



GABRIELLE TORINA

BIOGRAPHY

GABRIELLE TORINA is a project manager, public relations liaison, and communication strategist who brings more than 15 years of experience in conceptualizing visions, executing a wide variety of communication intelligence, and doing so with scrupulous attention to detail. She blends her diverse experience working for organizations that represent the public, private, global, and non-profit sectors to provide a unique mosaic of valuable expertise.

In 2018, Torina joined the United States House of Representatives as a Constituent Advocate & Field Representative for the Honorable Congresswoman Cheri Bustos of Illinois' 17th District. In the Rockford district office, she is responsible for all communication and public relations functions, and she works as a bridge between constituents and the federal government helping them to resolve issues.

Prior to her work in Congress, Torina worked for United Technologies Aerospace Systems where she worked as a contract administrator for the NASA space shuttle Orion program team. There she was able to work alongside NASA for the Journey to Mars Expo at the Chicago Air and Water Show, in addition to being the project manager for the NASA Journey to Mars supplier appreciation event. Torina also co-led Women in Aerospace, an employee resource group with a membership of 500+. She created a communications strategy and fresh programming which significantly increased employee engagement and established nationally benchmarked practices. Additionally, Torina was assigned the role of project manager for a campus-wide event *Take Your Child To Work Day*, a 1,000 person initiative with 100 volunteers. Her expert leadership of this project awarded her the prestigious United Technologies Level 1 Award.

Her early career was spent at Landstar System Inc. where over the course of 10 years she worked in various sales and marketing roles. Torina prides herself on "creating social media content in the early 2000's when you didn't have anyone to copy from." As an owner-operator recruiter in the marketing department, she gained a variety of knowledge in trade show management, advertising, email campaigns, budgets, and marketing based on needs industry trends. Torina also was responsible for creating and facilitating online training programs.

Torina is deeply rooted in her Christian faith, community, and strives to be a champion for the development of others. She volunteers as a registrar with Laundry Love, a non-profit organization that helps low income families wash and dry their clothes. She is a volunteer and also serves on the board of the Wabongo Leadership Council, a 501c3 non-profit organization that focuses on providing strategic resources and building leadership capacity in the African American community. Additionally, she is a member of the City of Rockford Scholarship Committee, the Transform Rockford Regional Branding and Communication Council, the Transform Rockford Pop-Up Event Project Team, All Nations Worship Assembly Church of Chicago, IL, and the National Association of Black Journalists.

After a failed attempt to attend community college after high school, Torina graduated *summa cum laude* in 2017 with a degree in Communications Management from Judson University. She is also currently seeking a Master of Science in Communication degree at Northwestern University (expected 2019). Because of her non-traditional journey, she utilizes her testimony to encourage other adult learners to never give up on their future, and to always believe their life has greater promise.

Currently based in Rockford, IL, Torina hopes to continue sharing her gift of elegant communication to lead collaboration, foster relationships, elevate brands, and to never stop creating.



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BIOGRAPHY

GABRIELLE TORINA is a true testament to the saying: it is never too late to chase your dreams. After being un-considered for promotions, she was determined that education would no longer be a barrier in her success. Therefore, in 2017, Torina graduated *summa cum laude* with her Bachelor of Arts in Communications Management, and is currently enrolled at Northwestern University pursuing a Master of Science in Communication.

Torina works for the U.S. House of Representatives as a Constituent Advocate & Field Representative for Congresswoman Cheri Bustos of Illinois' 17th District. She is responsible for all communication and public relations functions, and she acts as a bridge between constituents and the federal government helping them to resolve issues. Torina also has over 15 years of experience in marketing and communication functions for Fortune 500 companies. Her prior work was with United Technologies as a Contract Administrator for the NASA space shuttle Orion program. She also worked 10 years in the transportation industry as a marketing specialist with Landstar System, Inc.

She is a volunteer and board member for the Wabongo Leadership Council, a non-profit organization that focuses on providing strategic resources and building leadership capacity in Rockford, IL's African American community. She also volunteers with Laundry Love as a laundry registrar who oversees washing clothes for low income families. She is a member of the City of Rockford Scholarship Committee, a member of the Transform Rockford Regional Branding and Communication Council, and serves on the Transform Rockford Pop-Up Event Project Planning Team. She is also a member of All Nations Worship Assembly Church in Chicago, IL and the National Association of Black Journalists.

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