

Joseph Michael (Mike) Sledge

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Objective

I am seeking employment where I can continue to use my excellent communication and leadership skills which I have gained and polished during my work career. My strengths are: the ability to handle details while also seeing the big picture; to research and present results to team members, the public, and the media in a concise and understandable manner; and to adapt quickly to changing needs and demands. All of these skills have been extensively utilized while researching, writing, and marketing my book about what happens to members of the military once they are killed. I am passionately devoted to a balanced approach to environmental issues, and desire to put my skills, talents, and experience to work in this area.

Experience

1990-Present Mike Sledge, Writer Shreveport, LA

Free Lance Writer

- See attached list of publications, including *Soldier Dead: How We Recover, Identify, Bury, and Honor Our Military Fallen* (Columbia University Press, 2005)
- Embedded with the US Army Mortuary Affairs Co. in Baghdad, Iraq
- Worked with Public Affairs Officers in various military branches/locations
- Designed writer/author web page www.mikesledge.com
- Started blog site www.mikesledge.blogspot.com
- Implemented marketing plan for publications
- Wrote op-eds for print and on-line media
- Interviewed by print, on-line, radio, and TV media persons
- Conducted interviews in person and over phone; these interviews were often recorded
- Prepared press releases
- Familiar with most all Microsoft Office programs
- Well-trained with video and audio equipment

2004-Present Mike Sledge, Investment Advisor Shreveport, LA

Investment Representative

- Sold CPA firm to have more time for writing...continued Investment work

1988-2004 J. Michael Sledge, CPA/PFS Shreveport, LA

Proprietor of CPA firm AND Investment Representative

- Acquired Insurance and Investment Licenses
- Continued CPA firm work.
- Added investment analysis, placement, and review
- Handled tens of millions of dollars in investment products
- Investment work consisted of analyzing client risk profiles, attitudes, and financial needs/assets in order to recommend, implement, and follow up on investment and insurance products which were utilized to help client reach and maintain their goals
- Supervised office staff that maintained compliance files
- Designed and produced informational products (brochures, pamphlets, newsletters) that were used for client communications
- Recruited and trained other CPAs to be investment and insurance representatives

1981-1988

J. Michael Sledge, CPA

Shreveport, LA

Proprietor of CPA firm

- Prepared individual, business, and fiduciary tax returns
- Prepared financial statements and related analyses for clients, both personal and business
- Assisted with Buy-sell analysis and negotiations for purchase and financing of client transactions in which they either bought or sold a business
- Gave expert witness testimony in forensic accounting matters
- Gave expert witness testimony in federal tax court
- Collected data and prepared reports for Bankruptcy Court
- Performed analyses and reports as an expert witness in personal injury cases
- Supervised an office of assistant, bookkeeper, and Certified Public Accountants
- Wrote various manuals and articles for those in the Accounting/Finance fields. (See publications)
- Taught classes for CPAs who were interested in investment planning
- Planned, implemented, and conducted seminars for the public to inform them of tax and financial matters

1980-1981

Heritage Federal S&L

Bossier City, LA

President

- Oversaw all operations of savings and loans with hundreds of millions of dollars of assets
- Managed all departments, including Human Resources,

Loan Origination, Loan Servicing, Marketing, Teller Operations, Accounting, and Treasury

- Oversaw merger with larger S&L during time of disintermediation and government oversight
- Handled Public Relations for the company, including initiating media contacts
- Participated in advertising design and implementation, some of which were directed toward informing the public of our compliance with the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA)

1978-1980

Heritage Federal S&L

Bossier City, LA

Comptroller

- Prepared detailed accounting for all operations
- Ran internal control system
- Managed cash flow, including deposits, loans, sale of loans, purchase and sale of other investments
- Prepared statements and reports for the Board of Directors, regulatory oversight bodies
- Managed cash operations, including determination of loan and savings rates

1976-1978

WKM Wellhead Systems

Shreveport, LA

Plant Accountant

- Designed and installed new cost account system
- Managed department of 18 employees
- Directed and oversaw count for inventory of 20+ million dollars
- Prepared buy-lease analyses to assist management in deciding whether to buy or lease multi-million dollar cost equipment
- Assisted plant manager with not only the accumulation of proposed budget figures from department heads, but also negotiated on manager's behalf with those managers regarding their budget requests
- Prepared financial statements which compared budget to actual figures

