

Tom Athans

22928 Brookdale Boulevard
Saint Clair Shores, Michigan 48082
tomathans@gmail.com
586.918.0731

An accomplished media and government professional, recognized nationally for achievement in the broadcast media industry, the political arena as well as corporate America. Widely considered one of the co-architects of the current Progressive Talk Radio format in the United States.

Professional History

Chief Development Officer
NRM Streamcast
Farmington Hills, Michigan
August 2018 to Present

Oversee the program development of the NRM Streamcast network to develop and populate the network with premium content. NRM Streamcast is a startup multi-category digital entertainment network. Also assist the CEO with capital and business development, structuring internal network operations, and the development of an overall strategic plan for the company.

Executive Vice President of Public Affairs
Helicon Holdings
Detroit, Michigan
January 2008 to August 2018

Developed and oversaw corporate communications and government relations strategies for one of Detroit's most successful privately held multi-holdings companies. Represented the company and its Chief Executive Officer to local, state and federal elected officials and government agencies, as well as interacted with various news media outlets. Developed executed a strategy to navigate one of the company's politically unpopular subsidiaries through a complicated regulatory process that resulted in successfully obtaining federal and state approvals to commence business operations.

Executive Vice President

Air America Media

New York, New York

November 2005 to January 2008

Head of programming. Oversaw the development and syndication of programming, affiliate sales activity, and acted as a liaison between the company and the national political infrastructure. Co-developed and launched The Rachel Maddow Show and The Thom Hartmann Show into national radio syndication.

Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer

Democracy Radio

Washington, DC

September 2002 to November 2005

Created and implemented a national communications strategy in close coordination with the leadership of the United States Senate and U.S. House of Representatives to create greater political balance on America's talk radio airwaves. The resulting effort launched the national media careers of MSNBC anchor Ed Schultz, Stephanie Miller and Fox News Analyst Leslie Marshall, three of the nation's most successful progressive talk media personalities.

Communications Director

United States Senate

Washington, DC

January 2002 to September 2002

Developed long term communications strategy for the Democratic Leadership in the United States Senate. Coordinated and executed strategies with Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle and Majority Whip Harry Reid while working closely with various national political figures, the Democratic National Committee, the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee, and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, among others.

Congressional Communications Director

U.S. House of Representatives

Flint, Michigan & Washington, DC

January 1997 to January 2002

Acted as community relations and communications director for one of Michigan's senior Democratic U.S. House Members. Engaged in public relations activities within the Member's district while acting as the liaison to local media outlets.

Council President

Village of Oxford

Oxford, Michigan

January 1996 to March 2002

Responsible for the overall policy agenda of the Village Council while conducting administrative oversight of the village government. Served on the Planning Commission, the Police & Fire Commission, the Cable Commission, the Downtown Development Authority, Youth Assistance and the Rails to Trails Committee.

Education

Wayne State University

Detroit, Michigan

Bachelor of Science

Political Science

Oakland Community College

Royal Oak, Michigan

Associates of Applied Science

Political Science

Community College of the U.S. Air Force

Associates of Applied Science

Aerospace Studies

Military Service

Michigan Air National Guard

Staff Sergeant

January 1997 to March 2002

Air Force Paralegal

Recipient of the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal and the State of Michigan Broadsword Medal for Exemplary Service.

United States Air Force

Staff Sergeant

August 1986 to January 1997

Air Force Paralegal

Recipient of the Air Force Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal

Honorably Discharged in March 2002

Publications

The Huffington Post: Various articles at www.huffpost.com/author/tom-athans

Community Service

Founder/Chief Instructor

Champion Kids - Bushido Budokan Martial Arts Academy

Clinton Township, Michigan

April 2015 to Present

Champion Kids is a youth development program that provides low income and at-risk youth an opportunity to train in the martial arts for no cost in an effort to promote the development of important social and life skills and improve a child's overall self-confidence. Champion Kids goal is to create "champions of life" through martial arts training. Several kids in the program have won gold medals at the U.S. Karate Championships and the World Karate Championships, giving those kids a tremendous boost in self-esteem.