**Morgan Stephens**

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**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**CNN** 06/20-Present

Freelance Production *Assistant for Erin Burnett OutFront,* Writer, *CNN Opinion*

* Assist with nightly national news show by communicating with producers on elements for two-three blocks per day and choosing daily element selection in NewsApps, cut soundbites and VOs in Premiere and code elements into the rundown for air on strict deadline
* Assist with CNN’s 2020 special coverage of election day and election week, along with coverage of DNC and GOP national conventions
* Report and write about long Covid-19 for CNN Digital and CNN Opinion
* Search CNN archives via MIRA and/or search engines to locate verbatim from producers and fulfill clips to the system to be edited and coded into the show on strict deadline, select tease VO for what’s written in script, work quickly and accurately under pressure to find and cut elements for teases on short notice, use editorial judgement to find best sound for script, PA on CNN Tonight occasionally

**Freelance Journalist** 05/19-Present

* Report on Long Covid patients, public health care experts, examine documents and social media posts in a six-month long investigative 5,000-word feature for The Daily Beast on long-haulers seeking experimental treatments outside of the US.
* Report on the homelessness crisis in Los Angeles through the lens of eviction for HuffPost

**Annenberg Media,** Los Angeles, CA

Political Reporter, *Annenberg Digital, ATVN* 01/18-5/20

* Reported day-of-air packages on tight deadline every week for ATVN, created text & video stories for web publication interviewed and shot LA City Councilmembers Paul Krekorian and Herb Wesson, reported national breaking news on USC admissions scandal
* Provided live analysis during 2018 midterm election, co-anchored live coverage of 2020 Super Tuesday primary night.
* Covered 2020 primary race closely, asked presidential candidate Bernie Sanders a question on climate change on MSNBC, asked Elizabeth Warren and Cory Booker a question in a media gaggle in Iowa, provide live on-air reporting and analysis from the Iowa caucus and presidential rallies

Host, *“The Ballot Box” & “Pressing Policy”*

* Reported, wrote, produced, hosted and edited two multimedia series, “The Ballot Box” on national political topics and policy issues surrounding the 2020 primary election, and “Pressing Policy” interviewing LA City Councilmembers on local policy.

**CBS News,** Washington, D.C.

Intern, *White House Unit* 6/19-8/19

* Rough log events for the president, vice president and cabinet members, provide verbates and time codes via AVID, attend and take notes on presidential event in the Rose Garden on healthcare, participate in a gaggle with White House economist Kevin Hassett, attend Faith & Freedom Coalition event for the president, interview event goers and provide context for colleagues
* Compile research for producers and correspondents for international G20 Summit trip, fact check and contact sources for CBS Evening News, transcribe interviews and pressers, attend White House south lawn departures for the president
* Write broadcast script for a practice package and deliver segment on-camera in studio and at the White House

**CNN Politics,** Los Angeles, CA

Digital News Intern, *CNNPolitics.com*  12/17-02/18

* Report and write a story for publication on CNNPolitics.com about LA Mayor Eric Garcetti on tight deadline
* Edit footage for publication, interview sources in the field, shoot footage with senior producer for publication, call Congressional representatives for interviews when story permits
* Assist the Investigative Unit in a two-month investigation into FBI Office of Inspector General documents, create working Excel database for references on cases, edit footage and receive credit on CNN’s “Creators Series”

**EDUCATION**

**University of Southern California,** Summa Cum Laude

*Annenberg School of Journalism, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts & Sciences*

B.A. in Journalism and Political Science

**SKILLS**

One-man-band MMJ, shooting, writing and editing own material, live on-air reporting and analysis, iNews, NewsApps, video editing via Adobe Premiere Pro, Slack, Excel, WordPress, AP Style, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Google Spreadsheets, Google Doc editing, In-Depth Research, Anchoring, MIRA

**AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

*Second Place Winner for 2019 Digital Government & Political Reporting,* LA Press Club

*Herb Klein Scholarship for Government and Political Reporting,* USC Annenberg

*Richard Drake Slocum Scholarship for Excellence in Broadcast Journalism*, USC Annenberg

*Diana Chudacoff Levin Award Scholarship*, Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics

*Dean’s List Recipient 2017-2020*, USC Annenberg, USC Dornsife

*First Place for Best Feature Story 2017*, California College Media Association