



IRWA Staff Spotlight

In an effort to further increase transparency between IRWA Headquarters and the dedicated members of this Association, we are excited to introduce the **IRWA Staff Spotlight**. In each issue of Right of Way Magazine, a different staff member will introduce themselves and give some insight into their role at Headquarters.

Tell us a fun fact about yourself or something that might surprise us.

I'm convinced I saw a ghost at a cemetery when I was a kid. I'm obsessed with TV shows about the afterlife ... and Big Foot.



What is your name and your job title at IRWA Headquarters?

Nathan Cruzado — Course Program Coordinator

Tell us about your background and why you chose to work at IRWA.

I'm a college graduate from California State University, Long Beach and ended up at IRWA similarly to a lot of our members who work in right of way — I just kind of fell into it. I started as a temp helping our credentialing manager, Francis Vicente, as an assistant. After three months, my employment agency went out of business, so I was offered a job at IRWA full time.

How long have you been with Headquarters?

I've been with IRWA since January 2007.

Describe your role. What are your primary responsibilities?

I manage the course schedule of classes. I previously worked with developers and subject matter experts in updating course curriculum. I work with the International Professional Development Committee to oversee the education and credentialing program. I also work closely with the meeting & events coordinator to manage the annual IRWA International Conference.

How has your career grown since you first joined the team? What have you gained?

My role has always been centered on the education aspect of IRWA. I first started by assisting Francis; now I work directly with Chapter Education Chairs to schedule classes.

What are the best ways members can reach you?

Members can reach me by phone or email. I always try to respond the same day. Email is probably the best way to contact me.

What are some of the reasons members typically contact you?

Most members are familiar with me since whenever they take a class, they might need to interact with me either by phone or email. At conference, I'm able to connect with many members — that familiarity of putting a face to a name makes it natural for members to reach out.

What is your favorite part of working at IRWA?

I enjoy getting to know our members and watching them grow professionally.

What are some of your hobbies outside of work?

I don't really have many interesting hobbies. I think, like most people, I just like to relax with friends and family.

Where would you travel to for your dream vacation?

I wouldn't say I have a "dream vacation" because there are so many places to see. Maybe somewhere with a lot of nature where I can take a deep breath.

What is something on your bucket list?

Visit the wonders of the world. ✪