

# **JILL KONOPKA**

## **COMMUNICATIONS EXPERT**



## COMMUNICATIONS EXPERT:

Eager, enthusiastic, effective communications and media professional with a strong network of relationships across NYS and the nation. 22 years of broadcast journalism experience in New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Boston. Experienced expert interviewer, writer, and public speaker who can manage multiple projects under strict deadlines.

## EDUCATION:

Central CT. State University M.S.  
Organizational Comm. 2012  
SUNY Geneseo B.A. Comm. Minors:  
Sociology/Public Relations 2002

## ACHIEVEMENTS/MEMBERSHIP

- CT SPJ Excellence in Journalism Awards: 2017 (In Depth Broadcast) 1st Place: "Donna Palomba Story" 2nd Place: (Local Reporting Broadcast) "Confessions of a Convicted Serial Killer" 2018: (Regional D Broadcast) 1st place (team) "At a Price! The high cost of local town living"
- Certified Spinning Instructor
- Finisher 18 Marathons
- Arthritis Foundation, Volunteer
- New England First Amendment Coalition Fellow, 2017
- Massachusetts Association for the Blind And Visually Impaired, Volunteer

## REFERENCES:

### SHEILA GOULD

Accounts Payable Office Mngr.  
NYS Senate  
518-281-2223  
[sheilagould@hotmail.com](mailto:sheilagould@hotmail.com)

### JESSICA SCHNEIDER

CNN Justice Correspondent  
518-542-7747  
[Jessicapharrison@gmail.com](mailto:Jessicapharrison@gmail.com)

### MARTIN MCBRIDE

Retired Supervisory Special Agent  
FBI-New Haven, Connecticut  
203-640-6120

### PATIENCE HETRICK

News Director Western Mass News  
860-977-7493  
[patience.hettrick@westernmassnews.com](mailto:patience.hettrick@westernmassnews.com)

## SENIOR COUNSELOR, PUBLIC AFFAIRS MOWER FEBRUARY 2022-PRESENT

**Public Relations and Public Affairs Across NYS and the nation. Organized more than 50 buildings across the U.S. to light up green for Arthritis Foundation 75th anniversary. Secured 55 broadcast media hits reaching 54 million people.**

## REPORTER/BOSTON 25 NEWS, BOSTON MA APRIL 2022 - PRESENT

## DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS/NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE CORPORATION OF AMERICA (NACA) JUNE 2021 - PRESENT

Oversee communications for nationwide non-profit. Establish national and local media connections. Update reporter databases in Microsoft Excel and on Meltwater. Oversee media relations for 47 NACA offices. Respond to daily reporter requests for information from print, radio and TV news outlets. Facilitate journalist interviews with NACA CEO and NACA members. Oversee creation and distribution of press releases. Plan and execute NACA's Boston/Atlanta Mayoral Candidates Affordable Housing Forums in August, September and October 2021. Develop social media strategies and manage three junior communication specialists into competent, self-starting team members.

## REPORTER/FOX 61 NEWS HARTFORD, CT. APRIL 2021 - JUNE 2021

Maintain constant contact with local law enforcement officials regarding drug busts, racially motivated hate crimes, gun and gang violence throughout the day, nights and on weekends. Gained better understanding of the issues impacting communities across Connecticut to help inform the public. Coordinated on camera interviews with police as well as federal, state and local lawmakers.

## REPORTER/ANCHOR WNYT NEWS CHANNEL 13, ALBANY, NY. NOVEMBER 2018 - DECEMBER 2020

Solo anchored and co-wrote two-hour weekend morning newscast. Built relationships with law enforcement partners to clearly communicate roles and responsibilities to the public. Conducted on camera interviews with David Zon, the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the DEA in Albany including for National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Met multiple daily deadlines under tight time constraints in high pressure situations. During non-work hours, completed the Albany Police Department Citizens Academy in 2019. Invited exclusively by the FBI in Albany to report on a child pornography investigation leading to one arrest. Reported for TV broadcasts, online web articles and multiple social media platforms to build positive brand awareness.

## INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER NBC CONNECTICUT, WEST HARTFORD, CT. DECEMBER 2015 - NOVEMBER 2018

Helped communicate mission of the DEA in New Haven reporting extensively on the synthetic cannabinoid overdoses in August 2018. Conducted on camera interviews with then ASAC of the NH District Office; Brian Boyle to inform the public about the dangers of said chemicals produced in China, shipped and sold in the states. Highlighted the interception of a major DEA cocaine bust ending with 17 arrests including a United States Postal Service employee in July of 2017. Spent time off completing the FBI New Haven Citizens Academy in 2014 as well as the West Hartford Police Department Citizens Academy in 2016 to develop and maintain important law enforcement relationships for purposes of informing the public of important assignments to keep communities safe.