

# Stephen Oduntan

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## Profile

Seasoned journalist with over a decade of experience in breaking news and investigative reporting. I specialize in public-records investigations and multimedia storytelling, with a strong background in digital strategy, SEO, and audience growth. My recent paralegal certification gives me an edge in covering legal and policy news.

## Experience

**Freelance Writer** | *Invisible People* | May 2024 – Present

- Report investigative articles on homelessness and public policy for a nonprofit journalism platform.
- Translate complex policy and court issues into accessible, advocacy-driven narratives.

**Contributing Writer** | *The Wave Newspaper* | Nov 2023 – Present

- Cover breaking news, politics, and social justice, producing high-impact, fast-turn stories.
- Monitor real-time feeds, court records, and press briefings to identify emerging trends.
- Cultivate sources among community leaders and public officials to secure exclusive insights.

**Freelance Journalist & Content Strategist** | Various Publications | Jul 2022 – Nov 2024

- Produced breaking updates, investigative reports, and features for multiple outlets, including *Capital & Main* and *LA Focus*.
- Increased client website traffic by 15% through SEO optimization and digital strategy.

**Senior Staff Writer** | *LA Focus Newspaper* | Jun 2012 – Jul 2022

- Led daily coverage of politics, business, and cultural affairs under tight deadlines.
- Produced in-depth investigative reports that exposed gaps in city policies and community programs.
- Reported on protests, legislative hearings, and major local events with on-the-ground coverage.
- Drove a 25% increase in digital readership by optimizing long-form features for SEO.

## Education & Certifications

- **Paralegal Certificate** — UCLA Extension, Nov 2024
- **MA, Creative Writing (Fiction)** — Royal Holloway, University of London
- **BA, Journalism** — California State University, Long Beach