

ADAM MELLION

adam.mellion@gmail.com

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison	2022
M.A., Library and Information Studies	Madison, WI
Georgetown University	2011
M.A., Conflict Resolution	Washington, DC
University of Rhode Island	2007
B.A., Political Science	Kingston, RI

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Researcher & Fact-Checker 2018 – Present
Investigative Research Minneapolis, MN

- Provide investigative research support to documentary filmmakers and podcasts, including issue research; background investigations; locating contacts; acquiring primary/secondary documents; locating archival audio/video assets; managing content databases; and writing, editing, and fact-checking scripts
- Research methods include acquiring documents through FOIA and state-level public records laws, navigating court systems and PACER; special collections and archives research, social media analysis, opposition research, genealogical research, internet archive searches, and synthesizing research via memos and spreadsheets
- Clients include documentary film directors Laura Poitras (*All the Beauty and the Bloodshed*; *Terror Contagion*), David Osit, and Liza Mandelup; and podcasts *Underunderstood* and *The Genealogy Detective*

Last 5 Percent Media 2018 – Present
Director of Research Minneapolis, MN

- Helped developed more than two dozen non-fiction podcasts including HILLSIDE, OPPO FILE, and several series in development on censorship, unsolved murders and other true crime cases, 20th century political history, Hollywood scandals, and non-fiction stories of general cultural interest
- Support production team with research, storyboarding, episode outlines, writing and editing, fact checking, and developing pitch decks for potential buyers
- Develop and manage all pre-production research including backgrounders on subjects, historical news analysis, legal and archival research, and locating contact information of potential sources
- Provided on-going research support for Peacock's four-part docuseries adaptation of the HILLSIDE podcast, "Hillside Strangler: Devil in Disguise" (August 2022)

Forward Observer 2012 – 2018
Senior Research Analyst Sacramento, CA/Minneapolis, MN

- Provided research and project management support for California public policy campaigns on issues including healthcare, groundwater management, energy policy, state parks management, and election/legislation monitoring
- Supported client teams, lobbyists, and coalitions with issue and stakeholder research including issue briefs, reports, opposition research, and backgrounders; provided content for websites and social media
- Helped extend a state partnership with hospitals to provide over \$3B annually to support Medicaid and children's health programs; helped pass the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (2014) and a \$7.5B water bond

SKILLS

Proficient with LexisNexis/Nexis Public Records; acquiring documents through FOIA and state-level public records laws; PACER and state court records databases, archival and special collections research; internet archive searches; skip tracing; historical newspaper research; genealogical research; and MS Office Suite, Google Drive/Docs.