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Scheduling and Advance, Office of

Presidential Daily Diary

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Folder Title:

01/06/2017

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Obama Presidential Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Schedule	The Diary of President Barack H. Obama	6	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
002	Schedule	The Diary of President Barack H. Obama	6	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
003	Schedule	Meeting Breakdown for President Barack Obama	5	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
004	Schedule	Schedule for President Barack Obama	5	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
005	Report	POTUS Report	1	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
006	Report	POTUS Report	25	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
007	Report	POTUS Report	1	01/06/2017	P6/b6;

COLLECTION TITLE:
Scheduling and Advance, Office of

SERIES:
Presidential Daily Diary

FOLDER TITLE:
01/06/2017

FRC ID:
9984

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

Deed of Gift Restrictions

A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Records Not Subject to FOIA

Court Sealed - The document is withheld under a court seal and is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

Obama Presidential Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
008	Report	POTUS Report	1	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
009	Report	POTUS Report	1	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
011	Report	POTUS Report	1	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
012	Report	POTUS Report	1	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
013	Report	POTUS Report	1	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
014	Report	POTUS Report	1	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
015	Report	POTUS Report	1	01/06/2017	P6/b6;

COLLECTION TITLE:
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SERIES:
Presidential Daily Diary

FOLDER TITLE:
01/06/2017

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Obama Presidential Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
016	Schedule	Meeting Breakdown for President Barack Obama	5	01/06/2017	P6/b6;
017	Briefing	Daily Economic Briefing	4	01/05/2017	P5;
018	Memorandum	Vox Live Interview - To: Barack Obama - From: Liz Allen and Kristie Canegallo	39	01/05/2017	P5;
019	Talking Points	Talking Points	7	N. D.	P5;

COLLECTION TITLE:
Scheduling and Advance, Office of

SERIES:
Presidential Daily Diary

FOLDER TITLE:
01/06/2017

FRC ID:
9984

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON D.C.



January 6, 2017
12:30 AM FRIDAY

START	END		DESCRIPTION
12:30 AM	12:30 AM	P	The President talked with White House Administration Switchboard operator, Sidney Jones.
12:52 AM	12:52 AM	P	The President talked with White House Administration Switchboard operator, Mr. Jones, to change the wakeup call time.
8:00 AM	8:00 AM	R	The President received a wake up call from White House Administration Switchboard operator, Nijah Kelly.
8:05 AM		R	The President was telephoned by the White House Administration Switchboard operator. The follow-up wake up call was not completed.
10:14 AM			The President went to the Oval Office.
10:14 AM	10:55 AM		The President participated in a daily intelligence briefing. For a list of attendees, see <u>APPENDIX "A."</u>
10:55 AM	11:00 AM		The President participated in a press pre-brief with: Kristie A. Canegallo, Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Implementation Joshua R. Earnest, Assistant to the President and Press Secretary Elizabeth M. "Liz" Allen, Deputy Assistant to the President & Deputy Director of Communications Katie M. Hill, Assistant Press Secretary and White House Spokesperson
11:00 AM	11:01 AM		The President went to the North Grounds of the White House via West Executive Drive.
11:01 AM	11:04 AM		The President walked from the North Grounds of the White House to Blair House, 1651 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Members of Press

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

BLAIR HOUSE
WASHINGTON D.C.



January 6, 2017
11:04 AM FRIDAY

START	END	DESCRIPTION
11:04 AM		The President arrived at Blair House and was greeted by Blair House Manager Randy Bumgardner, with the Protocol Office of the Department of State. Members of Press
11:04 AM	11:05 AM	The President went to the Front Drawing Room and was greeted by: Ezra Klein, Editor in Chief, Vox.com Sarah Kliff, Senior Correspondent, Vox.com
11:05 AM		The President went to the Lincoln Room on the first floor.
11:05 AM	11:10 AM	P6/b(6)
11:10 AM		The President went to the Garden Room.
11:10 AM	12:23 PM	The President participated in a live interview with Ezra Klein (editor in chief) and Sarah Kliff (senior correspondent) of Vox. [The President's remarks were carried live on Vox.com and the White House website.]
12:23 PM	12:24 PM	The President worked the rope line.
12:24 PM	12:26 PM *	The President walked from Blair House to the North Grounds of the White House via West Executive Drive.
12:26 PM		The President returned to the Oval Office.
12:26 PM	12:35 PM	P6/b(6)
12:35 PM		The President went to the Second Floor Residence.
12:35 PM	1:17 PM	The President had lunch alone.
1:17 PM		The President returned to the Oval Office.
1:18 PM	1:30 PM	P The President talked with Meredith Koop, the First Lady's valet.

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON D.C.



January 6, 2017
1:30 PM FRIDAY

START	END	DESCRIPTION
1:30 PM	1:55 PM	The President met with Kathryn H. "Kathy" Ruemmler, his former Counsel.
2:10 PM	3:18 PM	The President participated in a farewell photo opportunity with White House staff and their families.
3:18 PM	3:25 PM	The President met with Ms. Monaco to receive a briefing on the recent shooting incident at the Fort Lauderdale airport.
3:25 PM	4:00 PM	The President met for a daily wrap up with Mr. McDonough.
4:05 PM *	4:15 PM *	The President participated in a press pre-brief with: Joshua R. Earnest, Assistant to the President and Press Secretary Jennifer R. Psaki, Assistant to the President and Director of Communications Benjamin J. Rhodes, Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications Edward C. "Ned" Price, Senior Director Strategic Communication, NSC Spokesperson [REDACTED] P6/b(6)
4:32 PM	4:32 PM *	The President went to the Lower Cross Hall.
4:33 PM *	4:39 PM	The President participated in a walk and talk interview with George Stephanopoulos, host of ABC's "This Week with George Stephanopoulos". [The President and Mr. Stephanopoulos walked along the Colonnade enroute to the Oval Office.]
4:39 PM		The President and Mr. Stephanopoulos went to the Oval Office.
4:39 PM	5:35 PM	The President participated in a sit down interview with George Stephanopoulos, host of ABC's "This Week with George Stephanopoulos."

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON D.C.



January 6, 2017
5:40 PM FRIDAY

START	END		DESCRIPTION
5:40 PM		*	The President participated in drop by greetings with guests: Mai Lassiter, wife of James Lassiter (co-founder, Overbrook Entertainment) [and family] Margo Lion, Theater Producer, Margo Lion LTD [and family] Davin Parekh, managing partner with Insight Venture Partners R.T. Rybak, former mayor of Minneapolis Eddie Vedder, musician [and family] Kerry Washington, actress [and family] Kristen Jarvis, former Special Assistant for Scheduling, and Traveling Aide to the First Lady [and family] Mohammed Hasan Chandoo, friend of the President [and family]
6:47 PM	6:50 PM	P	The President talked with the Mayor of Broward County, Florida, Barbara Sharief. The purpose of the call was to offer condolences on the loss of life and injuries in the recent shooting incident at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.
6:51 PM	6:52 PM	P	The President talked with Governor Richard L. "Rick" Scott (R-Florida). The purpose of the call was to offer condolences on the loss of life and injuries in the recent shooting incident at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.
6:52 PM			The President went to the Second Floor Residence.
9:30 PM *			
9:30 PM *		*	

P6/b(6)

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA



APPENDICES FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL DIARY OF FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA



DAILY INTEL BRIEFING

January 6, 2017
The Oval Office

Appendix "A"

Attendance not confirmed.

ATTENDEES:

The President

Joseph R. "Joe" Biden Junior, Vice President

James R. Clapper Junior, Director of National Intelligence

Denis McDonough, Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff

Susan E. Rice, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

Avril D. Haines, Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor

Lisa O. Monaco, Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism and Deputy National Security Advisor

Colin H. Kahl, Deputy Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor to the Vice President

Benjamin J. Rhodes, Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications

Suzanne E. Fry, Director, Strategic Futures Group, National Intelligence Council, Office of the Director of National Intelligence

Daniel J. Flynn, Director, Global Security Program, National Intelligence Council's Strategic Futures Group, Office of the Director of National Intelligence

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON D.C.



January 6, 2017
12:30 AM FRIDAY

ID	START	END	DESCRIPTION
103667	12:30 AM	12:30 AM	P The President talked with White House Administration Switchboard operator, Sidney Jones.
103668	12:52 AM	12:52 AM	P The President talked with White House Administration Switchboard operator, Mr. Jones., to change the wakeup call time. <i>Y/E</i>
103669	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	R The President received a wake up call from White House Administration Switchboard operator, Nijah Kelly.
103670	8:05 AM		R The President was telephoned by the White House Administration Switchboard operator. The follow-up wake up call was not completed.
103671	10:14 AM		The President went to the Oval Office.
103672	10:14 AM	10:55 AM	The President <i>participated in</i> met for a daily intelligence briefing with: <i>1 (App. 4-)</i> <i>Y/E</i>
103673	10:55 AM	11:00 AM	The President participated in a press pre-brief with: Kristie A. Canegallo, Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Implementation Joshua R. Earnest, Assistant to the President and Press Secretary Elizabeth M. "Liz" Allen, Deputy Assistant to the President & Deputy Director of Communications Katie M. Hill, Assistant Press Secretary and White House Spokesperson
103674	11:00 AM	11:04 AM <i>11:01</i>	The President went to the North Grounds of the White House via West Executive Drive. <i>f</i> Members of Press in/out
103675	11:04 AM <i>11:01</i>	11:06 AM <i>11:04</i>	The President walked from the North Grounds of the White House to Blair House, 1651 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. <i>f</i> Members of Press
103676	11:06 AM <i>11:04</i>	11:07 AM <i>11:05</i>	The President arrived at Blair House and was greeted by Blair House Manager Randy Bumgardner, with the Protocol Office of the Department of State. <i>f</i> Members of Press

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

BLAIR HOUSE
WASHINGTON D.C.



