

JAMES SEARS

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(708) 717-9406 JamesSears25@yahoo.com

Watch my reel: [youtube.com/JamesSearsAK](https://www.youtube.com/JamesSearsAK)

EXPERIENCE

Oct 2019 - Present

WGN Radio AM 720, Nexstar, Chicago, IL - News Anchor

Anchor and Produce multiple live newscasts every half hour.

Write news stories and use relevant sound from WGN-TV and ABC Radio.

Provide weather, traffic, and sports updates.

Monitor local media and wires for latest on breaking and developing stories.

Sep 2016 - Sep 2019

WHBF-TV, Nexstar (CBS), Rock Island, IL - Anchor / Reporter

Anchor two Live evening newscasts daily on Local CBS 4 News and FOX 18 News.

Previously, anchored four-hour morning show, and six weekend newscasts.

Work with photographer to create daily news and feature reports, and weekly franchise packages.

Conduct interviews Live in-studio and via phone and satellite.

Engage viewers on social media platforms before, during, and after the newscast.

Post web stories and video.

Host and attend company's promotional and sponsored events, and front commercials.

Dec 2009 - Sep 2016

WGN-TV, Tribune Co. (IND), Chicago, IL - Supervising News Producer

Produce 4am Weekday newscast using resources of the Tribune Company, AP, CNN and online media.

Previously, produced WGN Weekend Morning newscast, and weekday Live and taped on sister station, CLTV.

Write news copy and promos for Anchors and Reporters using OPUS, wires and CNN Newsource.

Apr 2007 - Aug 2009

KIMO-TV, Smith Media (ABC), Anchorage, AK - News Anchor / Reporter / Producer

Solo Anchor and Produce the 10pm Live newscast and conduct Live interviews.

Work with photographer in field to create daily news reports and feature packages.

Assume responsibilities of News Director, and lead morning editorial meetings.

Feb 2004 - Mar 2007

WBBM-TV (CBS O&O), Chicago, IL - Field Producer / Assignment Editor

Field Produce and report breakers with Live reporters and solo.

Assist in coverage of Live parades and Talkbacks.

Plan the day's assignments and assign crews to stories.

Coordinate details between affiliates.

EDUCATION

Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL

Major - Broadcast Journalism – Television, Graduated January 2004

AWARDS

* Midwest Emmy Win: Breaking/Spot News: Blue Line Subway Derailment, 2006 (CBS 2 Chicago).

* Midwest Emmy Nomination: Breaking/Spot News: Pilgrim Baptist Church Fire, 2006 (CBS 2 Chicago).

* Midwest Emmy Nomination: Breaking/Spot News: Elmwood Park Train Accident, 2006 (CBS 2 Chicago).

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* Natl Academy of TV Arts & Sciences Chicago/Midwest Chapter Nomination: Blizzard of 2011, (WGN-TV)