

Lauren Melendez

Represented by The NWT Group
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Experience

Investigative Reporter, WEEK, Peoria, IL

August 2017 – Present

- MMJ multiple stories a day (Several VoSots & a PKG)
- Research, fact check, write and synthesize challenging information under harsh deadlines
- File FOIAs, follow up on leads and enterprise local stories that impact target audience
- Proven ability to make interview subjects feel comfortable
- Active, clean live shots
- Investigative report (Police Officer Misconduct) broke social media records for the station, #1 trending story in DMA for two consecutive days, Prompted public statement/follow-up from local police dept. on body cam video & dept. policies/procedures.
- Tip pursued through consistent cultivation of community relationships led Peoria Police to ID/arrest a homicide suspect

Weekend Anchor/Producer, WEEK, Peoria, IL

March 2017 – Present

- Produce, solo anchor '25 News' Saturday 6/10pm newscasts & Sunday 10pm - highest rated show
- Research stories, build weekend plan & assign leads to reporters
- Comfortable ad-libbing & confirming breaking/developing news while show is in progress

D.C. Bureau Reporter, KCAU, Sioux City, IA

Summer 2016

- Enterprise national stories affecting Sioux City residents from Capitol Hill
- Interview Iowa Congressional Delegation

Education

Syracuse University, S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications

2016

Master of Science, Broadcast & Digital Journalism

Skills

- AVID, Premiere Pro
- iNEws, ENPS
- Strong social media headlines/pushes