

ABSTRACT

THESIS: Factors that Diminish or Exacerbate Traumatic Stress in Practicing Journalists

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Journalists are on the frontline for reporting on their communities, serving as both first responders and eyewitnesses to violent news events. These events can have a lasting effect on the reporter long after their stories are filed, and they have returned to their newsrooms. Reporting on traumatic events can have a wide range of mental health effects on reporters that newsrooms have not been able to adequately address due to a multitude of reasons. This qualitative study used a series of in-depth interviews with fourteen journalists across the country ($n = 14$) to increase the narrative around journalists' relationship with trauma and identify what resources they feel would help address the problem of traumatic stress.