

Jim Hooker

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Highlights

- Excellent reporting and writing skills.
- Versatile, award-winning background in journalism with more than two decades in print and broadcast reporting. Significant experience reporting domestically and internationally on a broad range of issues, from health care and homeland security to business and politics.
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Professional Experience

Freelance Writer

7/11-Present

Report, write and edit news, promotional and analytical pieces for a wide range of clients, including BioNJ, the respected New Jersey life sciences trade group, AARP and Politickernj.com, the leading political website in New Jersey.

WCBS-TV, New York, New York

12/11-4/12

Writer of sharp, engaging copy for WCBS newscasts, in the top media market in the U.S. Reports included developments in international, national and local events and issues. International stories ranged from developments in the war in Afghanistan to uprisings in the Middle East; national reports included the 2012 Republican Presidential primary and the shifting U.S. Economy; and local stories included NYPD surveillance of Muslim groups to a tragic Christmas day fire that claimed the lives of three young sisters and their grandparents.

New Jersey Network, PBS, WNJN/WNET-TV, New Jersey/New York

Senior Anchor/Managing Editor, NJN News

12/08-7/11

Engaging anchor of an award-winning nightly newscast and specials who forged connections with viewers through strong writing skills and ad libs coupled with a self-assured, camera-friendly delivery.

Helped decide story selection and placement and worked with team of reporters, photographers and other staff to produce nightly newscast. Wrote first-ever station anchor blog. *Station operations ended by the New Jersey Governor for budgetary reasons in July, 2011.*

State House Correspondent, NJN News

7/95-12/08

Focused on governor and legislature with reports on all aspects of government. Coverage included breaking news and developing stories, often of national interest. Highlights include 'round-the-clock coverage of a first-ever state government shutdown; corruption; wide-ranging reform agendas and gubernatorial races. Team coverage of presidential nominating conventions from Los Angeles to Boston and solo coverage of the 2008 Republican National Convention in Minnesota where historic vice presidential nomination of Sarah Palin was unveiled.

General Assignment Reporter, NJN News

7/95-12/08

Reported hard news, enterprisers and features. Work included 9/11 New York terror attacks; anthrax attacks that originated in New Jersey; blizzard, flood and other stories.

Specials/Public Affairs Host, NJN

7/95-7/11

Moderated live '09 gubernatorial debates; host of a live call-in show "Ask the Governor" with Gov. Jon Corzine; substitute host for public affairs shows "On the Record," tackling key issues with newsmakers, and "Reporters' Roundtable," the free-form discussion program on issues with reporters from The Star-Ledger, New York Times, Philadelphia Inquirer and other media outlets.

ASBURY PARK PRESS, Neptune, NJ

6/93-7/95

State House reporter for capital bureau. Stories included award-winning series on sex offender notification reported from Washington state in advance of adoption of New Jersey's Megan's Law.

PHILADELPHIA BUSINESS JOURNAL, Philadelphia, PA

6/90-7/95

Creator and author of "Trenton Report" column, analyzing New Jersey issues.

THE TRENTON TIMES, Trenton, NJ

1/85-6/93

General Assignment Reporter, State House Reporter & Columnist: Covered a variety of stories, from general city news to state politics for the leading capital city daily. Broke story of millions of dollars in state department's overspending due to limited oversight and no-bid contracts.

THE SMITHTOWN NEWS, Smithtown, NY

6/83-12/84

General Assignment Reporter: Coverage of general news, features and town government for the flagship newspaper in a chain of North Shore weeklies.

Documentaries

- “Protecting Our Ports” 2005
Examined vulnerabilities of ports in The Netherlands and New York /New Jersey.
- “Education Exchange” 2000
Reported from China on a New Jersey university’s efforts to strengthen academic ties with the up and coming world economic powerhouse.

Awards

- National CINE Award, Securing Our Ports, USA and The Netherlands –
Writer/Producer/Host 2005
- Emmy Nomination, Mid-Atlantic Region, Outstanding Public Affairs Series 2005
- Emmy Nomination, Mid-Atlantic Region, Outstanding Single News Broadcast 2005
- Emmy Award, Mid-Atlantic Region for Outstanding Single News Broadcast 2003
- Emmy Award, Mid-Atlantic Region for Outstanding Single News Broadcast 1996
- 1st Place Enterprise Reporting Television, Philadelphia Press Association 2002
- 1st Place Interpretive Reporting, Gubernatorial Campaign, Asbury Park Press, State
House bureau, New Jersey Press Association. 1993
- 1st Place Investigative Reporting, Society of Professional Journalists, New Jersey
Chapter 1990
- 2nd Place Reporting Under Pressure Deadline, Society of Professional Journalists 1986
- James Murphy Memorial Cub Reporter of the Year, Society of Professional Journalists,
Press Association of Long Island Chapter 1984

Education

- Bachelor of Arts Degree, Marshall University, Huntington, WV. 1983
- Associates Degree, Suffolk County Community College, Long Island, NY. 1981

References available upon request.