

Vivian Lee
Anchor-Videojournalist, NY 1 News

Vivian Lee joined Time Warner Cable's New York 1 News team in September 2008 as the cable news outlet's weekend anchor and early morning news reporter. Most days, you can see her live in the field, while on weekends she anchors NY1's daytime programming. Her work in the five boroughs of New York City has ranged from primary elections to Obama's presidential victory, from transit hikes to transportation and weather disasters, and from City Hall to courthouses across the city.

As an anchor, Lee telecasted 5 straight hours of NY1's uninterrupted live, team coverage of the fatal mid-air collision of a chopper and small plane last August, which claimed nine lives. On that day, she stewarded NY1 through the public phone-ins, reporter updates and live interviews with former NTSB investigators into the problem of air traffic maintenance along the Hudson.

Lee also broke a story for NY1 on an FDNY firefighter arrested for calling 9-1-1 with bogus reports of fires in his neighborhood, in reaction to departmental budget cuts in 2008 that threatened to close his City Island firehouse. And she was on the front line of the collapse of investment giant Lehman Brothers in the fall of 2008.

You may already be familiar with her work from the years she reported for NBC New York, where she was a General Assignment Reporter for six years. During that time, Lee showcased live reporting skills and an ability to cover any breaking news story including the tornado that hit Brooklyn, Manhattan's two deadly crane collapses on the East Side, the fatal collision of the Staten Island ferry *Andrew J. Barberi* at St. George Terminal, the Martha Stewart trial, as well as former New Jersey governor Jim McGreevey's divorce trial and Eliot Spitzer's sex scandal and resulting resignation. Lee's more in-depth coverage and investigative reports include an examination of the rapid disappearance of the saltwater marshes in Jamaica Bay, the declining rate of autopsies in US hospitals, questionable affordable housing contracts between the city and landlords in the notorious and historic multiple tenant, single-room-occupancy buildings on the West Side, and the impact of the terrorist attacks on ethnic Arab and Muslim communities through domestic anti-terrorism measures. One of her investigations into the death of a nursing home patient in Mount Vernon triggered a state health department probe into an alleged cover-up in 2008.

Prior to moving to the Apple, Lee anchored and reported for several years in Canada, after completing her Bachelor of Journalism degree at Carleton University. In Calgary, she was the primetime anchor for three years on A-Channel's News @ Night, which won a CAN-Pro Award in 1999. In Toronto, she reported and filled in as anchor on the breakfast, noon and evening newscasts for CityTV/CablePulse-24. On 9/11, the day she was supposed to move to her new posting as the station's parliamentary and federal affairs correspondent in Ottawa, a lockdown of Toronto kept her in the city, reporting on the emergency response in her hometown. Afterwards, her year on Parliament Hill was primarily focused on coverage of the federal government's response to a post 9-11 world, including the political, legal, economic and military ramifications to Canadian federal policies, and cultural implications to Canadians. That same year, Lee covered the opening salvos in the Liberal sponsorship kickbacks scandal that eventually brought down the ruling federal party at the time, following a federal auditor-general's report questioning Liberal expenses and Liberal Party fundraising in separatist areas of Quebec. She's covered federal and municipal elections, budgets and cabinet shuffles, and as a general assignment reporter over the last 15 years, her reports have included the Province of Ontario's inquiry into the Walkerton Public Works debacle that led to a fatal E-coli outbreak in the water. But she still lists the discovery of a full-grown Bengal tiger in a Manhattan housing project (with a full-grown, caiman crocodile as its roommate) as one of her favorite stories to date.

A devoted youth mentor and volunteer, speaker and emcee for various non-profit and business groups focused on promoting Asian-American civic, social and professional development, Lee also tutored fourth graders in English and Math at PS 1 in Chinatown for APEX, between 2005 and 2007.