

Kelly P. Kissel was appointed Arkansas news editor for The Associated Press in 1994 and in 2009 assumed responsibility for AP's Oklahoma news operations as well. He joined the AP in New Orleans in 1984 and, after a time in Mississippi, held AP correspondencies in West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Kissel has been involved in AP vote-count and election-night operations since working as the Iberville Parish, La., stringer in the 1982 mid-term elections. Since 1994, he has worked with election coordinators in construction of the Arkansas vote-tabulation database and also supervised AP's election night news coverage tasks he began in Oklahoma in 2010.