

David A. Damron

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Strategic political and crisis communicator, skilled at shaping persuasive messages.

Experience

U.S. House of Representatives, Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Deputy Chief of Staff/Communications Director

July 2018 – Present

Communications Director

Dec 2016 – Jul 2018

- Collaborate closely with Member to supervise, inspire, and focus a large, diverse, multi-site staff.
- Coordinated with House Oversight, Judiciary, Appropriations committee staff on messaging campaigns.
- Direct daily, long-term messaging across every traditional and social media platform.
- Write Member keynotes, campaign, and informal speeches, talking points and related briefings.
- Extensive crisis communications work for one of America's highest-profile national politicians.
- Swiftly untangle complex financial and legislative issues into to easily comprehended messages.
- Possess strong, strategic TV booker, host, print, podcast and influencer relationships.
- Key policy advisor to senior House Appropriator, current Democratic leader, and past DNC chair.
- Advisor to House Steering & Policy co-chair who allocates committee assignments, helps direct policy.
- Helped execute Member's 2022 House Appropriations chairmanship campaign.
- Senior advisor on all campaign activities, regularly work with fundraisers, DCCC, DSCC, and DNC partners.
- Craft and distill polling, policy and analytics for digital, TV, and traditional messages and briefings.
- Manage digital content daily across 10 social media platforms, an official website, and 12K text and 84K email official subscribers, with daily tailored messaging across all congressional and campaign accounts.
 - Provide daily content to 740K+ social media followers (3 campaign accounts; 7 cong. platforms.)
 - Directed delivery of 10M targeted message emails and 500K texts in 2024.
 - Launched first Spanish-language Congressional member channel on WhatsApp.

Florida Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence

2021 – 2024

Florida League of Women Voters

2015 – 2021

Media and strategic consultant for organization and its president

- Pro-bono advisor for media, political policies to enact and protect statewide gun-safety reforms.
- Advised on gamut of state voting rights, open government and progressive policy fights.

Campaign communications consultant

Paid and volunteer work for various congressional, presidential races

2016-2024

- Speeches, press releases, media strategy, and event planning and execution.
- Managed tracker defense, opposition research, GOTV assistance

U.S. House of Representatives, Alan Grayson

Senior Communications Strategist

Sep 2016 – Dec 2016

Press Secretary

Nov 2014 - Dec 2015

Communications Director, Alan Grayson for U.S. Senate, Congress

2014 and 2016 cycles

- Advised, executed traditional, social media efforts, coordinated complex opposition research campaigns.
- Developed and promoted only 2016 U.S. Senate primary debate with bipartisan Open Debate Coalition.

Orlando Sentinel

Senior and Investigative Reporter

June 1998 - Aug 2014

- Finalist or awarded several reporting honors, incl. Harvard Goldsmith Award for Florida 2000 recount.
- Triggered two mayoral prosecutions, a toll agency grand jury, and initiated various audits and reforms.
- Regular live, on-camera TV work; led print newsroom transition to social, online and television platforms.
- Turned complex government bureaucracy into easily understood, written, TV, social, graphic formats.
- Co-created and co-led Orlando Sentinel's first-ever staff-run Diversity Committee.

Florida Times Union, Daily Commercial, Florida Independent Alligator

Various reporting, columnist roles for daily and college newspapers

1994-1997

Crisis Communications

- Navigated Member resurgence from DNC Chair exit in 2016, into a new House leadership role.
- [Shut down a Russian attempt](#) to allege Member sought to influence FBI's Clinton email probe.
- Navigated a [pipe bomb office attack, where the perpetrator attempted to blame](#) the Member.
- Directed rapid media responses to mass gun shootings at Pulse in Orlando, and in Parkland, Fla.
- More specific examples upon request.

Education

University of Florida – Bachelor of Science in Journalism

Active in various journalism, labor, feminist, campus, state, and local political groups, with in-depth experience working across coalitions and various issue, organizing, fundraising, electoral, and messaging campaigns. Did that while working full- and part-time jobs.

References

Tracie Pough – Former Chief of Staff, U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Scott Maxwell – Orlando Sentinel columnist, former senior reporter

Julie Tagan – Democratic Staff Director House Oversight and Accountability Committee

Patricia Brigham – Former President, Florida League of Women Voters

Jon Steinman – Communications & Advocacy Strategist, Protect Democracy

Additional references and individual contact information available upon request