapers while completing my degree.

Awards

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- Reporter of the Year, New England Newspaper Association 2019
 - Social Issues Feature Story, First place, New England Newspaper Association 2019
 - Awarded for series on housing and homelessness on the South Shore 2019
 - Environmental Reporting, First place, New England Newspaper Association 2019

- Awarded for investigative report on a rare lung disease in the Fore River Basin 2019
- Business/Economic Reporting, First Place, New England Newspaper Association 2019
- Awarded for report on Quincy's building boom and lack of affordable housing 2019
- Editorial Writing, First place, New England Newspaper Association 2015
- Awarded for take on the perils of government-owned wind turbines 2015
- Publick Occurrences Award for Outstanding Journalism, New England Newspaper Association 2015
- Awarded for special report on addiction and the opioid epidemic 2015
- Government Reporting, Third place, New England Newspaper Association 2015
- Environmental Reporting, Third place, New England Newspaper Association 2015

Certificates

- R programming and data visualization, EdX via Stanford University (Expected) 2025
- Leadership Certificate for Newsroom Managers, Poynter News University 2016
- Digital News Gathering certificate, Poynter News University 2016
- Social Media Strategy certificate, Poynter News University 2016

Skills

- R programming for data analysis and visualization.
- Bilingual in Portuguese and English. Conversational in Spanish.
- Mastery of Microsoft Suite.
- Proficient in photography, videography, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Final Cut Pro, iMovie, and Parse.ly analytics.
- Fluent in AP Style and online content management systems such as WordPress and Saxotech.

Education

B.A., Journalism and Public Relations, Spanish Minor, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, May 2010
 Study abroad, Salamanca, Spain, 2008.

Community Service

Boston Education Foundation - Peer mentor - 2016 school year