
Times Facts

Richard joined the *Times* in 1989 as a reporter in the Tampa bureau covering state courts. He later switched to editing, and held various roles before becoming national editor in 2004. As national editor, he helped shape the daily front page, oversaw the *Times* political coverage, and Washington bureau reporters. In 2005, Richard was selected to head up the *Times*' investigative projects team, and he oversees the newspaper's computer-assisted reporting efforts.

Talking Points

•Editing • Coaching writers

Education

Richard obtained his bachelor's degree in Russian studies from the University of California, Berkeley in 1976, and his master's degree in journalism from the University of Michigan in 1979.

Background

Richard started his professional career with police beat reporting for the now-defunct afternoon *Tampa Times* in 1979. There he also covered state courts, hospitals, and the emerging space shuttle program. In 1982, he joined the *Tampa Tribune* covering state and federal courts. Richard switched from reporting to editing in 1985. He joined the *St. Petersburg Times* in 1989 and returned to reporting.

Awards

As a reporter, Richard received the Green Eyeshade award from the Society of Professional Journalists, Southeast chapter, and the American Bar Association Silver Gavel award. Stories he has edited have received first place awards from the National Society of Professional Journalists, the National Education Writers Association; the Edward J. Meeman Award for environmental reporting; and the Joseph L. Brechner Freedom of Information Award. Richard was the editor for three reporters who each won the Paul Hansell Award for distinguished journalism from the Florida Society of Newspaper Editors.

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