January 6, 2017
11:07 AM FRIDAY

ID	START	END	DESCRIPTION
103677	11:05 11:07 AM* 11:09	11:08 AM* 11:05	The President went to the Front Drawing Room and was greeted by: Ezra Klein, Editor in Chief, Vox.com Sarah Kliff, Senior Correspondent, Vox.com
103678	11:05 11:08 AM*		The President went to the Lincoln Room on the first floor.
103679	11:05 11:08 AM*	11:10 11:13 AM*	[REDACTED]
103680	11:10 11:13 AM*	11:15 AM	The President went to the Garden Room.
103681	11:10 11:15 AM	12:34 12:23 PM	The President participated in a live interview with Ezra Klein (editor in chief) and Sarah Kliff (senior correspondent) of Vox. [The President's remarks were carried live on Vox.com and the White House website.]
103682	12:23 PM	12:24 PM	The President worked the rope line. P6/b(6)
103683	12:24 PM	12:26 PM*	The President walked from Blair House to the North Grounds of the White House via West Executive Drive.
103684	12:26 PM		The President returned to the Oval Office.
103685	12:26 PM	12:35 PM	[REDACTED]
103686	12:35 PM		The President went to the Second Floor Residence.
103687	12:35 PM	1:17 PM	The President had lunch alone.
103688	1:17 PM		The President returned to the Oval Office.
103689	1:18 PM	1:30 PM P	The President talked with Meredith Koop, the First Lady's valet.
103690	1:30 PM	1:55 PM R	The President met with Kathryn H. "Kathy" Ruemmler, his former Counsel.
103691	2:10 PM	3:18 PM	The President participated in a farewell photo opportunity with White House staff and their families.

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON D.C.



January 6, 2017
3:18 PM FRIDAY

ID	START	END	DESCRIPTION
103692	3:18 PM	3:25 PM	The President met with Ms. Monaco to receive a briefing on the recent shooting incident at Fort Lauderdale airport.
103693	3:25 PM	4:00 PM	The President met for a daily wrap up with Mr. McDonough.
103694	4:05 PM *	4:15 PM *	The President participated in a press pre-brief with: Joshua R. Earnest, Assistant to the President and Press Secretary Jennifer R. Psaki, Assistant to the President and Director of Communications Benjamin J. Rhodes, Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications Edward C. "Ned" Price, Senior Director Strategic Communication, NSC Spokesperson [REDACTED]
103695	4:32 PM	4:32 PM *	The President went to the Lower Cross Hall.
103696	4:33 PM *	4:39 PM	The President participated in a walk and talk interview with George Stephanopoulos, host of ABC's "This Week with George Stephanopoulos". [The President and Mr. Stephanopoulos walked along the Colonnade enroute to the Oval Office.]
103697	4:39 PM		The President and Mr. Stephanopoulos went to the Oval Office.
103698	4:39 PM	5:35 PM	The President participated in a sit down interview with George Stephanopoulos, host of ABC's "This Week with George Stephanopoulos."

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON D.C.



January 6, 2017
5:40 PM FRIDAY

ID	START	END		DESCRIPTION
103699	5:40 PM	*		The President participated in drop by greetings with guests: Mai Lassiter, wife of James Lassiter (co-founder, Overbrook Entertainment) [and family] Margo Lion, Theater Producer, Margo Lion LTD [and family] Davin Parekh, managing partner with Insight Venture Partners R.T. Rybak, former mayor of Minneapolis Eddie Vedder, musician [and family] Kerry Washington, actress [and family] Kristen Jarvis, former Special Assistant for Scheduling, and Traveling Aide to the First Lady [and family] Mohammed Hasan Chandoo, friend of the President [and family]
103700	6:47 PM	6:50 PM	P	The President talked with the Mayor of Broward County, Florida, Barbara Sharief. The purpose of the call was to offer condolences on the loss of life and injuries in the recent shooting incident at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.
103701	6:51 PM	6:52 PM	P	The President talked with the Governor Richard L. "Rick" Scott (R-Florida). The purpose of the call was to offer condolences on the loss of life and injuries in the recent shooting incident at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.
103702	6:52 PM			The President went to the Second Floor Residence.
103703	9:30 PM *			
103704	9:30 PM *	*		

P6/b(6)

THE DAILY DIARY OF PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA



DAILY INTEL BRIEFING

January 6, 2017

The Oval Office

Event 103672

Appendix "A"

Attendance not confirmed.

ATTENDEES:

The President

Joseph R. "Joe" Biden Junior, Vice President

James R. Clapper Junior, Director of National Intelligence

Denis McDonough, Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff

Susan E. Rice, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

Avril D. Haines, Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor

Lisa O. Monaco, Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism and Deputy National Security Advisor

Colin H. Kahl, Deputy Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor to the Vice President

Benjamin J. Rhodes, Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications

Suzanne E. Fry, Director, Strategic Futures Group, National Intelligence Council, Office of the Director of National Intelligence

Daniel J. Flynn, Director, Global Security Program, National Intelligence Council's Strategic Futures Group, Office of the Director of National Intelligence

PRIVATE

**MEETING BREAKDOWN FOR PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA
FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017
WASHINGTON, DC**

10:00 – 10:30 am **PRESIDENTIAL DAILY BRIEFING**
Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

Attendees:

1. The Vice President
 2. Denis McDonough
 3. Susan Rice
 4. Avril Haines
 5. Lisa Monaco
 6. Colin Kahl
 7. Ben Rhodes
 8. Director Clapper
 9. Suzanne Fry
 10. Daniel Flynn
- DNI*

10:50 – 10:55 am **EVENT PREP**
Location: The Oval Office
POC: Peter Velz
PRESS: CLOSED

Attendees:

1. Kristie Canegallo
2. Josh Earnest
3. Liz Allen
4. Katie Hill, Assistant Press Secretary

*per Dirist view:
11:04-11:05
(west Exec.)*

10:55 – 11:00 am **WALKING MOVEMENT EN ROUTE BLAIR HOUSE**

NOTE: The PRESS POOL and White House Videographer will capture **YOUR** walk to the Blair House

11:00 – 11:05 am **ARRIVE BLAIR HOUSE // ARRIVAL GREET // MOVE TO THE LINCOLN ROOM (HOLD)**
Location: Blair Door, Blair House
 1651 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
 Washington, DC 20503
Site: Andrea Richter
Hold: Lincoln Room, First Floor
Staff Hold: Protocol Office, First Floor
PRESS: POOLED FOR OUTSIDE GREET // CLOSED FOR INSIDE GREET

Greeted outside the Blair House by (POOLED PRESS):

- Randy Bumgardner, Blair House Manager

Greeted in the Front Drawing Room by (CLOSED PRESS):

- Ezra Klein, Editor-in-Chief, Vox.com
- Sarah Kliff, Senior Correspondent, Vox.com

11:05 – 11:10 am

MOVE TO OSA

P6/b(6)

Location: Lincoln Room, First Floor, Blair House (Hold)
Site: Andrea Richter
PRESS: CLOSED

NOTE: **YOU** are lav'd at off-stage announce

11:10 – 11:55 am

VOX LIVE INTERVIEW

Location: Garden Room, First Floor, Blair House
POC: Liz Allen
Attendees: Approximately 85 participants, seated
Setup: **YOU** are seated on an 8-foot by 4-foot stage. Behind **YOU** is the Garden Room mantle with a Vox logo placed on top. Three chairs are positioned on the stage with water tables in between, and POTUS flags frame the stage edges.

Sound/Podium: Lav Mic // None

PRESS: POOLED // LIVESTREAMED ON WH.GOV AND VOX.COM

Format:

- Ezra Klein introduces **YOU** to stage
- **YOU** move to stage from stage LEFT and take **YOUR** seat
- **YOU** participate in a 40-minute interview with Ezra Klein (**NOTE:** Towards the end of the interview, Sarah Kliff takes a question for **YOU** from the audience)
- Interview concludes and **YOU** depart

11:55 – 12:05 pm

WALKING MOVEMENT EN ROUTE THE OVAL OFFICE

NOTE: The PRESS POOL and White House Videographer will capture **YOUR** walk back to the White House

12:10 – 12:20 pm

OVAL OFFICE DROP-BY

Location: The Oval Office
POC: Ferial Govashiri
PRESS: CLOSED

12:30– 1:00 pm

LUNCH

Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

1:00 – 1:30 pm

POTUS TIME

Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

1:30 – 1:55 pm

DESK TIME

[Ropeline
ends @ 12:24]

Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

1:55 – 2:00 pm

STAFF SECRETARY TIME

Location: The Oval Office
POC: Joani Walsh
PRESS: CLOSED

YOU sign:

1. S. 3084: American Innovation and Competitiveness Act

2:00 – 3:00 pm

WHITE HOUSE DEPARTURE PHOTOS

Location: The Oval Office
POC: Tess Udall // Divya Kantamneni
Attendees: 252 attendees // 57 clicks
PRESS: CLOSED

Format:

- **YOU** welcome departing staff members and their families into the Oval Office
- **YOU** pose for a photograph with each group
- After each photo, the group departs and **YOU** repeat this process for approximately 56 clicks
- Following the last click, all guests depart

Attendees manifested in the event memo

3:15 – 3:45 pm

WRAP UP

Location: CoS Office
POC: Jenny Wang
PRESS: CLOSED

4:00 – 4:05 pm

MOVE TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE

4:05 – 4:15 pm

INTERVIEW PREP // [REDACTED] - - - P6/b(6)

Location: The Doctor's Office
POC: Peter Velz // Desiree Barnes
PRESS: CLOSED

Attendees:

1. Josh Earnest
2. Jen Psaki
3. Ben Rhodes
4. Ned Price
5. *Denis McDonough (optional)*

4:15 – 4:20 pm

MOVE TO LOWER CROSS HALL

4:20 – 4:30 pm

**WALK & TALK INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS
OF ABC THIS WEEK**

Location: Lower Cross Hall, The Residence

POC: Rob O'Donnell

Attendees: **YOU** + George Stephanopoulos, Host, ABC This Week

Setup: Walk and Talk Interview (Path: Lower Cross Hall to the Palm Room, down the West Colonnade and concluding at the Oval Office)

Sound/Podium: Lav Mic // None

PRESS: CLOSED // TAPED TO AIR ON JANUARY 8

Format:

- **YOU** move to the bottom of the Public Staircase in the Lower Cross Hall
- **YOU** greet George Stephanopoulos (**NOTE:** This greet is ON CAMERA)
- **YOU** are fitted with a lav mic
- **YOU** participate in a 5-minute walk and talk interview with George Stephanopoulos
- **YOU** and George Stephanopoulos walk down the Lower Cross Hall towards the Palm Room and conclude at the Oval Office
- **YOU** move to the Oval Office

4:30 – 4:35 pm

MOVE TO THE OVAL OFFICE

4:35 – 5:15 pm

SIT-DOWN INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Location: The Oval Office

POC: Rob O'Donnell

Attendees: **YOU** + George Stephanopoulos, Host, ABC This Week

Setup: **YOU** are seated across from George Stephanopoulos in front of the Resolute Desk.

