

Chance McElhaney

chancemcelhaney54@gmail.com 319-290-6274 [@chancemcelhaney](https://www.instagram.com/chancemcelhaney) 4419 NE Trilein Drive, Ankeny, IA 50021

Experience

IOWA SECRETARY OF STATE MATT SCHULTZ (R-IA)
Communications Director/Spokesman

Des Moines, IA
July 2013 – Current

- Analyze issues and develop strategic solutions.
- Provide support and comment for national, state and local media.
- Increase the quality, quantity and reach of the messages of the Iowa Secretary of State's office.
- Cultivate relationships for Secretary Schultz with state and local media.
- Build Secretary Schultz's digital media strategy ensuring brand consistency.
- Synthesize new digital technology with conventional media to best provide Secretary Schultz's message to Iowans and the news media.
- Promote community engagement at Secretary Schultz's visits across Iowa.
- Monitor national, state and local media sources for coverage regarding Secretary Schultz and Iowa.
- Supervise the staff members and interns in Secretary Schultz's Capitol office.

UNITED STATES SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY (R-IA)
Deputy Press Secretary and Integrated Media Coordinator

Washington, DC
June 2010 – July 2013

- Managed communications department operating budget and negotiated with third party vendors to provide the best ROI possible and utilized new digital technology to help save taxpayer dollars.
- Served as project manager synthesizing new digital technology with conventional media to best provide Senator Grassley's message to Iowans and the news media by utilizing social media, Senator Grassley's website, audio and video conference calls, eNewsletters, postal mailings, tele-townhalls, etc.
- Developed Senator Grassley's digital media strategy ensuring Senator Grassley's brand consistency.
- Built relationships with leaders at Twitter, Facebook, Google and VYou to best utilize new digital features which included some beta testing for Twitter and VYou.
- Produced a bi-weekly HTML eNewsletter and managed the associated email lists.
- Wrote script, shot, edited, produced, and delivered video to website, press releases, and social media.
- Promoted community engagement at Senator Grassley's 99 town meetings across Iowa.
- Provided support and comment for national, state and local media.
- Monitored national, state and local media sources for coverage regarding Senator Grassley and Iowa.

Assistant Press Secretary

April 2008 – May 2010

- Managed Senator Grassley's website, developed new web related items, and managed web vendor from contract negotiations through completion of contract.
- Supervised eight press interns per year, utilizing their strengths to best help the press department.
- Wrote and distributed press releases to the news media and constituents.
- Scheduled a minimum of seven TV, radio, and print media interviews pitched by myself and requested by interviewers each week.

Staff Assistant

August 2007 – April 2008

- Answered constituent inquiries, managed front office operations and communicated constituent concerns to Senator Grassley.
- Drafted letters on transportation issues, Eagle Scout Awards and student correspondence.

Education

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA
Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration with an emphasis in Economics and Finance

Cedar Falls, IA
May 2007

Skills

Negotiation, media & public relations, communications, brand development, social media, management, Excel.

Interests

Social media, fantasy baseball, BBQ smoking/grilling, blogging, finding good deals and playing sports.