

Emily L. Barr

President & Chief Executive Officer
Graham Media Group

Emily L. Barr is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Graham Media Group, the television broadcasting division of Graham Holdings Company. She has held this position since July 2012.

Emily oversees seven local television stations - each in a top-70 market, representing nearly 7% coverage in the U.S. All stations are recognized as news leaders on air, on mobile and on line: KPRC-Houston (NBC); WDIV-Detroit (NBC); KSAT-San Antonio (ABC); WKMG-Orlando (CBS); a duopoly in Jacksonville: WJXT (Fully Local) and WCWJ (CW); and WSLR-Roanoke (NBC). GMG also owns Social News Desk, a leading provider of social media management tools designed to connect newsrooms with their users.

Under Emily's leadership, Graham Media Group was awarded "2016 Station Group of the Year" by Broadcasting and Cable Magazine.

Prior to joining Graham Media Group, Barr served as the President and General Manager of ABC 7 Chicago (WLS-TV), the ABC-owned station in Chicago, IL. She held this position from April 1997 until July 2012. Under her leadership and throughout her tenure, ABC 7 strengthened its dominance in the market and remained the top-rated/most watched station in Chicago. In 2009, Barr helped create The LIVE WELL NETWORK, an innovative, nationally-distributed digital broadcast, online and wireless network focusing on home, health and lifestyle programming.

Previously, Barr served as the President and General Manager of WTVD-TV, the ABC-owned station in Raleigh-Durham, NC, which she joined in October 1994. In July 1988, Barr joined WMAR-TV in Baltimore, MD, as the Director of Broadcast Operations & Programming. She was promoted to Assistant General Manager in May 1993.

Earlier in her career, Barr was the Director of Creative Services (1987-88) and Advertising and Promotion Manager (1985-87) at KHOU-TV in Houston, TX. She also worked as a writer and producer for WJLA-TV in Washington, DC, which she joined in January 1983. Barr began her career in broadcasting in 1980 as a news editor at KSTP-TV in St. Paul, MN.

Barr serves on the boards of the Associated Press and the Television Bureau of Advertising. In addition, she is the 1st. Vice Chair for Television for the National Association of Broadcasters and serves on the National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation. Barr is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the NBC Affiliate Board and is a past Chair of the ABC Board of Governors. She has served twice as Chairman of the Board for the Illinois Broadcasters Association. In addition, Barr is a member of the Advisory Board for Quinnipiac University's School of Communications and is actively involved in the Chicago community serving on the board and executive committee of the Chicago Academy for the Arts.

Honored for her civic involvement, Barr is the 2018 recipient of the Golden Mike Award from the

Broadcasters Foundation of America and was inducted into the 2016 Silver Circle of the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. She was awarded the 2014 Vincent T. Wasilewski Broadcaster of the Year by the Illinois Broadcasters Association and received the 2010 Westbury Leadership Award from the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago for her involvement in a citywide media effort to raise funds for the Haitian earthquake relief effort. That year, Barr received an Honorary Doctorate from Robert Morris University in recognition of her community service.

A native of Haverhill, MA, Barr is a graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy and holds a BA in Film Studies from Carleton College in Northfield, MN. In 1986, she earned an MBA from George Washington University in Washington, DC. Barr is married to Scott M. Kane and has two daughters. They live in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago.