

# Stephen Paulsen

 stephentpaulsen

[www.stephenpaulsen.com](http://www.stephenpaulsen.com)

---

## WHAT I'M DOING NOW:

---

**Reporter, *The Big Bend Sentinel* and *El Internacional***, Marfa, Tex. *August 2019—*  
City and county. Schools. Crime and courts. Society and environment. Longer investigative and narrative pieces. COVID-19 PSAs, investigative stories, online updates. Broke news on local fracking operation and sexual-assault allegations against Jeff Leach, a prominent local hotelier and diet/gut researcher.

---

## WHAT I DID BEFORE THAT:

---

**Freelance reporter, Various titles**, Houston, Tex. *July 2016—December 2019*  
For **Grist**, floods in Houston. Writing and fact-checking for "Grist 50." For **Texas Observer**, investigation on due-process issues for undocumented people in Harris County, Tex. Medical cannabis for veterans and homeless-feeding ordinances. For **Cannabis Wire**, investigation on ancillary cannabis industry. Coverage of Southern cannabis politics/policy. For **Houston Chronicle**, guest-editor of "Morning Report" newsletter. Temporary coverage for night-cops beat. Breaking-news coverage on mattress-store murders, famous doctor shot by cyclist, other prominent crimes and deaths. Narrative piece on Natalie Romero, Charlottesville attack victim from Houston. Food feature on "strange saga of the Antone's po' boy." Coverage at exurban affiliate paper **The Courier**, including feral hog issues. For **The Daily Beast**, aftermath of Santa Fe shooting and coverage of Hurricane Harvey, including Trump visit. Breaking story on previous violations re: Arkema chemical plant explosion. For **Texas Monthly**, Xmas decorations for the ultrarich. For **Houston Press**, cover story on rollout of Texas medical cannabis program. Pierce Skypark, trailer-park evictions and post-worker dog-bite stats. Local news and state cannabis politics/policy. For **Mother Jones**, food insecurity in gentrifying neighborhoods. For **Leafly**, Southern cannabis politics and culture. Features on rebel cop and CBD underground. For **Eater Houston**, local restaurant news and food guides.

**Legal wire reporter, Westlaw (Thomson Reuters)**, Portland, Ore. *April 2013—May 2015*  
Incoming lawsuits at Multnomah and Washington county courthouses in Portland metro area through contractor **Legal Eagle**. 5-15 daily blurbs on cases. Discrimination, false arrest, timber trespass, unseaworthiness, fraud, etc.

---

## EDUCATION

---

**Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism**, New York, N.Y. *May 2016*  
M.S. Journalism. Honors for master's project on gun violence, "Ghosts along Tiebout Avenue." Renovation of Penn Station, autism throughout history, mortuary shipping industry, local news coverage. Courses on narrative and journalism of ideas. Audio class and optional investigative skills class.

**Reed College**, Portland, Ore. *May 2012*  
B.A. Linguistics. Thesis on verbs and sentence structure across language groups. Three years of Islamic faith, history and politics. Two years of Mandarin, one semester of Classical Chinese texts.