Sound/Podium: Lav Mic // None

PRESS: CLOSED // TAPED TO AIR ON JANUARY 8

Format:

- **YOU** take **YOUR** seat
- **YOU** participate in a 20-minute sit-down interview with George Stephanopoulos
- **YOU** conclude and bid farewell to George Stephanopoulos; George Stephanopoulos and the crew depart

5:30 – 5:50 pm

OVAL OFFICE DROP-BY'S WITH THE FIRST LADY

Location: The Oval Office

POC: Ferial Govashiri

PRESS: CLOSED

5:50 – 6:30 pm

OVAL OFFICE DROP-BY'S

Location: The Oval Office

POC: Ferial Govashiri

PRESS: CLOSED

6:30 – 9:25 pm

POTUS TIME

Location: The Private Residence
PRESS: CLOSED

9:25 – 9:30 pm

9:30 – TBD pm



P6/b(6)

RON

THE WHITE HOUSE

January 6, 2016

[illegible]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: 1-6-17

TO: *Record*

FROM: Presidential Diarist
Ext. 6-7566

11:04-11:04 walk along
West Exec. Drive
(viewed in person)

12:24 - end of rope line
(via T.V.)

Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: Waldo, Katie A. A. EOP/WHO
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2017 3:01 PM
To: Houshower, Sam B. EOP/WHO; Rosa, Luke B. EOP/WHO; Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO; Cushman, Chase M. EOP/WHO
Cc: Wright, Beau B. EOP/WHO; Eisenberg, Lynn D. EOP/WHO; Signer, Jordana D. EOP/WHO
Subject: Daily Log - Jan 6
Attachments: POTUS PUBLIC DAILY LOG 01-06-17.docx

Good afternoon,
Please see the updated travel log attached for:

1/6/2017 - Blair House

Best,
Katie

Katie Waldo
Trip Coordinator
White House Advance
KWaldo@who.eop.gov
(cell) 202.503.5895 | (office) 202-456-5343

****FINAL****
Schedule for President Barack Obama
Friday, January 6, 2017
Washington, DC

Weather:

Washington, DC 34/23, Partly Cloudy, 10% Chance of Precipitation

Time Zone:

Washington, DC Eastern Standard Time

White House & Traveling Staff:

Personal Aide	Ferial Govashiri	O: 202-503-5782
Director of Oval Office Operations	Brian Mosteller	O: 202-503-5864
Trip Director	Marvin Nicholson	O: 202-503-5885
Personal Aide	Joe Paulsen	O: 202-503-5425
Trip Coordinator	Katie Waldo	O: 202-503-5895

Advance Team: In-Town ACA Event

Lead/Site	Andrea Richter	O: 202-503-5653
Press	Amy Rosenfield	P: [REDACTED]
USSS	John Petricig	O: 202-222-5299
WHMO	Zaw Thet	O: 202-814-8991
Advance Coordinator	Gab DeFranceschi	O: 202-503-5944

P6/b(6)

Attire:

Business

In-Town Scheduling Contact	Chelsea Bollinger	O: 202-503-5561
White House Scheduling Contact	Michelle Rothblum	O: 202-503-5857
Emergency Scheduling Contact	Chase Cushman	O: 202-503-5855

Friday, January 6, 2017
Washington, DC

10:00 – 10:30 am PRESIDENTIAL DAILY BRIEFING

Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

10:52 – 11:01 am EVENT PREP

Location: The Oval Office
POC: Peter Velz
PRESS: CLOSED

11:01 – 11:04 am WALKING MOVEMENT EN ROUTE BLAIR HOUSE

NOTE: The PRESS POOL and White House Videographer will capture **YOUR** walk to the Blair House

11:04 – 11:05 am

ARRIVE BLAIR HOUSE // ARRIVAL GREET // MOVE TO THE LINCOLN ROOM (HOLD)

Location: Blair Door, Blair House
1651 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20503
Site: Andrea Richter
Hold: Lincoln Room, First Floor
Staff Hold: Protocol Office, First Floor
PRESS: POOLED FOR OUTSIDE GREET // CLOSED FOR INSIDE GREET

Greeted outside the Blair House by (POOLED PRESS):

- Randy Bumgardner, Blair House Manager

Greeted in the Front Drawing Room by (CLOSED PRESS):

- Ezra Klein, Editor-in-Chief, Vox.com
- Sarah Kliff, Senior Correspondent, Vox.com

P6/b(6)

11:05 – 11:10 am

// MOVE TO OSA

Location: Lincoln Room, First Floor, Blair House (Hold)
Site: Andrea Richter
PRESS: CLOSED

NOTE: **YOU** are lav'd at off-stage announce

11:10 – 12:34 pm

VOX LIVE INTERVIEW

Location: Garden Room, First Floor, Blair House
POC: Liz Allen
Attendees: Approximately 85 participants, seated
Setup: **YOU** are seated on an 8-foot by 4-foot stage. Behind **YOU** is the Garden Room mantle with a Vox logo placed on top. Three chairs are positioned on the stage with water tables in between, and POTUS flags frame the stage edges.
Sound/Podium: Lav Mic // None
PRESS: POOLED // LIVESTREAMED ON WH.GOV AND VOX.COM
// WH VIDEOGRAPHER

Format:

- Ezra Klein introduces **YOU** to stage
- **YOU** move to stage from stage LEFT and take **YOUR** seat
- **YOU** participate in a 40-minute interview with Ezra Klein (**NOTE:** Towards the end of the interview, Sarah Kliff takes a question for **YOU** from the audience)
- Interview concludes and **YOU** depart

12:34 – 12:39 pm

WALKING MOVEMENT EN ROUTE THE OVAL OFFICE

NOTE: The PRESS POOL and White House Videographer will capture **YOUR** walk back to the White House

12:10 – 12:20 pm

OVAL OFFICE DROP-BY

Location: The Oval Office
POC: Ferial Govashiri

PRESS: CLOSED

12:30– 1:00 pm **LUNCH**
Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

1:00 – 1:30 pm **POTUS TIME**
Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

1:30 – 1:55 pm **DESK TIME**
Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

1:55 – 2:00 pm **STAFF SECRETARY TIME**
Location: The Oval Office
POC: Joani Walsh
PRESS: CLOSED

2:00 – 3:00 pm **WHITE HOUSE DEPARTURE PHOTOS**
Location: The Oval Office
POC: Tess Udall // Divya Kantamneni
Attendees: 252 attendees // 57 clicks
PRESS: CLOSED
Format:
- **YOU** welcome departing staff members and their families into the Oval Office
- **YOU** pose for a photograph with each group
- After each photo, the group departs and **YOU** repeat this process for approximately 56 clicks
- Following the last click, all guests depart

3:15 – 3:45 pm **WRAP UP**
Location: CoS Office
POC: Jenny Wang
PRESS: CLOSED

4:00 – 4:05 pm **MOVE TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE**

4:05 – 4:15 pm **INTERVIEW PREP // [REDACTED] - - - P6/b(6)**
Location: The Doctor's Office
POC: Peter Velz // Desiree Barnes
PRESS: CLOSED

4:15 – 4:20 pm **MOVE TO LOWER CROSS HALL**

4:20 – 4:30 pm **WALK & TALK INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS OF ABC THIS WEEK**
Location: Lower Cross Hall, The Residence

POC: Rob O'Donnell
Attendees: **YOU** + George Stephanopoulos, Host, ABC This Week
Setup: Walk and Talk Interview (Path: Lower Cross Hall to the Palm Room, down the West Colonnade and concluding at the Oval Office)

Sound/Podium: Lav Mic // None

PRESS: CLOSED // TAPED TO AIR ON JANUARY 8

Format:

- **YOU** move to the bottom of the Public Staircase in the Lower Cross Hall
- **YOU** greet George Stephanopoulos (**NOTE:** This greet is ON CAMERA)
- **YOU** are fitted with a lav mic
- **YOU** participate in a 5-minute walk and talk interview with George Stephanopoulos
- **YOU** and George Stephanopoulos walk down the Lower Cross Hall towards the Palm Room and conclude at the Oval Office
- **YOU** move to the Oval Office

4:30 – 4:35 pm

MOVE TO THE OVAL OFFICE

4:35 – 5:15 pm

SIT-DOWN INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Location: The Oval Office

POC: Rob O'Donnell

Attendees: **YOU** + George Stephanopoulos, Host, ABC This Week

Setup: **YOU** are seated across from George Stephanopoulos in front of the Resolute Desk.

Sound/Podium: Lav Mic // None

PRESS: CLOSED // TAPED TO AIR ON JANUARY 8

Format:

- **YOU** take **YOUR** seat
- **YOU** participate in a 20-minute sit-down interview with George Stephanopoulos
- **YOU** conclude and bid farewell to George Stephanopoulos; George Stephanopoulos and the crew depart

5:30 – 5:50 pm

OVAL OFFICE DROP-BY'S WITH THE FIRST LADY

Location: The Oval Office

POC: Ferial Govashiri

PRESS: CLOSED

5:50 – 6:30 pm

OVAL OFFICE DROP-BY'S

Location: The Oval Office

POC: Ferial Govashiri

PRESS: CLOSED

6:30 – 9:25 pm

POTUS TIME

Location: The Private Residence

PRESS: CLOSED

9:25 – 9:30 pm



P6/b(6)

P6/b(6)

9:30 – TBD pm



RON

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

PRESIDENTIAL CALL LOG
ADMIN SWITCHBOARD

Friday, January 6, 2017

	TIME		NAME	ACTION
	PLACED	DISC		
Outgoing	12:30 AM	12:30 AM	WH Admin Switchboard Office: Washington, DC 202-456-1414	Wake up requested with follow up Talked Ok with Mr. Sidney Jones 12:30 AM
Outgoing	12:52 AM	12:52 AM	WH Admin Switchboard Office: Washington, DC 202-456-1414	POTUS requested wake up and follow up time change Talked Ok with Mr. Sidney Jones 12:52 AM
Incoming	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	WH Admin Switchboard Office: Washington, DC 202-456-1414	Wake up completed Talked Ok with Mrs. Nijah Kelly 8:00 AM
Incoming	8:05 AM		WH Admin Switchboard Office: Washington, DC 202-456-1414	Follow up not completed No answer 8:05 AM

