

00:11:25 SPJ Georgia: Hi everyone! SPJ Georgia president Nicolle Sartain here – if you have any questions please let me know – you may DM me if you do not wish to have your question publicly announced

00:13:01 SPJ Georgia: Thank you Jerry – as a Georgia news director specifically we are so glad to have you!

00:19:04 Sue Calberg: One of our MMJs just got chased from a fire scene by an angry man who threatened to turn his dog out. Right. Now. Right. Now.

00:21:29 Jerry Goodman: Thank you, Nicolle!

00:24:39 Matthew Bowler: what kind of real training do field crews get that inform the decision to stay or leave etc?

00:26:32 Joe Douglass: I've discovered OSHA has no specific standards for multimedia journalists (aka solo reporters) or the media industry in general. The agency also has no data on MMJs and won't study the issue despite calls for change after Tori Yorgey was hit by an SUV on live TV.

More:

<https://discrepancyreport.com/osha-staff-launched-investigation-after-seeing-reporter-hit-by-suv-on-tv-exposing-regulatory-blind-spot/>

00:28:17 Sue Calberg: I try not to complain. I suggest solutions.

00:28:19 Maricarmen Cajahuaringa: I want to highlight that big corporations are also hiring reporters to do public relations and marketing jobs that require them to go out alone and do stories as MMJ's. Is there a way to extend these concerns to those departments as well? I'm speaking about TV magazine shows that are not managed by newsrooms but by marketing and sales.

00:29:48 Joe Douglass: The Union Membership and Coverage Database estimates 6.7 percent of news analysts, reporters, and journalists are union members. That includes broadcast, print, and digital reporters.

00:41:05 Mark Woolsey: Cross-training and telling people to leave if they're not comfortable are good steps. I'm curious as to whether some shops have considered sending a second person—a "spotter", if you will, as a second set of eyes, particularly for when an MMJ is looking into the camera. That's when they're most vulnerable. It wouldn't have to be a journalist.

00:46:30 Sue Calberg: Barriers. Use a concrete barrier. Utility pole. Something. Anything. Don't go to places that have proven to be dangerous.

00:47:13 Matthew Bowler: protocols should not be used as a replacement for real training.

00:52:22 Sue Calberg: I have been threatened by drug dealers twice. "Leave now or you could get shot. You are interfering with our business."

00:53:23 Joe Douglass: As someone who worked in TV news for 16+ years in major markets as a producer and reporter, I recommend sending an email to raise your concerns. Make it professional and courteous and send it to multiple people at once. That way your concerns are documented.

Often stations have a "producer" mailing list or "assignment desk" or management mailing list/Slack channel. Putting your concerns in writing there can help a lot.

00:53:52 Joe Douglass: And forward the email to your personal email address.

00:55:23 Jade Jackson: I've had a trusted police contact tell me things are usually domestic and I should be okay in certain neighborhoods. It's just been scary when I've come face to face to family members of alleged suspects for crime stories

00:56:17 Sue Calberg: Where life safety is concerned, I don't see competition. I have no problem telling other journalists my concerns for their safety.

01:05:24 Catherine Brown: I am hearing that newsroom manager training is important – with or without a union in place. As a 40 year career broadcast journalist, I found managers who were not aware of the importance of listening and learning that as a manager the employee is the most valuable asset/focus.

01:05:44 Jade Jackson: Question: I never took my safety seriously until I recently had a guy shoot a gun during my interview with a family outside. My team would always ask me "Are you okay?" but before I would say yes and they're use to me being the one that's okay so I'm the go to girl for breaking news. Where do I start to bring up my concerns now?

01:06:09 Jade Jackson: I work for THV 11 in Little Rock

01:07:21 Matthew Bowler: if being shot is a concern then do field crews get training on CAT tourniquet application? Do you give ballistic vest? Helmets?

01:07:34 Sue Calberg: Jade Jackson send me an email: scalberg@kens5.com

01:07:51 Matthew Bowler: Hostel environment awareness training?

01:08:10 Joe Douglass: Should this all be voluntary? What should employers be required to do? The overwhelming majority of MMJs are not unionized. Many work in small markets for low wages. How can the solution only be telling them to "have a talk" about safety?

01:14:30 Sue Calberg: Also? Read your corporate ethics policy. The TEGNA policy includes points about best practices that could be applied to a number of these challenges.

01:19:21 Joe Douglass: Which insurance companies cover TV stations?

01:19:49 Sue Calberg: We had a truck op knocked out cold, physically punched out, on the front plaza of police headquarters.

01:23:42 Joe Douglass: It's great that SPJ is having these meetings. Very courageous and important.

01:27:36 Sue Calberg: More. Than. Once. You have to say stuff WAY more than once.

01:27:58 Tanya Modersitzki: ALWAYS send an email for documentation like Sherry said.

01:28:51 Joe Douglass: Email several people at one. Email the "producer" or "assignment desk" or "manager" email list or slack channel and then forward the email to yourself.

01:31:32 Joe Douglass: OSHA rules and accountability are needed.

01:34:39 sherry darden: Ask them to see the world through your lense!  
01:34:49 Catherine Brown: Managing Up! Managers can and should learn from employees.  
01:35:11 Daniela Ibarra: Great panel – thank you all for your insight!  
01:35:41 CAROLINA Cruz: Is a recording of this conversation/panel will be shared somewhere? so I can share wt others?  
01:35:47 Joe Douglass: Thanks for having this!