

## Kelly O'Donnell

NBC News White House Correspondent

Kelly O'Donnell is a veteran political correspondent, currently working as a White House correspondent for NBC News. She contributes to all NBC News platforms and properties, including *NBC Nightly News*, *TODAY*, MSNBC, and *NBC News Now*, and appears as a panelist on programs including *Meet the Press* and PBS' *Washington Week*. From the Rose Garden to Baghdad, the Olympic Games to Capitol Hill, the scope of her assignments is uncommon and her reporting has taken her to all 50 states and to 58 countries.

An expert in presidential politics, O'Donnell has covered four administrations for George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and Joe Biden. She previously led NBC's coverage on Capitol Hill where she reported on extended battles over health care, the rise of the Tea Party movement, government shutdowns, Supreme Court nominations, and the speakerships of Nancy Pelosi, John Boehner, and Paul Ryan.

Experienced on the campaign trail, O'Donnell has covered seven presidential cycles for both parties, including the 2016 primary field and the general election campaigns of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Additionally, she covered the GOP field in 2012, traveled worldwide with Republican candidate John McCain in 2008, followed the Democratic field tracking John Kerry in 2004, reported on the contested 2000 election and Florida recount, and traveled with Sen. Bob Dole during his White House run. Among her many notable interviews, O'Donnell has spoken with President Clinton, President George H. Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney, and First Ladies Laura Bush and Rosalyn Carter.

Traveling thousands of miles around the country's battlegrounds has given O'Donnell unusual insight and context about the political landscape. Exclusively represented by [Leading Authorities speakers bureau](#), O'Donnell speaks with insight and ease about life spent in the trenches and in the political "war room." Not only is she in the public eye, she is the public's eye.

O'Donnell has covered a wide variety of major events including the September 11th attacks from Ground Zero and the Flight 93 Pennsylvania crash site, the Shuttle Columbia disaster, the CIA Leak trial, the Columbine school shooting, John F. Kennedy Jr.'s plane crash, the Oklahoma City bombing and trials of Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, and the OJ Simpson saga. During the Iraq war, she was embedded with the Third Infantry Division during operations in Fallujah in 2003 and reported exclusively from the skies above Iraq on a classified combat mission during the air assault on Baghdad. Internationally, she has covered the passing of Pope John Paul II from his native Poland and Britain's Royal family including Queen Elizabeth's 50th Jubilee. She also took her feature writing skills to four Olympic Games: Atlantic '96, Sydney '00, Salt Lake City '02 and Athens '04.

An award-winning reporter, O'Donnell was honored in 2019 with the Radio Television Correspondents Association Career Achievement Award. Among many honors, her work on the 2008 US presidential election earned her an Emmy and National Headliner Award. She also received the 2009 New Hampshire Primary Award for her political reporting. Inducted into the Ohio Radio/Television Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2004, O'Donnell has received two first place awards from the Los Angeles Press Club for her feature reporting, has twice been part of the *NBC Nightly News* team honored with an Edward R. Murrow Award, and has been honored with more than a dozen Emmy nominations. In 2021, she was elected president of the White House Correspondents' Association for 2023-2024.