PRESIDENTIAL CALL LOG

SIGNAL SWITCHBOARD

PRESIDENT BARACK H. OBAMA

Friday, January 6, 2017

[illegible]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

PRESIDENTIAL CALL LOG
WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

January 6, 2017

[illegible]



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807370 **U #:** U41662 **Room #:** Oval Office **Person to be Visited:** The President
Requestor: REBECCA BODEN **Requestor Phone:** 69348
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 10:00 AM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
FLYNN, DANIEL JAMES
FRY, SUZANNE ELIZABETH



United States Secret Service

Presidential Protective Division

POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807396 **U #:** U41728 **Room #:** Oval **Person to be Visited:** POTUS
Requestor: FERAL GOVASHIRI **Requestor Phone:** 65795
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 12:00 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
COOK, JANICE D
DOUGLAS, DANYALE M
GUNN, LORENZO BERNARD
MCCLELLAN, JOHNNY D
MCCLELLAN, JUAN D
MCCLELLAN, LENA NMN
MCCLELLAN, OMARI NMN
MCCLELLAN, WESLEY NMN
MCCLELLANDOUGLAS, SHANI NMN
MCCLELLANGUNN, TOINETTE NMN
MCCLELLANTERRELL, SHARON L
MCCLINTONMCCLELLAN, LORRI D
MCMUTUARY, KAREN NMN
PINKSTON, LACHARLOTTE NMN
TERRELL, TIMOTHY P



United States Secret Service

Presidential Protective Division

POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807381 **U #:** P56504 **Room #:** Press Lobby **Person to be Visited:** POTUS

Requestor: BROOKE LILLARD

Requestor Phone: 65888

From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 08:00 AM

Type of Appointment: Press

To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM

Location: White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
ALESSE, ELIZABETH NMN
DONOVAN, CHRISTOPHER MARK
DOUGHERTY, PAUL GAVIN
DROWNE, JEREMY LEE
DUNKIN, JOHN ROBERT
HAYWOOD, BARRY LYNN
HUBERT, JASON THOMAS
KRAKOWIAK, THOMAS WALTER
MIKUTSKY, DAVID SCOTT
OSHEA, DANIEL JOSEPH
OWEN, ANDREA MARION
ROSSOLL, NICOLE MARIE
SCHOLER, MEE YUN
SMITH, CINDY LYNN
SPRING, JOSHUA WILLARD
STEPHANOPOULOS, GEORGE ROBERT
TRACHTENBERG, THEA JULIE
WHITE, DOUGLAS MARTIN



United States Secret Service

Presidential Protective Division

POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807137 **U #:** P56497 **Room #:** Press Lobby **Person to be Visited:** POTUS

Requestor: BROOKE LILLARD

Requestor Phone: 65888

From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 10:00 AM

Type of Appointment: Press

To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM

Location: White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
ALESSE, ELIZABETH NMN
DONOVAN, CHRISTOPHER MARK
DOUGHERTY, PAUL GAVIN
DROWNE, JEREMY LEE
DUNKIN, JOHN ROBERT
HAYWOOD, BARRY LYNN
HUBERT, JASON THOMAS
KRAKOWIAK, THOMAS WALTER
MIKUTSKY, DAVID SCOTT
OSHEA, DANIEL JOSEPH
OWEN, ANDREA MARION
SCHOLER, MEE YUN
SMITH, CINDY LYNN
SPRING, JOSHUA WILLARD
STEPHANOPOULOS, GEORGE ROBERT
TRACHTENBERG, THEA JULIE
WHITE, DOUGLAS MARTIN



United States Secret Service

Presidential Protective Division

POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 806974 **U #:** U41380 **Room #:** Oval Office **Person to be Visited:** POTUS
Requestor: EMMANUEL CHAN **Requestor Phone:** 65427
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 01:00 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
Akamigbo, Adanna Caroline
Akamigbo, Chetachi Emmanuel
Aviel, Sara Margalit
Barnes, Jean Schilffarth
BARNES, MICHAEL RAY
BECK, JAMES WILLIAM
BECK, JAMIE MARIE
Beck, Marleen NMN
BECK, MATTHEW MILAN
Blumenthal, Adira Elisheva
Blumenthal, Ari NMN
Blumenthal, Miriam Talia
Borges, Natalie NMN
BOWERS, ANDREA NMN
Bowers, Christa NMN
BOWERS, CHRISTIAN NMN
Bowers, Christman NMN
BOWERS, TOM NMN
Branch, Katherine Yvonne
BROWN, CRYSTAL LYNNE
BROWN, MARCIA NMN
Buckingham, Daniel Joseph
Buckingham, Lila Susan
Buckingham, Shannon Spillane
Buckingham, Stephen Joseph
Busath, Megan Elizabeth
Butherus, Jessica Marie
Butherus, Martin Albert
Butherus, Rita K

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Visitor's Name
CASTELLANOS, MARIA NOELIA
Castle, Janet Haley
Cavendish, Elizabeth Ann
Cioth, Adam Julian
CIOTH, PETER JACOB
CIOTH, TALIA STEPHANIE
Cohen, Ilona Renee
Cohen, Judith Ann
Cohen, Malcolm Stuart
Cooke, Elizabeth Sigrid
Cooke, Gregory Michael
Cooke, Karen Martin
COOKE, OWEN MICHAEL
CorbinJohnson, Shavonnia Lenae
Crosbie, Brigit Rose
Crosbie, Christopher Michael
Crosbie, Michael James
Crosbie, Sean Michael
Crosbie, Sharon Maher
Danzig, Lisa Eleanor
Davich, Rose NMN
DEBONIS, LAURA NMN
Dee, Carolyn NMN
Dee, Constance NMN
DEE, ROBERT NMN
Deich, Alison NMN
Deich, Michael NMN
Deich, Sharon Gennis
Dickerson, Debora NMN
Dickerson, Evan Henry
Dickerson, Michael Allan
Dickerson, Mollie Ann
Dickerson, William Allan
DiMarzio, Abraham Aviel
DiMarzio, Martin Joseph
Donnelly, Mark Christopher
DonnellyCohen, Jack Balin
DonnellyCohen, Maya Lauren
Donovan, Lucas DudleyGilbert

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Visitor's Name
Donovan, Miles JamesDesmond
DONOVAN, SHAUN LAWRENCESARDA
DOWD, MARK KIERAN
DOWNES, ALEXANDER BRYAN
Downes, Amelia Elinor
Downes, Claire Danzig
Enekwechi, Adaeze Beatrice
ENEKWECHI, EMMANUEL E
ENEKWECHI, PATRICIA N
ETZIONI, AMITAI NMN
FAHIM, RAFAT NMN
FayeDowd, Amanda Lynn
FayeDowd, Hope R
FayeDowd, Rian C
Fucile, Tamara Lynn
FULCO, SUZANNE YVONNE
GAITHER, CHANDA ROCHELLE
Gaither, Jerry NMN
GAITHER, MILES DAVIDJULIAN
Gaither, Stephanie NMN
GarciaJr, Luciano NMN
Garrett, Jillian NMN
Garrett, Leo NMN
Garrett, Melissa NMN
Garrett, Patrick NMN
GHEBREMICHAEL, MULUGHETA NMN
GHEBREMICHAEL, ZEWDI NMN
GILBERT, ELIZABETH EASTMAN
Groman, Marc Matthew
Guterman, Frances L
HASAN, ABDULLAH NMN
HASAN, FAHIM U
Hasan, Nabila NMN
Hayes, Brooke NMN
Hayes, Jelani NMN
HAYES, KIMBERLY NMN
HAYES, TIMOTHY NMN
HUANG, CINDY NMN
HUANG, MARILAN LO

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Visitor's Name
HUANG, STEEL TZUWEI
Jenkins, Adora Andy
JENKINS, WILLIAM NATHANIEL
JenkinsIII, William Nathaniel
JenkinsIV, William Nathaniel
Johnson, Katherine Barrett
Johnson, Roberta Idella
KEAMMERER, AMANDA LEE
Keammerer, Diana T
Keammerer, Matthew Eugene
Keammerer, Nancy Lee
KEAMMERER, RICHARD EUGENE
Kellogg, Clifton Gregory
Kellogg, Lucy Cavendish
KELLOGG, PATRICIA DEAL
Kellogg, Tamara Cheryl
Klaus, Robert Ian
Lachman, Jonathan Simon
LAM, DANIEL BAO
LAM, PHIL BAO
Lee, Sammy Ella
LLANO, JOHANNIE NMN
LLANO, JOSEFA P
LLANO, RAYDA NMN
LLANO, RAYDEN NMN
Luftig, Charles NMN
Lykins, John Tyler
LYONS, DARRELL MAURICE
Lyons, Mikaela Lyric
MAYOCK, ANDREW NMN
MAYOCK, ANNE E
MAYOCK, MARIELLA NMN
MAYOCK, TAI NMN
McDermott, Beverly Anne
MCDERMOTT, HAYLEY ANN
McDermott, Jane Ellen
McGuinness, Mary Frances
McGuinness, Tara Dawson
McGuinness, Terence Michael

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Visitor's Name
MCLARNONSILK, COURTNEY JENNA
Meservie, Andrea NMN
MESERVIE, JOSEPH MICHAEL
Meservie, Justin Ross
Meservie, Lauren Brittany
MOHTADI, HAMID NMN
Mohtadi, Shahrzad Zarrin
Mohtadi, Tara Zarrin
MONTECALVO, MICHELE NMN
MULUGHETA, ABEL NMN
MULUGHETA, DAWIT NMN
MULUGHETA, MINAB NMN
Mulugheta, Niyat NMN
Murdock, Frankie Loomis
Murdock, Rebecca NMN
MURDOCK, WILLIE SMITH
Murphy, Damian Francis
Murphy, Eleanor McGuinness
Nathan, Asher NMN
NATHAN, LIA NMN
NATHAN, SCOTT ANDREW
OConnor, Arlene Francis
OCONNOR, DESMOND BARNETT
OConnor, Devin LaBella
OConnor, Rebecca Rose
OCONNOR, THOMAS LAUGHLIN
ONA, BRANDON JAMES
ONA, BRICE NELSON
Ona, Karen Lynne
ONA, NORIEL ILAO
Orbach, Ozzie Joseph
OrbachLachman, Sherry Eve
ORRIS, ALLISON BETH
Orris, Barbara NMN
ORRIS, RICHARD ELLIOT
Parrott, Betty Goldblum
Parrott, Ralph Condron
Parrott, Sharon Elaine
Patel, Angeli Harikrishna

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Visitor's Name
PATEL, ASHISH HARISH
PATEL, DEVIYANIBEN NMN
Reitman, David Samuel
Reitman, Jared Lewis
Resimius, Erin Elizabeth
RICHARDSON, LAURIE FAXON
RIZVI, SYED NMN
ROBERTS, DANIEL C
Roberts, Debra D
ROBERTS, RUBEN NMN
Robinson, April Marshawn
ROMERO, JAVIER NMN
ROSE, MARGARET BARNETT
ROSS, CAROLINE KRAMER
ROSS, CHARLES EMMETT
ROSS, RICHARD BRUCE
Ross, Shelley Sakofs
ROTH, ERIN JANE
RothJr, Bradley Charles
SAIKIA, GINI NMN
SAIKIA, PRABHAT NMN
Saikia, Preeya NMN
Scarlett, Barbara AnnHaith
SCARLETT, EARLE STAUBIN
Scarlett, Philippa Milane
SCOTT, ANTHONY EDWARD
Sessoms, Delores NMN
Sgro, Max NMN
Shelanski, Howard Adam
Shelanski, Isaac Simon
Shelanski, Michael Lea
Shelanski, Vivien Brodtkin
Slater, Samantha Ariel
Soulanille, Nicole Denise
Touhill, Andrew Michael
Touhill, Charlene Ann
Touhill, Gregory Joseph
Touhill, Katherine Grace
VanDyck, Haley Lyn

LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Visitor's Name
VanDyck, Jonathan Thomas
VanDyck, Thomas William
Wakelyn, Alia SofiaScarlett
Wakelyn, David Jeffrey
Wakelyn, Natalie GenevaScarlett
Watson, Janice Inez
Watson, Jannelle Catherine
WATSON, LONNIE ANTHONY
Watson, Lonnie Anthony
Watterson, Bridget Ellen
Watterson, Caroline Rose
Watterson, Ryan Robert
Watterson, Todd Michael
WEATHERS, KATHERINE ANNE
WILLIAMS, ANGEL NMN
YOUNG, CARL HENRY
YOUNG, ELIZABETH NMN
Young, Julia Marie
ZAIDI, AFROZ NMN
ZAIDI, ALI ABBAS
ZAIDI, DANISH NMN
ZAIDI, SYED NMN
ZARRIN, FAHIMEH NMN



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807637 **U #:** U41873 **Room #:** Roosevelt Room **Person to be Visited:** POTUS
Requestor: BROOKE LILLARD **Requestor Phone:** 65888
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 01:00 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name

STEPHANOPOULOS, GEORGE ROBERT



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information**Appointment #:** 807936 **U #:** U42111 **Room #:** Oval**Person to be Visited:** Departure
Photo**Requestor:** JULIA ROSS**Requestor Phone:** **From Date/Time:** 01/06/2017 01:00 PM**Type of Appointment:** AppointmentP6/b(6)**To Date/Time:** 01/06/2017 11:59 PM**Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
FAHIM, RAFAT NMN
MONTECALVO, MICHELE M



United States Secret Service

Presidential Protective Division

POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807800 **U #:** U41994 **Room #:** Oval **Person to be Visited:** POTUS

Requestor: FERAL GOVASHIRI

Requestor Phone: 65795

From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 01:30 PM

Type of Appointment: Appointment

To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM

Location: White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
Ruemmler, Kathryn Helen



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807737 **U #:** U41940 **Room #:** Oval Office **Person to be Visited:** POTUS

Requestor: EMMANUEL CHAN

Requestor Phone: 65427

From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 02:30 PM

Type of Appointment: Appointment

To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM

Location: White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
MCDERMOTT, BEVERLY ANNE
MCDERMOTT, HAYLEY ANN
ROTH, ERIN JANE
ROTHJR, BRADLEY CHARLES



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807664 **U #:** U41895 **Room #:** Roosevelt Room **Person to be Visited:** POTUS
Requestor: BROOKE LILLARD **Requestor Phone:** 65888
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 03:00 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name

STEPHANOPOULOS, GEORGE ROBERT



United States Secret Service

Presidential Protective Division

POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807511 **U #:** U41917 **Room #:** West Wing **Person to be Visited:** POTUS
Requestor: MAGDELENA MORROW **Requestor Phone:** 62343
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 04:00 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
JARVIS, CHARLENE DREW
JARVIS, DABORAH L
JARVIS, ERNEST DREW
JARVIS, ERNEST DREW
JARVIS, JACOB DREW
MOSES, DEMAURICE NMN
WEST, SHAUN KAZUM



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807806 **U #:** U41997 **Room #:** State Floor **Person to be Visited:** POTUS/
FLOTUS

Requestor: Jonathan Lee

Requestor Phone: 2024563032

From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 04:00 PM

Type of Appointment: Appointment

To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM

Location: White House (WH)

Visitor's Name

Bell, Alexis Karen



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807787 **U #:** U42093 **Room #:** West Wing **Person to be Visited:** POTUS
Requestor: MAGDELENA MORROW **Requestor Phone:** 62343
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 05:00 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
JARVIS, CHARLENE DREW
JARVIS, DABORAH L
JARVIS, ERNEST DREW
JARVIS, ERNEST DREW
JARVIS, JACOB DREW
MOSES, DEMAURICE NMN
WEST, SHAUN KAZUM



United States Secret Service

Presidential Protective Division

POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807625 **U #:** U41868 **Room #:** Oval **Person to be Visited:** POTUS
Requestor: JOSEPH PAULSEN **Requestor Phone:** 2024563271
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 05:30 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
BANBURY, JOAN HUGGINS
KISSINGER, TRICIA EILEEN
LASSITER, JAMES ROBERT
LASSITER, JAMES ROBERT
LASSITER, JOHN HUGGINS
LASSITER, MAI HUGGINS
LESSMAN, MARGARET NMN
LION, MARGO NMN
NEMETH, CAROLINE KISSINGER
NEMETH, CATHERINE KISSINGER
NEMETH, MATTHEW LION
PAREKH, DEVEN JAWAHAR
RYBAK, RAYMOND THOMAS
VEDDER, ED NMN
VEDDER, HARPER NMN
VEDDER, JILL NMN
VEDDER, OLIVIA NMN



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 808155 **U #:** U42275 **Room #:** Upper Press **Person to be Visited:** Desiree Barnes
Requestor: DESIREE BARNES **Requestor Phone:** 63571
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 05:47 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name

HugginsBanbury, Joan NMN



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 807474 **U #:** U41741 **Room #:** Oval **Person to be Visited:** POTUS
Requestor: JOSEPH PAULSEN **Requestor Phone:** 2024563271
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 06:00 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name
chandoo, mohammed hasan
Chandoo, Mohammed Imran
Chandoo, Mohammed Raza



United States Secret Service
Presidential Protective Division
POTUS REPORT

Appointment Information

Appointment #: 808123 **U #:** 170071 **Room #:** Residence **Person to be Visited:** Reed Milbrath
Requestor: TIMOTHY MILBRATH **Requestor Phone:** 58510
From Date/Time: 01/06/2017 08:00 PM **Type of Appointment:** Appointment
To Date/Time: 01/06/2017 11:59 PM **Location:** White House (WH)

Visitor's Name

WAGNER, ALEXANDRA NMN

Withdrawal Marker

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Report	POTUS Report	25	01/06/2017	P6/b6;

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FRC ID:

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OA Num.:**NARA Num.:****FOIA ID and Segment:**

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24-01042-F

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Records Not Subject to FOIA

Court Sealed - The document is withheld under a court seal and is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act.



PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING BOOK

For

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017

Presidential Diarist

PRIVATE

**MEETING BREAKDOWN FOR PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA
FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017
WASHINGTON, DC**

10:00 – 10:30 am

PRESIDENTIAL DAILY BRIEFING

Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

Attendees:

1. The Vice President
2. Denis McDonough
3. Susan Rice
4. Avril Haines
5. Lisa Monaco
6. Colin Kahl
7. Ben Rhodes
8. Director Clapper
9. Suzanne Fry
10. Daniel Flynn

10:50 – 10:55 am

EVENT PREP

Location: The Oval Office
POC: Peter Velz
PRESS: CLOSED

Attendees:

1. Kristie Canegallo
2. Josh Earnest
3. Liz Allen
4. Katie Hill, Assistant Press Secretary

10:55 – 11:00 am

WALKING MOVEMENT EN ROUTE BLAIR HOUSE

NOTE: The PRESS POOL and White House Videographer will capture **YOUR** walk to the Blair House

11:00 – 11:05 am

**ARRIVE BLAIR HOUSE // ARRIVAL GREET // MOVE TO THE
LINCOLN ROOM (HOLD)**

Location: Blair Door, Blair House
1651 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20503

Site: Andrea Richter

Hold: Lincoln Room, First Floor

Staff Hold: Protocol Office, First Floor

PRESS: POOLED FOR OUTSIDE GREET // CLOSED FOR INSIDE
GREET

Greeted outside the Blair House by (POOLED PRESS):

- Randy Bumgardner, Blair House Manager

Greeted in the Front Drawing Room by (CLOSED PRESS):

- Ezra Klein, Editor-in-Chief, Vox.com
- Sarah Kliff, Senior Correspondent, Vox.com

11:05 – 11:10 am

P6/b(6)

// MOVE TO OSA

Location: Lincoln Room, First Floor, Blair House (Hold)
Site: Andrea Richter
PRESS: CLOSED

NOTE:

YOU are lav'd at off-stage announce

11:10 – 11:55 am

VOX LIVE INTERVIEW

Location: Garden Room, First Floor, Blair House
POC: Liz Allen
Attendees: Approximately 85 participants, seated
Setup: **YOU** are seated on an 8-foot by 4-foot stage. Behind **YOU** is the Garden Room mantle with a Vox logo placed on top. Three chairs are positioned on the stage with water tables in between, and POTUS flags frame the stage edges.
Sound/Podium: Lav Mic // None
PRESS: POOLED // LIVESTREAMED ON WH.GOV AND VOX.COM

Format:

- Ezra Klein introduces **YOU** to stage
- **YOU** move to stage from stage LEFT and take **YOUR** seat
- **YOU** participate in a 40-minute interview with Ezra Klein (**NOTE:** Towards the end of the interview, Sarah Kliff takes a question for **YOU** from the audience)
- Interview concludes and **YOU** depart

11:55 – 12:05 pm

WALKING MOVEMENT EN ROUTE THE OVAL OFFICE

NOTE: The PRESS POOL and White House Videographer will capture **YOUR** walk back to the White House

12:10 – 12:20 pm

OVAL OFFICE DROP-BY

Location: The Oval Office
POC: Ferial Govashiri
PRESS: CLOSED

12:30 – 1:00 pm

LUNCH

Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

1:00 – 1:30 pm

POTUS TIME

Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

1:30 – 1:55 pm

DESK TIME

Location: The Oval Office
PRESS: CLOSED

1:55 – 2:00 pm

STAFF SECRETARY TIME

Location: The Oval Office
POC: Joani Walsh
PRESS: CLOSED

YOU sign:

1. S. 3084: American Innovation and Competitiveness Act

2:00 – 3:00 pm

WHITE HOUSE DEPARTURE PHOTOS

Location: The Oval Office
POC: Tess Udall // Divya Kantamneni
Attendees: 252 attendees // 57 clicks
PRESS: CLOSED

Format:

- **YOU** welcome departing staff members and their families into the Oval Office
- **YOU** pose for a photograph with each group
- After each photo, the group departs and **YOU** repeat this process for approximately 56 clicks
- Following the last click, all guests depart

Attendees manifested in the event memo

3:15 – 3:45 pm

WRAP UP

Location: CoS Office
POC: Jenny Wang
PRESS: CLOSED

4:00 – 4:05 pm

MOVE TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE

4:05 – 4:15 pm

INTERVIEW PREP /

P6/b(6)

Location: The Doctor's Office
POC: Peter Velz // Desiree Barnes
PRESS: CLOSED

Attendees:

1. Josh Earnest
2. Jen Psaki
3. Ben Rhodes
4. Ned Price
5. *Denis McDonough (optional)*

4:15 – 4:20 pm

MOVE TO LOWER CROSS HALL

4:20 – 4:30 pm

**WALK & TALK INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS
OF ABC THIS WEEK**

Location: Lower Cross Hall, The Residence

POC: Rob O'Donnell

Attendees: **YOU** + George Stephanopoulos, Host, ABC This Week

Setup: Walk and Talk Interview (Path: Lower Cross Hall to the Palm Room, down the West Colonnade and concluding at the Oval Office)

Sound/Podium: Lav Mic // None

PRESS: CLOSED // TAPED TO AIR ON JANUARY 8

Format:

- **YOU** move to the bottom of the Public Staircase in the Lower Cross Hall
- **YOU** greet George Stephanopoulos (**NOTE:** This greet is ON CAMERA)
- **YOU** are fitted with a lav mic
- **YOU** participate in a 5-minute walk and talk interview with George Stephanopoulos
- **YOU** and George Stephanopoulos walk down the Lower Cross Hall towards the Palm Room and conclude at the Oval Office
- **YOU** move to the Oval Office

4:30 – 4:35 pm

MOVE TO THE OVAL OFFICE

4:35 – 5:15 pm

SIT-DOWN INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS

Location: The Oval Office

POC: Rob O'Donnell

Attendees: **YOU** + George Stephanopoulos, Host, ABC This Week

Setup: **YOU** are seated across from George Stephanopoulos in front of the Resolute Desk.

Sound/Podium: Lav Mic // None

PRESS: CLOSED // TAPED TO AIR ON JANUARY 8

Format:

- **YOU** take **YOUR** seat
- **YOU** participate in a 20-minute sit-down interview with George Stephanopoulos
- **YOU** conclude and bid farewell to George Stephanopoulos; George Stephanopoulos and the crew depart

5:30 – 5:50 pm

OVAL OFFICE DROP-BY'S WITH THE FIRST LADY

Location: The Oval Office

POC: Ferial Govashiri

PRESS: CLOSED

5:50 – 6:30 pm

OVAL OFFICE DROP-BY'S

Location: The Oval Office

POC: Ferial Govashiri

PRESS: CLOSED

6:30 – 9:25 pm

POTUS TIME

Location: The Private Residence
PRESS: CLOSED

9:25 – 9:30 pm

9:30 – TBD pm

P6/b(6)

RON

THE WHITE HOUSE

Withdrawal Marker

Obama Presidential Library

FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Briefing	Daily Economic Briefing	4	01/05/2017	P5;

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

COLLECTION:

Scheduling and Advance, Office of

SERIES:

Presidential Daily Diary

FOLDER TITLE:

01/06/2017

FRC ID:

9984

OA Num.:**NARA Num.:****FOIA ID and Segment:**

25-74956-F

24-01042-F

22-17857-F

RESTRICTION CODES**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

Deed of Gift Restrictions

- A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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Withdrawal Marker

Obama Presidential Library

FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Memorandum	Vox Live Interview - To: Barack Obama - From: Liz Allen and Kristie Canegallo	39	01/05/2017	P5;

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
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THE WHITE HOUSE

Washington

January 5, 2017

WHITE HOUSE DEPARTURE PHOTOS

DATE: January 6, 2017
LOCATION: Oval Office
TIME: 2:00 – 3:00 PM
FROM: Anita Breckenridge

I. PURPOSE

To take photographs with 56 current staffers and 1 former staffer who are departing the White House.

II. PARTICIPANTS

- Attached at Tab A

III. PRESS PLAN

CLOSED Press.

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- Staff members and their families enter the Oval Office one-by-one, pose for a photograph with YOU, and depart.

V. REMARKS

N/A.

VI. ATTACHMENT

A. List of Participants

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Sara Aviel

Current Position: Executive Associate Director, Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Martin DiMarzio, husband
- Abraham DiMarzio, son

Matthew Beck (Departed WH Staffer)

Previous Position: Confidential Assistant to the U.S. Chief Acquisition Officer and the U.S. Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator in OMB

Current Position: Graduate Student at the University of Cambridge

Guests:

- Marleen Beck, mother
- James Beck, father
- Jamie Beck, sister
- Rose Davich, grandmother

Christa Bowers

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Christman Bowers, brother
- Andrea Bowers, mother
- Tom Bowers, father
- Christian Bowers, brother
- Angel Williams, sister

Katherine Branch

Current Position: Director of Special Projects and Events and Special Assistant to the Sen Advisor and Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs and Office of Public Engagement

Guests:

- Rebecca Murdock, mother
- Frankie Murdock, brother
- Natalie Borges, daughter
- Darrell Lyons, son
- Mikaela Lyons, granddaughter
- Willie Murdock, father

Crystal Brown

Current Position: Senior Advisor in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Marcia Brown, mother
- Delores Sessoms, grandmother

Shannon Buckingham

Current Position: Associate Director for Communications, Office of Management and Budget
Guests:

- Stephen Buckingham, husband
- Lila Buckingham, daughter
- Daniel Buckingham, son

Jessica Butherus

Current Position: Special Assistant and Advisor to the Director, Office of Administration
Guests:

- Erin Resimius, sister
- Rita Butherus, mother
- Martin Butherus, father
- Katherine Weathers, sister

Beth Cobert

Current Position: Acting Director of the Office of Personnel Management
Guests:

- Adam Cioth, husband
- Talia Cioth, daughter
- Peter Cioth, son

Ilona Cohen

Current Position: General Counsel in the Office of Management and Budget
Guests:

- Mark Donnelly, husband
- Maya Donnelly Cohen, daughter
- Jack Donnelly Cohen, son
- Malcolm Cohen, father
- Judith Cohen, mother

Elizabeth Cooke

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget
Guests:

- Gregory Cooke, father
- Karen Cooke, mother
- Owen Cooke, brother

Shavonnia Corbin-Jonson

Current Position: Advisor and Assistant to the Director
Guest:

- Roberta Johnson, grandmother

Christopher Crosbie

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Courtney McLarnon Silk, partner
- Sharon Crosbie, mother
- Michael Crosbie, father
- Brigit Crosbie, sister
- Sean Crosbie, brother

Lisa Danzig

Current Position: Associate Director for Performance Management in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Alexander Downes, husband
- Amelia Downes, daughter
- Claire Downes, daughter

Carolyn Dee

Current Position: Deputy to the Associate Director for Legislative Affairs in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Constance Dee, mother
- Robert Dee, father

Michael Dickerson

Current Position: Administrator of the U.S. Digital Service

Guests:

- Mollie Dickerson, sister
- William Dickerson, father
- Debora Dickerson, mother
- Megan Busath, sister
- Evan Dickerson, brother

Shaun Donovan

Current Position: Director of the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Elizabeth Eastman, wife
- Miles Donovan, son
- Lucas Donovan, son

Mark Dowd

Current Position: Senior Advisor in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Amanda Faye Dowd, wife
- Hope Faye Dowd, daughter
- Rian Faye Dowd, son

Adaeze Enekwechi

Current Position: Associate Director for Health in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Emmanuel Enekwechi, father
- Patricia Enekwechi, mother
- Chetachi Akamigbo, child
- Adanna Akamigbo, child

Tamara Fucile

Current Position: Associate Director for Legislative Affairs, Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Todd Watterson, husband
- Caroline Watterson, daughter
- Bridget Watterson, daughter
- Ryan Watterson, son

Stephanie Gaither

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Jerry Gaither, father
- Miles Gaither, nephew
- Chanda Gaither, sister

Marc Groman

Current Position: Senior Advisor to the Director, Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Jared Reitman, son
- David Reitman, husband

Abdullah Hasan

Current Position: Press Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Nabila Hasan, sister
- Rafat Fahim, mother
- Fahim Hasan, father

Jelani Hayes

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Kimberly Hayes, mother
- Brooke Hayes, sister
- Timothy Hayes, father

William Jenkins

Current Position: Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor, Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Adora Jenkins, wife
- William Jenkins, son

Luis Jimenez

Current Position: Counselor to the Ambassador, United States Trade Representative

Katherine Johnson

Current Position: Counselor to the Administrator, Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Laurie Richardson, friend
- Robert Klaus, friend

Amanda Keammerer

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Diana Keammerer, grandmother
- Matthew Keammerer, brother
- Nancy Keammerer, mother
- Richard Keammerer, parent
- Luciano Garcia Jr., grandparents

