

STEPH WATTS

WORK EXPERIENCE

FREELANCE

Reporter/Producer

My work as a freelance field-producer and reporter for the networks encompasses traveling to breaking news, filing up-to-the minute detailed reports from the field used by all platforms at the networks, securing exclusive guests, including celebrities and other high profile guests. shooting video and managing crews and talent in the field. Clients include CBS "The Early Show," FOX News, CNN, PBS, "Inside Edition" and NBC. In addition to a producing credit, I am featured as a crime reporter in a new forensics series for A&E called "Bloodwork.". I also shot, produced and edited a reality crime-series pitch called "Lost and Found" that examines missing persons cases across the country.

ABC NEWS "Good Morning America"

Producer/Writer/Reporter for ABC NEWS NOW and GMA NOW Sept 2008-April 2009

Responsibilities for this Chicago-based position included filing daily reports on Chicago Politics and Crime including extensive election coverage of the Obama campaign through to inauguration and Gov. Blagojevich's impeachment. I was also responsible for booking exclusive guests and writing for the website ABCnews.com. My coverage area also included monitoring the entire Midwest Region of the U.S., This position demanded extensive travel to cover national breaking news/crime stories, conducting and shooting interviews and location video (on PD150) I also continued coverage of some the national crime stories I worked on previously such as the Drew Peterson case, the Casey Anthony case and Natalee Holloway disappearance.

FOX NEWS "On the Record with Greta Van Susteren"

Field Producer/Reporter Nov 2006- Sept 2008

Responsibilities include extensive national and international travel, working closely with and consulting show host, covering breaking news, shooting interviews and exclusive video, editing packages from the field, booking guests and reporting detailed information live from the scene. I wrote articles for foxnews.com and was responsible for pitching and implementing story ideas. In addition, I worked on investigating unsolved cases, most notable, my work on the Kathleen Savio case, the ex-wife of Bolingbrook, IL Police Officer Drew Peterson, led to her death being reclassified from an accident to a homicide and Peterson being charged with her murder.

CNN HEADLINE NEWS "Nancy Grace"

Field Producer/Reporter Dec 2004 – Nov.2006

I worked closely with Nancy on development of the show from inception. I researched and presented national crime cases at daily pitch meetings, booked guests, shot exclusive video from crime scenes, and reported live from the scene nightly. (Reel is available upon request.) Travelled extensively with host, coordinated crews and live shots in the field. Attended trials and provided host and show staff with detailed information on each case. Direct dealings with law enforcement and court officials.

COURT TV

Executive Producer/"Rapid Fire w Nancy Grace" Feb.2004 – Dec.2004

I developed and produced a one-hour daily live call-in radio show in conjunction with Clear Channel dealing with high profile trials, including daily coverage of the Scott Peterson trial and headlining legal news. I booked guests including daily newsmakers, legal experts and witnesses from the cases and the courtroom. I reported live breaking news, trial verdicts and celebrity legal news.

Producer, "Hollywood at Large" July 1999-January 2004

I produced, wrote and edited the "Smoking Gun Hotsheet," a weekly segment for an entertainment show with an emphasis on celebrities and the legal system, in conjunction with thesmokinggun.com website. I conducted celebrity interviews at junkets and red carpet events highlighting legal movies and TV shows.

Producer, Daytime Trial Coverage

I produced taped and live trials, gavel to gavel, for daytime programming. Job entailed extensive editing of lengthy trials to fit into daytime program format. Additionally, I researched background information on key players in each case and wrote scripts for anchors. Also, I reported live breaking news from the courthouse, wrangled guests for the live shows and interviewed attorneys, defendants, victims and their families. for the taped segments.

EDUCATION

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Certificate in Television News Production

New York NY
