Public Sentiment

Lead Engineer

About Public Sentiment
Public Sentiment leverages local community leaders and cutting-edge digital tools to build seamless and systematic community engagement – producing meaningful data, fostering sustained dialogue, and enabling smarter policy design grounded in the realities of people's lives. Public Sentiment is a registered 501c3 organization based in New York, NY.

About the Role
Public Sentiment seeks a Lead Engineer to help envision, design, and build the organization's suite of digital tools critical for creating the most innovative, effective, and powerful community engagement model.

You will have an outsized role in shaping the organization from the ground up – imagining how Public Sentiment can best "activate" its theory of change through tech-centered or tech-supported approaches.

You will suggest, recommend, and build technical solutions using SaaS, open-source, and proprietary tools that can be seamlessly integrated into a system that captures, collects, analyzes, and packages data for strategic purposes.

This is an opportunity for you to work closely as a thought partner with the founder and CEO of a lean start-up organization, and our team of committed and passionate professionals.

Your own personal work style, philosophy, and attitude will help shape the culture of this young organization. You will contribute to building a team of committed, creative, and cognitively and culturally diverse professionals who are creating an inclusive, action-oriented, and – of course! – fun environment.

Skills Sought
- You are interested in civic engagement, and believe that there are better ways to solve social conflict, potentially though tech-focused solutions.
- You are comfortable working with a small and talented team of political scientists, social scientists, and UX researchers (some remotely) to identify potential and ideal tech-based solutions to challenges expected or uncovered during the initial pilot and growth phases
- You are comfortable making recommendations for, doing exploratory research on, and thinking creatively about ways to seamlessly integrate various tools for data collection, storage and organization, analysis, visualization, and distribution
- You have experience launching several software products, ideally from concept through definition, development, QA and deployment, as well as experience integrating solutions with existing platforms or standard APIs

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Responsibilities

We expect that Public Sentiment's community engagement model may require some combination of the capabilities listed below. Ideally, you will have experience and/or knowledge about many of these, or a generally familiarity with them that will allow you to create a cohesive and workable plan for building the tools we need.

Overall, what is most important to us is 1) your ability to build on your existing expertise and 2) your ability to leverage connections for input and guidance when you're in unfamiliar territory.

Our unofficial motto is #AlwaysLearning, so while it is ok if you're not an expert in everything listed below, we hope you'll embrace the mantra and work to become as educated on the various capabilities as needed.

	ENGAGEMENT PHASE	POTENTIAL TECH CAPABILITIES
1	Strategy & Targeted Outreach	• Smartphone app design and build • Database schema design • Top-notch data security measures • User tutorials for app • Hardware suitability evaluation
2	Data Collection	• Video and audio recording • Geo-tagging • User profile creation • In-app humanoid guide • User Trust (Language, low digital literacy, disabilities, connectivity, extreme conditions, etc.)
3	Insight Analysis	• Data verification • Word frequency analysis • Automated sentiment analysis • Automated behavioral sentiment • Ethnographic software • AI analysis accuracy • Predictive modeling
4	Policy Design	• Data visualization software • Decisionmaker Dashboards • Social media integration
5	Community Conversations	• Multimedia displays

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Timing & Compensation
Looking for candidates available to begin immediately, ideally located in New York City, potentially remote. This is a contracted, part-time position. Compensation commensurate with experience. Potential for additional work.

The BIG Print
Public Sentiment believes societies are strongest and most vibrant when everyone has an opportunity to participate. The organization affirms this belief in its hiring practices.

We actively seek candidates from all backgrounds, and especially those who can draw on experiences from historically underrepresented communities, including: people with physical, biological, or neurological disabilities, LGBTQ+ people, people of color, people from low-income families, or first- or second-generation immigrants or refugees.

When applying, please feel free to include information about your unique and valuable experiences.

TO APPLY, email intro & resume to: hi@publicsentiment.org