

## Author Bio: Rebecca Jean Downey

Rebecca Jean Downey is an award-winning writer with a journalism degree from Indiana University and a lifelong interest in criminal justice. She and her husband, Mike, now live in El Paso, Texas where she works as Assistant Director of Institutional Advancement at The University of Texas at El Paso.

During Rebecca's first job as a newspaper reporter, she was assigned to cover law enforcement agencies and the courts. With the help of two judges and area law enforcement officers, Rebecca garnered the expertise to cover criminal justice issues. Since then, Rebecca has free-lanced for national law enforcement publications.

The inspiration for her first novel, *The Middle Eye*, came from her interview with the late El Paso County Sheriff Leo Samaniego, who gave her access to both county jails and opened her eyes to the law enforcement challenges along the U.S.-Mexico border. During her research for the book, Rebecca was shocked to learn that 20,000 children go missing every year in Mexico, and that half of those wind up victims of child trafficking across the U.S. border. Rebecca Jean Downey hopes to encourage greater dialogue about this growing travesty among her readers.

Rebecca was inspired to write *Devil Eye* because of the gun trafficking scandal called Fast and Furious, which ended in the death of U.S. Border Patrol Agent, Brian Terry. She is hard at work on her third book, *Unbridled Eye*, during which she is investigating the infiltration of Mexico's drug cartels into America's horse racing industry.

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