

Theo Francis

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Award-winning investigative and financial journalist specializing in uncovering and explaining complex corporate, regulatory, legal and policy issues. I've worked for newspapers large and small, newsmagazines and online outlets, and I've covered retirement, healthcare, regulation, politics, agriculture, labor and more.

EXPERIENCE

- November 2013 – present* **The Wall Street Journal, senior writer**, Washington, D.C.
Covering corporate behavior across industries, pay, disclosure & more.
- January 2012 – present* **University of Maryland Philip Merrill College of Journalism, adjunct lecturer**
- September 2012 – October 2013* **Disclosure Matters LLC, principal**
Launched & ran independent research, training & freelance writing business.
- March 2010 – October 2013* **footnoted, senior reporter**
Analyzed & wrote about public-company filings for *footnoted.com* & its *footnotedPro* subscription service for professional investors. Led major business-plan overhaul, built online tools with PHP & MySQL. Part of Morningstar Inc. until September 2012.
- December 2009 – March 2010* **Bloomberg News, regulatory reporter**, Washington, D.C.
Covered housing & derivatives regulation after Bloomberg acquired *BusinessWeek*.
- August 2008 – December 2009* **BusinessWeek, correspondent**, Washington, D.C.
Covered business & financial regulation for D.C. bureau, including 2008 election & government response to the financial crisis & recession; wrote a mix of analytic online daily stories & more in-depth magazine pieces. Helped create widely read DC-bureau blog. Appeared regularly in web video segments & occasionally on cable news shows.
- September 2000 – August 2008* **The Wall Street Journal, staff writer**, New York
Covered health care, pensions, employee benefits & executive pay issues. Wrote investigative, explanatory & personal-finance articles, spot news, industry trends & more; shot video & helped develop online & print graphics. Also covered life & property-casualty insurance, hospitals, mutual funds & stock-market investing.
- October 1998 – September 2000* **Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, business writer**, Little Rock, Arkansas
Wrote investigative stories on tight deadlines, on healthcare, development & more.
- June 1997 – October 1998* **Daily Record, municipal reporter**, Morris County, New Jersey
- January 1996 – August 1996* **Publication Services Inc., technical production support assistant**, Champaign, Illinois
- January 1995 – January 1996* **Petersburg Pilot, reporter-photographer**, Petersburg, Alaska

EDUCATION

- May 1997* **Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism**
Master of Science in Journalism, with honors
- May 1994* **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Communications**
Bachelor of Science in Journalism, news-editorial

SELECTED AWARDS

Pulitzer Prize in explanatory reporting (2003) for coverage of corporate scandals (team)

George Polk Awards: financial reporting (2003)[†] for series on 'janitor's insurance'; **economics reporting (2005)**[†] for series on retiree health benefits

New York Press Club award (2004) for **business reporting** for "Hidden Roots of the Pension Crisis."[†]

William Brewster Styles Award (National Journalism Awards), Scripps-Howard Foundation, for **Business/Economics Reporting (2005)**[†] for retiree-health articles

Loeb Awards, UCLA Anderson School of Business: deadline writing (2004) for "The Day Grasso Quit as NYSE Chief" (team); **beat writing (2005)**[†], for "The Short Life of 'Lifetime' Health-Care Benefits"; also, **finalist for beat-reporting (2004) & deadline (2005)** awards

Jack Newfield Award for Excellence in Investigative Reporting, Friends & Relatives of the Institutionalized Aged (2009), for article on nursing-home evictions

Clarion Award for Newspaper Investigative Series (2009), Association for Women in Communications, for articles on executive pensions and Social Security[†]

[†] With Ellen E. Schultz