

Tovin Lapan covers the Latino community and immigration issues for the Las Vegas Sun. After working for his college paper, Lapan started his professional career in Guadalajara, Mexico, where he fell in love with the variety and excitement of working in daily journalism as well as with a sandwich called the torta ahogada. He came to the Las Vegas Sun from the Santa Cruz Sentinel, where he covered higher education, city government and immigration. Prior to Santa Cruz, Lapan was on staff at the San Diego Union-Tribune, Miami New Times and Naples Daily News and worked as a freelance journalist for numerous publications. He has reported extensively in Latin America, including Colombia, Argentina, Bolivia and Mexico, and holds masters degrees in journalism and Latin American Studies from UC Berkeley.



Jackie Valley is a crime and courts reporter for the Las Vegas Sun. She has lived in northwest Indiana, South Carolina, Cleveland and Dayton, Ohio. A Cleveland girl at heart, she graduated from Kent State University, where she was the student newspaper editor. She completed a Dow Jones copy editing internship at the Virginian-Pilot in summer 2009 and a year later joined the Sun, where she covers crime and courts.



Jon Ralston is the ultimate example of a journalist who has adapted to changing times and multiple platforms. Ralston came to Las Vegas in 1984 as a night reporter for the Las Vegas Review-Journal. He later covered general assignment and county government before becoming a political reporter in 1986. Jon became a full-time political columnist in January 1989. Jon began publishing The Ralston Report, a statewide political newsletter, in January 1993. Until late 1999, he was freelancing columns to the Review Journal and doing commentary for Channel 8. In July 1998, he began a daily newsletter sent by e-mail to subscribers. In December 1999, Ralston sold his newsletter and signed an agreement to work for the Greenspun Media Group. He now heads up a daily e-mail publication and hosts a daily public affairs show on KSNV Channel 3 called Face to Face with Jon Ralston. In 2000, he had a book published on Nevada politics published called The Anointed One. He has been named seven times as Best Non-Staff Columnist from the Nevada State Press Association. He has won two Electronic Media



Awards for "Face to Face."

James Wright is deputy editor of The Review-Journal in Las Vegas. Before joining the Review-Journal as an assistant city editor in July 2010, Wright, 55, was editor of the Twin Falls, Idaho, Times-News; an international media management consultant in North Africa; assistant managing editor of the Albany (N.Y.) Times Union; assistant metro editor of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer; and business editor of the Colorado Springs Gazette.



An Oregon native, Wright received a degree in journalism from the University of Idaho in 1980 and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Colorado in 1990.

Mark A. Hinueber is Vice President and General Counsel of Stephens Media LLC, which publishes daily and weekly newspapers from North Carolina to Hawaii, including The Las Vegas Review-Journal. He also is the company's director of Human Resources. He graduated from the John Marshall Law School, Chicago. Mark is admitted to the bars of Illinois, California, Arkansas and Nevada. He was previously Legal Counsel for Scripps League newspapers, now part of Lee Newspapers.



Patty Talahongva is a reporter for North Central News in Phoenix, and a freelance multi-media journalist. She has freelanced for CBS News, KUYI-FM, and Native Peoples Magazine. She also has worked as a newscast producer for KTVK-TV and KSAZ-TV, both in Phoenix. Her on-air experience includes hosting an hour-long, live, call-in radio program and co-anchoring a national public affairs show on PBS. Patty is a past president of the Native American Journalists Association.