Clifton Kellogg

Current Position: Senior Advisor in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Tamara Kellogg, sister
- Elizabeth Cavendish, wife
- Patricia Kellogg, mother
- Amitai Etzioni, family
- Lucy Kellogg, daughter

Jonathan Lachman

Current Position: Associate Director of National Security Programs in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Sherry Orbach Lachman, wife
- Ozzie Orbach, father-in-law
- Frances Gutterman, aunt

Kristine Lam

Current Position: Deputy to the Associate Director for Legislative Affairs

Guests:

- Michael Barnes, partner
- Phil Lam, brother
- Daniel Lam, brother

Rayden Llano

Current Position: Special Assistant to the Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Javier Romero, brother
- Rayda Llano, aunt
- Josefa Llano, grandmother
- Maria Castellanos, mother
- Johannie Llano, sister

Charles Luftig

Current Position: Deputy General Counsel in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Melissa Garrett, sister
- Patrick Garrett, brother
- Jillian Garrett, uncle
- Leo Garrett, uncle

Andrew Mayock

Current Position: Senior Advisor for the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Cindy Huang, wife
- Anne Mayock, mother-in-law
- Marilan Huang, father-in-law
- Steel Huang, child
- Mariella Mayock, child
- Tai Mayock, child

Jane McDermott

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Erin Roth, sister
- Bradley Roth Jr., brother-in-law
- Beverly McDermott, mother
- Hayley McDermott, sister

Tara McGuinness

Current Position: Senior Advisor to the Director, Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Mary McGuinness, mother
- Terence McGuinness, father
- Damian Murphy, husband
- Eleanor Murphy, daughter

Justin Meservie

Current Position: Senior Advisor in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Samantha Slater, wife
- Joseph Meservie, father
- Andrea Meservie, mother
- Lauren Meservie, sister
- Michele Montecalvo, sister

Shahrzad Mohtadi

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Tara Mohtadi, sister
- Hamid Mohtadi, father
- Fahimeh Zarrin, mother

Niyat Mulugheta

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Abel Mulugheta, brother
- Zewdi Ghebremichael, mother
- Mulugheta Ghebremichael, father
- Minab Mulugheta, brother
- Dawit Mulugheta, brother

Scott Nathan

Current Position: Associate Director for General Government Programs, Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Laura DeBonis, wife
- Lia Nathan, daughter
- Asher Nathan, son

Devin O'Connor

Current Position: Associate Director for Economic Policy in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Arlene O'Connor, mother
- Rebecca O'Connor, wife
- Margaret Rose, parent
- Thomas O'Connor, son
- Desmond O'Connor, son

Brandon Ona

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Karen Ona, mother
- Brice Ona, brother

Allison Orris

Current Position: Associate Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA)

Guests:

- Barbara Orris, mother
- Richard Orris, brother

Sharon Parrott

Current Position: Associate Director for Education, Income Maintenance & Labor

Guests:

- Ralph Parrott, father
- Betty Parrott, mother
- Ari Blumenthal, husband
- Miriam Blumenthal, daughter
- Adira Blumenthal, daughter

Angeli Patel

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Ashish Patel, mother
- Devyaniben Patel, brother

Daniel Roberts

Current Position: Legislative Analyst in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Debra Roberts, mother
- Ruben Roberts, father

Caroline Ross

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- John Lykins, partner
- Shelley Ross, mother
- Richard Ross, father
- Charles Ross, brother

Preeya Saikia

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Gini Saikia, mother
- Prabhat Saikia, father

Philippa Scarlett

Current Position: Deputy Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator

Guests:

- David Wakelyn, husband
- Natalie Wakelyn, daughter
- Alia Wakelyn, daughter
- Earle Scarlett, father
- Barbara Scarlett, mother

Anthony Scott

Current Position: Associate Director for General Government Programs, Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Laura DeBonis, wife
- Lia Nathan, daughter
- Asher Nathan, son

Max Sgro

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Howard Shelanski

Current Position: Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs

Guests:

- Nicole Soulanille, partner
- Isaac Shelanski, child
- Vivien Shelanski, mother
- Michael Shelanski, father

Gregory Touhill

Current Position: U.S. Chief Information Security Officer

Guests:

- Katherine Touhill, daughter
- Andrew Touhill, son
- Charlene Touhill, wife

Haley Van Dyck

Current Position: Deputy Administrator, U.S. Digital Service

Guests:

- Jonathan Van Dyck, brother
- Thomas Van Dyck, father
- Jean Barnes, grandmother
- Janet Castle, mother

Jannelle Watson

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Janice Watson, mother
- Lonnie Watson, father
- Lonnie Watson, brother

Carl Young

Current Position: Confidential Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Elizabeth Young, aunt
- April Robinson, aunt
- Julia Young, sister

Ali Zaidi

Current Position: Associate Director for Natural Resource Programs in the Office of Management and Budget

Guests:

- Syed Zaidi, father
- Afroz Zaidi, mother
- Danish Zaidi, brother
- Syed Rizvi, grandmother

THE WHITE HOUSE

Washington

January 5, 2017

INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS OF ABC THIS WEEK

DATE: January 6, 2017
LOCATION: Lower Cross Hall, Oval Office
TIME: 4:20 – 5:15 PM
From: Rob O'Donnell and Brooke Lillard

I. PURPOSE

On Friday, YOU will participate in a two part interview with George Stephanopoulos, host of ABC's This Week. The first part of the interview will be a 10 minute walk-and-talk starting at the bottom of the staircase in the lower cross hall and moving toward the Oval Office. The second part of the interview will be a 30 minute sit-down in the Oval Office.

This is the first of a series of exit interviews YOU will do over the next several days leading up to your farewell address. ABC will begin promoting the interview on Friday and will air excerpts during the evening news. The full interview will air on ABC This Week at 10:30 AM ET on Sunday, January 8. This will be your 12th and final interview with George Stephanopoulos as President. George last interviewed YOU in November 2015.

George is expected to focus on three key themes: 1) YOUR focus over the next fourteen days 2) YOUR assessment of the highs and lows of YOUR Presidency 3) YOUR family and the future, including potentially YOUR foundation and library. The walk and talk portion will be more about perspective and family, while the sit down portion will focus on substance and policy.

We expect a heavy focus on Russia including the report from the intelligence community, conversations YOU have had with the President Elect, YOUR response to attacks on the intelligence community by the President Elect, the impact of Russia's involvement on the election and how the Russia hacking has impacted other business with Russia. He has also indicated that he wants to discuss North Korea and the future of the United States relationship with China, GITMO and expected reductions over the next two weeks and YOUR plans for pardons before YOU leave office.

On your family and the future, we expect George to raise YOUR political legacy. Are there places YOU could have done more and what does it mean for the future? How did the outcome of the election impact your involvement in politics moving forward?

George did not raise this specifically when we spoke with him, but he did read through all of the Ta Nahesi transcripts and has raised his interest in discussing race and YOUR impact as the first African American President.

II. PARTICIPANT

- George Stephanopoulos, Host, ABC This Week

III. BACKGROUND ON GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS



George Stephanopoulos
Host, ABC This Week

George Stephanopoulos is ABC News' Chief Anchor. He also serves as anchor of "Good Morning America," and anchor of "This Week with George Stephanopoulos." As Chief Anchor, Stephanopoulos leads the network's coverage on all major live events and breaking news around the world.

Stephanopoulos has conducted interviews with a wide range of subjects – from President Barack Obama, Vice President Joseph Biden, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, and Vladimir Putin to Mark Kelly, Jason Collins, George Clooney, Elmo, Lady Gaga, Jennifer Anniston, and Steve Martin. For more than a decade his range and expertise have played a pivotal role at the network – garnering him two Emmys, a DuPont, a Murrow, and two Cronkite Awards.

Stephanopoulos joined ABC News in 1997 as an analyst for "This Week." Prior to joining ABC News, he served in the Clinton administration as the Senior Advisor to the President for Policy and Strategy. He is the author of "All Too Human," a No. 1 New York Times bestseller.

Stephanopoulos received his Master's degree in theology from Balliol College, Oxford University, England, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia University and graduated summa cum laude in political science. Stephanopoulos and his wife, Alexandra Wentworth, have two daughters, Elliott and Harper.

NOTE: This will be your 12th and final interview as President with George.

IV. PRESS PLAN

CLOSED Press. ABC will begin promoting the interview on Friday morning and it will air on ABC This Week at 10:30 AM ET on Sunday, January 8.

ABC will run a clip from your interview, likely the Russia portion, on World News Tonight on Friday evening.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- YOU move to the bottom of the Public Staircase in the Lower Cross Hall.
- YOU greet George Stephanopoulos (NOTE: this greet is on-camera)
- YOU are fitted with a lav mic.
- YOU participate in a 5-minute walk and talk interview with George Stephanopoulos.
- YOU and George Stephanopoulos walk down the Lower Cross Hall towards the Palm Room and conclude at the Oval Office.
- YOU move to the Oval Office.
- Cameras will then be cut to reset for the Oval-Office sit-down.
- YOU take YOUR seat.
- YOU participate in a 20-minute sit-down interview with George Stephanopoulos.
- YOU conclude and bid farewell to George Stephanopoulos; George Stephanopoulos and the crew depart.

VI. ATTACHMENT

A. Talking Points

Withdrawal Marker

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01/06/2017

FRC ID:

9984

OA Num.:**NARA Num.:****FOIA ID and Segment:**

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- Will the post-Cold War decline in international armed conflict continue, leaving intrastate, societal-based conflicts as the primary security concern for the future?
- Will the ongoing diffusion of power, the proliferation of technologies - including nuclear - and unsettled territorial claims involving major military powers usher in a new era of increasing risk of interstate conflicts?
- Will the future see a mixture of both intrastate and interstate warfare, further complicating US defense planning?
- How are other countries envisioning future war, and what can we learn from the warfighting strategies and capabilities currently being developed by non-US military and planning organizations?

