

Barbara Sharp
Reporter * Anchor * Attorney

Barbara has a varied background that successfully weaves years of media, legal and writing work. In news, this includes reporting on legislative sessions in Tallahassee for The Florida Channel, a 24-hour news operation, as well as in another capital city -- Bismarck, North Dakota -- for the CBS affiliate, KXMB, where she reported, anchored and produced. She also has more than ten years experience as a documentary writer/producer in Los Angeles with significant on-camera hosting and performing background. In addition, Barbara is a lawyer and brings to the table honed research and investigative skills.

While in North Dakota, Barbara had the opportunity to report on everything from the energy boom and the state's raging economy to an infusion of white separatists and controversial social politics. As she was covering the highly-charged neo-Nazi effort underway there, which events garnered national media attention, the antagonists informed Barbara she was the only journalist providing unbiased coverage. As a result, they sought her out, which led to Barbara breaking several news stories about the controversy. She also regularly reported on local business and government, and was credited by viewers with rolling back enforcement of a largely unpopular zoning law. Barbara took the station's weekly business segment, "Around Town," featuring new and expanding businesses, made it her own and grew it to attract sponsors and viewers.

Throughout her career, Barbara has been a team player and leader in several capacities ranging from a law firm environment to the set/studio of various productions. During the course of production on more than a dozen documentaries and other programming in Los Angeles, Barbara has conducted numerous interviews with personalities such as Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Chuck Yeager and Pat Boone, and performed research, writing, producing and hosting duties. As a result of her background, Barbara easily handles anything from human interest features to complex stories involving legal controversies.

It is often surprising when people learn Barbara once worked at a nuclear plant. While there, she prepared presentations for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. She also wrote, produced and anchored daily news segments aired across the site for the benefit of executives, employees and visitors. In this capacity, she was able to experience up-close everything from the inside of a cooling tower to the inner workings of a nuclear control room and reactor. Barbara also wrote the nuclear plant's script for its full-length tour program video. Her efforts earned her an award from the company, one of the largest utilities in the nation.

While on a short-term project at KBAK, the CBS affiliate in Bakersfield, California, Barbara worked in the Investigations Unit during which time she successfully cleared their 30-day plus viewer tip line backlog within four days. The work required exercising news judgment with respect to hundreds of tip line calls then investigating those stories relevant to that very specific market's viewers.

When commencing college, Barbara struck up a conversation with syndicated columnist Cal Thomas for guidance in pursuing a journalism career. Cal suggested majoring in history, political science or English, with a minor in broadcast journalism. She took his advice and earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science (with a minor in Broadcast Journalism), and later, a Juris Doctor (law) degree. In addition, Barbara completed a Master's of Public Policy and Administration degree at Northwestern University. She has also studied theatre and after auditioning for a spot on an international touring troupe, won a role that took her to Hungary and Poland to perform on behalf of the University of Toledo and act as an ambassador for the Sister City program.

Through the years, she has volunteered with many community organizations and rescued several dogs, with "Jimi" -- a sweet, but somewhat ornery Lhasa Apso mix -- being her current four-legged family member. Barbara also enjoys working out and singing a bit of country music here and there.