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Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association Foundation announces winners of the A-Mark Prize for Investigative Journalism in Pennsylvania

HARRISBURG, Pa. (July 23, 2026) – The Pennsylvania NewsMedia Association Foundation, in partnership with the A-Mark Foundation, announced the winners of the A-Mark Prize for Investigative Journalism in Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh's Public Source took the first-place honors, with PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg, earning the second- and third-place honors.

The award recognizes and rewards outstanding investigative journalism in the commonwealth.

The cash prizes total up to \$15,000. First place honors include \$5,000 for the journalist(s) and \$2,500 for the news organization; second place, \$3,000 for the journalist(s) and \$1,500 for the news organization; and third place, \$2,000 for the journalists(s) and \$1,000 for the news organization.

The 2026 A-Mark award recipients are:

- First Place: Pittsburgh's Public Source – Investigative series tracking the Alcoa Mines Australia's Forests, by Quinn Glabicki & Jamie Wiggan.
- Second Place: PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg – "Death County, PA" series on deaths in the Dauphin County Prison System, by Joshua Vaughn.
- Third Place: PennLive/The Patriot-News, Harrisburg – Investigative series tracking the Dauphin County Commissioner's DUI, by Juliette Rihl, Joshua Vaughn, Jonathan Bergmueller & Jenna Wise.

Halle Stockton, Executive Director and Editor-In-Chief of Pittsburgh's Public Source said, "This award is a meaningful recognition of the ambition, persistence and care behind this investigation. I'm incredibly proud that Public Source can produce accountability journalism of this depth and scope to serve and inform the Pittsburgh region."

"Being recognized by A-Mark in just the second year of this prestigious award is a tremendous honor and a testament to the impact of our journalism." PennLive President, Burke Noel said. "This recognition speaks directly to the kind of work we strive to produce every day." He continued, "At its core, our mission, is holding those in power accountable, following taxpayer dollars and elevating voices that too often go unheard. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to A-Mark for supporting local journalism."

All entries were published between Jan. 1, 2025, and Dec. 31, 2025. The contest was open to all news media organizations based in Pennsylvania and their staff members, including newspapers, broadcast outlets and online news publications. Entries were judged by a committee of retired Pennsylvania news organization and broadcast journalists, representatives from the Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications at Penn State University and news media experts with the Alabama Press Association.

The winners will be honored at the Keystone Media Awards luncheon scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 8, 2026, at The Central Hotel & Conference Center in Harrisburg.

About PNA:

Founded in 1925, PNA is the nonprofit trade association for print and online news media in Pennsylvania. Its mission is to advance the business interests of Pennsylvania news media organizations and to promote the importance of a free and independent press.

About the PNA Foundation:

The PNA Foundation is an independent, nonprofit corporation organized as a public foundation. Its mission is to support the sustainability of local news through philanthropy and fundraising, training and recognition of professionals and student journalists.

About A-Mark Foundation:

A-Mark Foundation is a nonpartisan 501(c)(3) nonprofit incorporated in 1997. Initially, A-Mark made grants to various organizations, including ProCon.org, a website used by an estimated 20 million people annually. ProCon.org was acquired by Britannica.com in August 2020.

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