

VIOLET JIRA

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EXPERIENCE

NOTUS

Washington, DC

White House Reporter

Oct. 2024 – Present

- Report from the White House, writing quick-turn dailies and longer, in-depth pieces on the most important storylines of President Trump’s second term.
- Developed sources within and around the Department of Education to produce original reporting on the administration’s downsizing efforts and the subsequent impacts on students and federal employees.
- Covered Congress, interviewing members on the news of the day
- Wrote explanatory stories on the policy fights driving the conversation on the hill.
- Collaborate with colleagues across the newsroom

Mississippi Today

Jackson, MS

General Assignment Intern

June 2024 – July 2024

- Covered a variety of topics on state politics, with a particular focus on education.

The Daily Mississippian

Oxford, MS

Editor-in-Chief

May 2023-April 2024

- Led a team of student journalists to produce insightful reporting daily on issues facing higher education and how they impacted our university, in addition to a weekly print edition.

REPORTING HIGHLIGHTS

Russell Vought Says Another Rescissions Package Is Coming ‘Soon’: [NOTUS](#)

- I asked Russ Vought why Senate Democrats should vote to advance government funding when he wouldn’t rule out overriding them later with rescissions. By the end of the day, both Majority Leader John Thune and Minority Leader Chuck Schumer had weighed in on what he told me.

Republicans’ Proposed Budget Gimmicks Aren’t Convincing Their Own: [NOTUS](#)

- I asked Republicans how they plan to extend major tax cuts without adding to the deficit, and they pointed to budget maneuvers like changing the baseline. Even members of their own party were split over the approach, with some defending it as practical and others warning it masks the true fiscal impact.

EDUCATION

The University of Mississippi

Oxford, MS

B.A.J. in Journalism, B.A. in Philosophy

May 2024

- Excellence in Journalism Award (2024, 2023), Erlenbusch Award for Excellence in Philosophy (2023), Stamps Foundation Scholarship recipient, 2024 Who’s Who inductee

Allbritton Journalism Institute

Washington, DC

Fellow

Aug. 2024 – Present

- I’m part of a competitive, 18-month fellowship program where my reporting at NOTUS is accompanied by classes with experienced reporters on the fundamentals and complexities of reporting in Washington.

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Skills: Proficient with FOIA, FEC filings, FARA reports, lobbying disclosures, ethics disclosures and SAM.gov

Honors: In-depth reporting, editorial, and photography awards from the Mississippi Press Association and the Society of Professional Journalists. Fulbright Germany Young Professional Journalists Award — *Declined*

Memberships: White House Correspondents Association, Washington Association of Black Journalists

Interests: Accountability journalism, macroeconomic and education policy, SEC sports, prestige TV

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REFERENCES

Elise Foley

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