



Get to know Veda Morgan

Director of Engagement, Diversity & Opinion *The Courier Journal*

Veda Morgan hails from Sacramento, California. After getting her degree in Journalism from San Jose State University, she joined Gannett, the parent company of the *Courier Journal*, in 1988. She worked in Reno, Nevada for 6 years and then moved to Louisville in 1994 to take a position at the *Courier Journal* as a reporter. And, she's been there ever since.

Now a 26-year veteran of the CJ, she has successfully moved up the ranks--from reporter, to assignment editor, to senior editor. In 2007, Veda won the Best of Gannett Outstanding Achievement Award for Managers/Supervisors who have "excelled in their work, contributed to the greater good and exceeded expectations." She was also recognized in a 2018 Best of Gannett competition for creating an innovative approach to Opinion and "a model to emulate" that "introduces new voices and acquires new audiences."

In August 2020, she was promoted to her current position, Senior Director of Engagement, Diversity and Opinion. This newly created position came at a time when Louisville was reeling from Breonna Taylor's murder by the Louisville Metro Police Dept. Her new job is to "cover with depth and sophistication the important topics of race, diversity and inclusion," according to the CJ announcement.

This position is a perfect fit for Veda. In 2004, she directed an investigative project called "Justice Delayed, Justice Denied" about a stunning backlog of cases in the Bullitt County court system. The series led to the county getting another judge and

more prosecutors. It won multiple awards and spurred a larger investigation on delays in the court system that was a finalist for the 2004 Pulitzer Prize in Public Service.

In her new position, she directs coverage of race, diversity and inclusion, with an emphasis on coverage of the Breonna Taylor case. In March 2021, the *Courier Journal* hosted virtual community conversations, led by Veda, with panels of local politicians, community members, professors and government officials. The goal was to elicit tough conversations about systemic racism in Louisville, personal biases and what it means to be a Black person in today's society,

Thank you, Veda, for your dedication to our community and making sure Black voices in our city are heard.

Listen to the panel discussion The Roots & Reach of Systemic Racism (the video starts at 6:50 minute mark due to the technical difficulties experienced that evening):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m_TKT6_61Q

<https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/2020/08/19/veda-morgan-named-senior-director-engagement-diversity-opinion/3396920001/>