Emily Alvarenga

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Skills

- Conversant in English, Spanish and Portuguese
- Demonstrates strong judgment and attention to detail in communications strategies
- Develops and pitches innovative story angles and ideas to engage target audiences
- Creates multimedia packages, including videos, stills, text and infographics
- Works well under pressure in a fast-paced environment
- Highly motivated with an outgoing and upbeat attitude
- Confident producing a variety of content under tight deadlines
- Versatile writer adept at creating engaging content tailored for diverse media platforms
- Proficient in HTML and CSS coding and graphic design using Adobe Creative Cloud
- Utilizes social media and SEO analytical tools to enhance content

Experience

The San Diego Union-Tribune, Reporter II **January 2022-Present**

- County government reporter responsible for comprehensive coverage of politics, policy and community issues across the San Diego region for its largest media company
- Former community reporter dedicated to highlighting issues impacting underserved populations

The Santa Clarita Valley Signal, Senior Staff Writer **February 2019-January 2022**

- Santa Clarita's No. 1 source for local and breaking news
- Wrote as many as 3,000 words per day on deadline for the daily paper
- As a senior staffer, also read and edited page proofs before daily publication
- Various coverage — ranging from stories on an "unauthorized" ballot box, butterfly migration and at the scene of large brush fires — picked up by national news outlets, such as Associated Press, CBS, Yahoo, Deadline and more

Stars and Stripes Europe, Contributing Writer **October 2017-February 2019**

- Wrote primarily travel stories and guides for the U.S. military's independent news organization
- Many stories — such as a guide on driving to France from the UK and traveling around Iceland — were featured on the organization's homepage

CBS News 8, Intern **January 2017-June 2017**

- Ranked No. 1 broadcast news station in San Diego
- Produced weather and traffic for on-air morning broadcasts
- Wrote scripts and edited videos on deadline without edits for on-air evening broadcasts
- Researched story ideas, retrieved video and assisted in the control room to bring the news to viewers

The Daily Aztec, Staff Columnist **August 2013-June 2017**

- San Diego State University's school newspaper
- Housing ordinance article was the top trending story for two weeks
- Sexual assault article resulted in additional mandatory sexual awareness training for students
- Skateboarding article caused the ban to be lifted, allowing skateboards in the bike lane

Voice of San Diego, Guest Columnist **October 2016**

- Covered Politifest, an annual summit hosted by the nonprofit news organization that focuses on educating voters about the upcoming election

Trident Media, Contributing Writer **July 2015-August 2016**

- Wrote for the school newspaper and magazine while studying journalism at the University of Hertfordshire in London, England, for a full academic year
- Christmas as an international student article nominated for "Best Features Piece" award
- Christmas: Then vs. now article republished in the UK's Student Publication Association

Education

San Diego State University **Graduated May 2017**

- Graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism and minor in television, film and media
- Peer advisor for the School of Journalism & Media Studies

Professional Associations & Awards

- Member of the Society of Professional Journalists
- Member of the Investigative Reporters and Editors
- 2024 SPJ San Diego award recipient for coverage of a state housing law's local impact