

Jeremy B. Back

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QA Leader | Web and Mobile Products | Building Teams and Release Quality

I am a QA leader with more than 10 years at BuzzFeed and HuffPost, helping teams ship web and mobile products with confidence. I grew QA from one engineer into a group of up to 8 direct reports, helped set our release standards, and managed a contractor program of up to 40 engineers, designers, and QA professionals across teams. Most recently I led the thinking behind two AI-assisted QA tools my team built, and I am preparing for the PMP exam.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BuzzFeed, Inc., New York, NY

April 2014 – August 2026

Senior Engineering Manager, Quality Assurance

I owned the QA roadmap for BuzzFeed.com, HuffPost.com, and a growing mobile portfolio of up to 8 apps at a time, both live in the App Store and in continued development, across iOS and Android.

- Managed a contractor program that went well beyond QA: up to 40 engineers, designers, and QA professionals across teams, with a multi-million dollar annual budget. Tracked headcount and allocation, planned capacity against the roadmap, and worked with Legal and Finance on SOWs and invoices.
- Grew QA from one engineer into a multi-team group, with up to 8 direct reports including employees and contractors, and supported the team through a lot of organizational change. Held regular 1-on-1s and created a separate performance review process for contract engineers.
- Moved QA from a final gate to an advocate for quality earlier in the process, joining roadmap planning so product and engineering knew what needed coverage. Fewer bugs reached late-stage QA, releases shipped faster, and quality metrics improved.
- Started the team on a simple checklist-based manual process so everyone worked the same way, then led our move into test automation across mobile and web, using Bitrise for builds and the LambdaTest device cloud for testing.
- Managed our QA tools and vendors. Saved more than \$130,000 by ending the test.io contract with little effect on coverage, renegotiated LambdaTest to cut costs by 25%, and avoided a 45% Bitrise price increase by finding build overages and changing our pipelines.
- Led the thinking behind two AI-assisted QA tools my team built through LLM prompting, so QA review would not slow PR merges. One wrote tests in a separate PR and the other reviewed code. Both ran on real production PRs while we kept tuning them, and the review tool caught security issues on its first pass.
- Rebuilt QA for the HuffPost apps, which had gone years without it, with manual and automated testing and a release process that tested before app store submission. Releases stopped needing rollbacks or pauses, and the rating rose from 2.20 to 3.75 in six months and now sits at 4.6.
- Built a prompt-driven AI agent in VS Code that used the BigQuery CLI to answer usage-data questions in plain language. It removed my wait on the Data team and let me update device and OS coverage maps, in and out of scope, much faster. Shared them with product, engineering, and the CTO.

MLB Advanced Media, Inc., New York, NY

October 2013 – April 2014

Mobile Quality Assurance Engineer, Fantasy & Baseball Products

- Wrote test plans, test cases, and exit criteria for mobile fantasy and baseball products on iOS, Android, BlackBerry, and Windows Phone, and coordinated QA through each development cycle.
- Worked with business owners to understand requirements and confirm the product behaved as expected. Kept the bug database and reported on defect trends.

ESPN, Inc., New York, NY

June 2008 – September 2013

Senior Quality Assurance Analyst, ESPN Mobile Properties

- Led QA from design through launch and beyond for several award-winning ESPN mobile products on iOS, Android, BlackBerry, and Windows Phone.
- Managed the mobile device library and carrier relationships, and coordinated testing across many devices and OS versions.
- Started as a QA intern in 2008, continued as a contract QA analyst in 2009, and was promoted to Senior QA Analyst in 2011.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Building and Leading QA Teams · Release Quality · QA Standards · Test Automation and CI/CD · Defect Tracking · Quality Reporting · Vendor and Contractor Management · Working with AI Tools · Cross-Team Partnership · Budget Management · Agile / Scrum

SKILLS & TOOLS

Tools & Methodologies: JIRA, TestRail, Zephyr, BrowserStack, Sauce Labs, LambdaTest, test.io, Figma, Bitrise, Firebase, Google Analytics, BigQuery, Appium (team), Playwright (team), Agile, Scrum, iOS, Android, Web

EDUCATION

Florida State University · Tallahassee, FL

Master of Science, Sports Administration

Bachelor of Science, Sports Management

CERTIFICATIONS

Strategic Technology Management Specialization · Gies College of Business, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (via Coursera) · 2026

Certified Scrum Master (CSM) · Scrum Alliance · 2017 – 2019 (expired)

PMP Exam Prep: Project Management Foundations · Pearson, Coursera · in progress