



Ashleigh Banfield

Ashleigh Banfield is an award winning international television news correspondent and host who has reported breaking news from across the country and around the world.

Banfield, along with Jack Ford, is currently the co-host of a two hour daily legal news program on TruTV (formerly Court TV) called Banfield and Ford; Courtside. Banfield is also the creator, co-producer and host of a prime time program called "Disorder In The Court," which is the highest rated program currently on the network. Her work on TruTV has earned her a prestigious Gracie Allen Award, as well as a 2007 Telly award.

On September 11, 2001, while working for NBC News and MSNBC, Banfield covered the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center in New York City, reporting live as the buildings were literally falling. Her coverage earned her EMMY Award recognition. After eight consecutive days at Ground Zero, Banfield departed for Islamabad, Pakistan to begin covering the War on Terror. From September 2001 to January 2004, she reported live from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, England, Israel (West Bank and Gaza), Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Saudi Arabia. She anchored several live prime time series including "A Region In Conflict" and "Ashleigh Banfield: On Location" hosting hour-long programs from locations across the country and around the globe, and earning a National Headliner Award. The breaking news coverage included the wars in Afghanistan, and Iraq, the bloody intefadeh in Israel, the agonizing abduction of Elizabeth Smart in Salt Lake City, and the bombings of western compounds in Saudi Arabia.

As a correspondent for NBC News, Banfield appeared on the programs "The Today Show," "NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw," and "Dateline." While anchoring on MSNBC, Banfield covered stories including the crash of the Concorde on location in France, the 2000 Election, traveling with the Bush/Cheney Campaign, the 2000 Summer Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia and the 2003 crash of the Space Shuttle Columbia. She also hosted a three-hour morning program called "Homepage" which was simulcast nationally on the NBC network, directly following the Today Show.

Her most noted interviews include Yasser Arafat who was under siege in his compound at the time, Israeli Prime Ministers Ehud Barak and Shimon Peres, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz, Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, Al Aqsa Martyr's Brigade Masked Terrorists, Saudi Prince Al Faisal, Laura Bush, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Martha Stewart, John McCain, Sarah Jessica Parker, Jane Fonda, Ben Stiller, Rosie O'Donnell, Donald Trump, and Hugh Grant.

Prior to joining MSNBC, Banfield served as the 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. news anchor for KDFW-TV, the FOX station in Dallas. While there, she received her first EMMY Award for "Best News Anchor" for her coverage on "Cadet Killers" and a Texas Associated Press Award for the "Best Series" category on the controversial "To Serve and Survive." Prior to that,



Banfield worked at Canada's CICT-TV, as a producer from 1992-93 and from 1993-95 as their evening news anchor and business correspondent. In 1994, Banfield earned two IRIS awards for the "Best News Documentary" and "Best of Festival" categories where she chronicled the life of a homeless man.

Before, and during, her tenure at CICT-TV, Banfield freelanced as an associate producer for ABC's "World News Tonight," where she covered the 1991 Bush/Gorbachev Summit in Russia and the 1992 Clinton/Yeltsin Summit in Vancouver.

In 1988, Banfield began her career at CJBK in Kenora, Ontario, Canada as a photographer/researcher/reporter and then later moved to Winnipeg's CKY station as a researcher/reporter for their evening news. From 1989 to 1992, Banfield served as weekend evening news anchor at CFRN in Edmonton, Alberta.

In 1988, Banfield received a bachelor's degree in political studies and French from Queen's University in Ontario, Canada. In 1992, she continued her language education in an Advanced French Studies program at the University of British Columbia.

Banfield works in New York City but lives in Connecticut with her husband, Howard Gould, and their sons, Jay Fischer Gould and Ridley Banfield Gould.