1975-1976

WKM Wellhead Systems

Shreveport, LA

Corporate Accountant

- Installed accounting systems in local and branch plants. This entailed meeting with accountants and managers in remote locations in order to unify accounting policies procedures throughout the company

- Consolidated accounting reports from local and branch plants for corporate use
- Oversaw compliance with accounting policies
- Took acting position of Corporate Controller when position was vacated by superior

1974-1975 Roberts, Cherry, & Co. CPAs Shreveport, LA

Accountant

- Prepared financial statements and tax returns

1973-1974 Brydels and Evans, CPAs Baton Rouge, LA

Accounting Assistant

- Prepared client files for further processing by owners

1972-1973 Montgomery Ward Baton Rouge, LA

Department Manager

- Managed staff of five
- Ordered merchandise
- Participated in marketing programs

Education

1969-1972 Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA

- B.S., Psychology (primarily Industrial Psychology)

1973-1974 Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, LA

1974-1975 Louisiana State University Shreveport, LA

- Passed CPA exam in single sitting in 1975.

Various Study Courses

- Obtained Insurance and Securities Licenses

Interests

Avid cyclist, both mountain biking and road. Involved in programs introducing young children to cycling. Hiking, Harley trips, stage productions, and vast amounts of reading.

Publications: See attached list

References: See attached list

Mike Sledge Publications

May 2008 "Why Our Heroes Rest In Peace," *New York Daily News*

2007 "Why It Matters," Book Excerpt from *Soldier Dead: How We Recover, Identify, Bury, and Honor Our Military Fallen*, Special edition of *War, Literature & the Arts: An International Journal of the Humanities*

January 2006 "What Do You Do With Dead Soldiers?" Op-Ed for History News Network,

May 2005 *Soldier Dead: How We Recover, Identify, Bury, and Honor Our Military Fallen*, published by Columbia University Press.

November 2003 "First Stop for Fallen Soldiers," for the *Dallas Morning News*.

October 2003 "Military Honors Ongoing," for the *Bossier Tribune*.

February 2003 "U.S. Military Ponders Options for Handling War Dead" for the *Dallas Morning News*.

September 1999 Wrote *PFS Study Guide*, self-published study guide for CPAs

June 1999 "Flying Hands" Fiction Feature in *Portfolio Magazine*, Shreveport, LA

March 1999 "Hammerings" Fiction Feature in *Portfolio Magazine*, Shreveport, LA

December 1998 "I've Got The King Penguin Blues" Poetry Satire in *Portfolio Magazine*, Shreveport, LA

May 1998 *Lifetime Financial Planning*, self study manual for the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

May 1997 *Direct Participation Programs*, Securities self study manual for EXAMCO

1994 1st Place Winner of Shreveport Regional Arts Prose Award

January 1990 "In a Moment of Time" Fiction Feature in *Forum Magazine*, Shreveport, LA

Many editorials and op-eds for local paper...copies can be provided, some are on website www.mikesledge.com

Mike Sledge References

Larry Greer, Public Affairs officer, Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office.
(703) 901-3186 Larry.Greer@osd.mil

Jack Miles, Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for *God: A Biography*. 3568 E. Mountain View Ave., Pasadena, CA 91107

Peter Dimock, Editor for History, Political Science, and Middle East Studies, Columbia University Press. (212) 459-0600 pd304@columbia.edu

Paul Sledzik, NTSB/Office of Transportation Disaster Assistance. (202) 436-0860
paul.sledzik@ntsb.gov

Lt. Col. Paul Bethke (808) 438-0807 lsb525@aol.com

Albert Leger, CPA, Leger Financial Services. (318) 253-5660 al@albertleger.com

Peter Maguire, Author, former Professor of Law at Columbia University. (808) 372-3671 Pm122964@aol.com

General Harold G. Moore (ret), Author of *We Were Soldiers Once...and Young*.
(334) 887-3383

Dr. Adrienne Noe, Director, National Museum of Health and Medicine of the AFIP,
(202) 782-2692 noe@afip.osd.mil

Mitch Yockelson, Author of *Borrowed Soldiers: Americans Under British Command, 1918*. The National Archives, Modern Military Records Branch.
mitchell.yockelson@nara.gov