Panelists

- Mr. Dan Flynn, DNI/NIC (moderator)
- Mr. Elbridge Colby, CNA
- Dr. Jacqueline Deal, Long Term Strategy Group
- Dr. David Johnson, Army Strategic Studies Group
- Dr. Thomas Mahnken, JHU/SAIS

Mr. Dan Flynn, DNI/NIC

Mr. Dan Flynn is the Director of the Global Security Program for the National Intelligence Council's Strategic Futures Group. In this position, he is responsible for leading national-level, interagency projects to provide senior U.S. policymakers, defense officials, and warfighters assessments of long-term and crosscutting military-security issues of strategic importance to U.S. security interests. In this capacity, he is also responsible for leading the National Intelligence Council's strategic analytic gaming efforts to assess emerging national security issues. He has worked closely with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, and the COCOMs in support of U.S. military strategy development and planning efforts. He has also served as an advisor to several Defense Science Board studies.

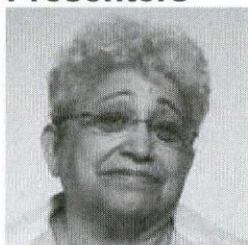
Many indicators suggest that the numbers of conflicts, especially interstate conflicts, have declined over the last two decades. In addition, where conflicts remain, the number of battlefield fatalities has decreased. Scholars account for these trends in several ways including the spread of democracy, the maturing age structures within many industrialized states, the economic interdependence of major powers, the lack of territorial ambitions and force projection capabilities of many states, nuclear deterrence, and the role of the United States and its allies as global security providers in the post-Cold War environment.

These trends, along with the absence of a direct-armed conflict between the great powers since World War II, have led some Western scholars to speculate whether interstate warfare itself is becoming obsolete. The cost of war is no longer worth the benefit to state leaders.

We don't need a DeLorean to get back to the future but we DO need YOU. Join the NIC's Suzanne Fry, Berkeley's Steve Weber, former CIA senior official Carmen Medina, and noted futurist David Brin at SXSW to help us anticipate the world of 2035.

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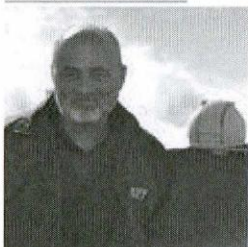
Presenters



Carmen Medina

Carmen is a Recovering Fed (recoveringfed.com) and a Rebel at Work (rebelsatwork.com) She retired in 2010 from a 32-year career at CIA. Today she cares about making sense of a quickly-evolving worl...

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David Brin

Futurist, author

David Brin

David Brin is a scientist, inventor, and New York Times bestselling author. With books translated into 25 languages, he has won multiple Hugo, Nebula, and other awards. A film directed by Kevin Cos...

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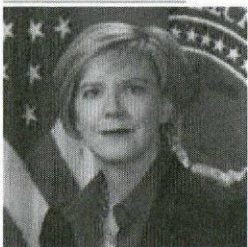
Steve Weber

Professor of Political Science & Professor at the School of Information

University of California at Berkeley

Steven Weber works at the intersection of technology markets, intellectual property regimes, and international politics. His research, teaching, and advisory work focus on the political economy of ...

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Suzanne Fry

Dir Strategic Futures Group

National Intelligence Council, Office of Director of National Intelligence

Suzanne Fry is Director of the Strategic Futures Group at the National Intelligence Council (NIC), where she is responsible for the Global Trends series and global and strategic issue analysis. GI...

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

Internal
Transcript

January 6, 2017

INTERVIEW OF THE PRESIDENT
BY GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS, ABC THIS WEEK

Oval Office

4:39 P.M. EST

Q As you said, it is a very, busy, newsy day here. The shooting down in Fort Lauderdale this afternoon -- do we know enough now to know whether it was an act of terror?

THE PRESIDENT: As a general rule, until I've got all the information, George, I don't want to comment on it, other than just to say how broken we are for the families who've been affected. These kinds of tragedies have happen too often during the eight years that I've been President. The pain, the grief, the shock that they must be going through is enormous.

I've asked my staff to reach out to the mayor down there and make sure that the coordination between state and local officials is what it should be. But I think we'll find out over the next 24 hours exactly how this happened and what motivated this individual.

Q And also, just a few minutes ago, this intelligence report came out on the Russian activities, the declassified version. Pretty stark opening sentences -- "Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign. We further assess that Putin and the Russian government developed a clear preference for President-elect Trump." President Putin is trying to elect Trump?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think the report is very clear. Number one, the Russians sought to interfere with the election process; that the cyber

hacking that took place by the Russians was part of that campaign; and that they had a clear preference in terms of outcomes.

What I've repeatedly said is that our intelligence communities spend a lot of time and effort gathering a lot of strands and a lot of data. There are times where they're very cautious and they say, we think this is what happened but we're not certain.

Q Setting high confidence here.

THE PRESIDENT: This time they got high confidence. And having seen some of the underlying sources and information that they're basing this on, I stand fully behind the report.

Q What does that tell you about what President Putin is trying to do right now? I think back to 2012, and Mitt Romney talked about Russia being the number one geostrategic threat, and you kind of dismissed him in the second debate.

THE PRESIDENT: I did.

Q Did you underestimate Vladimir Putin?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think I underestimated him, but I think that I underestimated the degree to which, in this new information age, it is possible for misinformation, for cyber hacking and so forth to have an impact on our open societies, our open systems to insinuate themselves into our democratic practices in ways that I think are accelerating. And so part of the reason that I ordered this report was not simply to re-litigate what happened over the last several months, but rather to make sure that we understand this is something that Putin has been doing for quite some time in Europe, initially in the former satellite states, where there are a lot of Russian speakers, but increasingly in Western democracies. There are going to be elections coming up among our NATO allies that we have to pay attention to. I anticipate that this kind of thing can happen again here.

And so in addition to the report assessing what exactly happened, what we have also done is to make sure that the Department of Homeland Security and our intelligence teams are working with the various folks who run our elections. And one of the things that I've urged the President-elect to do is to develop a strong working relationship with the intelligence community. And I think it's important that Congress on a bipartisan basis work with the next administration looking forward to make sure that this kind of influence is minimized.

Q He met with the intelligence leaders this afternoon, praised their work at the top. Still didn't seem to accept their conclusions fully -- he talked about Russia and China and other countries. They made no assessment on whether this affected the outcome of the election. He said very clearly it had absolutely no effect on the outcome. What do you think?

THE PRESIDENT: I think there are a lot of factors going into an election. I think the bottom line is, is that Donald Trump is going to be sworn in as the 45th President of the United States of America. And it's not necessarily profitable to sort of try to untangle all the different factors that went into it.

The issue here is you have I think the clear example of how, if we're not vigilant, foreign countries can have an impact on the political debate in the United States in ways that might not have been true 10, 20, 30 years ago, in part because of the way news is transmitted and in part because so many people are skeptical of mainstream news organizations, that everything is true and everything is false; nothing is settled, everything is contested.

In that kind of environment, where there is so much skepticism about information that's coming in, we're going to have to spend a lot more time thinking about how do we protect our democratic process, and, as I've been saying for years, we're going to have to spend a lot more time on cybersecurity. This is one of the reasons why I had ordered a commission.

Q The bottom line this time: Vladimir Putin got what he wanted.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, look, I think that what is true is that the Russians intended to meddle, and they meddled. And it could be another country in the future. It could be another election, where the alignments between Republicans and Democrats are different than they were this time and who a foreign country prefers. And that's why I hope that this does not continue to be viewed purely through a partisan lens.

I think there are Republicans as well as Democrats who are concerned about this. And the two things we need to do, George. Number one, we have to spend a lot more time and a lot more time, energy, resources on cybersecurity. And what makes this difficult is because it's not just a government problem, it is a private-sector-and-government problem. And there's got to be a lot more cooperation. That was one of the key recommendations of this commission that I got a report from just a few weeks ago.

And the second thing we have to do is to make sure that all of us think about how we approach our elections and our democracy, not only to secure them from vote-tampering, but also to make sure that we understand when propaganda is being churned through the system.

And one of the things that -- I'll be honest with you, George, one of the things that I am concerned about is the degree to which we've seen a lot of commentary lately where there are Republicans or pundits or cable commentators who seem to have more confidence in Vladimir Putin than fellow Americans, because those fellow Americans are Democrats. That cannot be.

Q Does that include the President-elect?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, what I will say is that -- and I said this right after the election -- we have to remind ourselves we're on the same team. Vladimir Putin is not on our team. IF we get to a point where people in this country feel more affinity with a leader who is an adversary and views the United States and our way of life as a threat to him, then we're going to have bigger problems than just cyber hacking.

Q You've talked to the President-elect Trump now several times over the course of this transition. What have you tried to impress on him about the job?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, as I've said before, the conversations have been cordial. He has been open to suggestions. And the main thing that I've tried to transmit is that there's a difference between governing and campaigning, so that what he has to appreciate is, as soon as you walk into this office after you've been sworn in, you're now in charge of the largest organization on Earth. You can't manage it the way you would manage a family business. You can't manage it the way you would manage a Senate office, as -- I was a Senator before I became President. And so you have to have a strong team around you. You have to have respect for institutions and the process to make good decisions, because you are inherently reliant on other folks.

So when I talk to him about our intelligence agencies, what I've said to him is, is that there are going to be times where you've got raw intelligence that comes in. And in my experience over eight years, the intelligence community is pretty good about saying, look, we can't say for certain what this means. But there are going to be times where the only way you can make a good decision is if you have confidence that the process is working and the people that you've put in charge are giving you their very best assessments.

Q How has he impressed you?

THE PRESIDENT: You know, he is somebody who I think is very engaging and gregarious.

Q Do you like him?

THE PRESIDENT: You know, I've enjoyed the conversations that we've had. He is somebody who I think is not lacking in confidence, which is, I think --

Q Some say that about you too.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, that's I what I was saying, it's probably a prerequisite for the job, or at least you have to have enough craziness to think that you can do the job.

I think that he has not spent a lot of time sweating the details of all the policies that --

Q Does that worry you?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think that can be both a strength and a weakness. I think it depends on how he approaches it. If it gives him fresh eyes, then that can be valuable. But it also requires you knowing what you don't know, and putting in place people who do have the kinds of experience and background and knowledge that can inform good decision-making.

Look, I think it's fair to say that he and I are sort of opposites in some ways.

Q Voters** often do that, don't they?

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah, yeah. So let's say I'm on the policy-wonk end of the spectrum. As much as I can dive into a briefing book and really work to master various subjects that come before my desk, I'm still not an expert on a huge amount of the stuff that we work on. But I do make sure that I've got people who are experts that are helping me make the best decisions possible. And if you don't have good people and you don't have a good process and you don't have, at some level, the basic reverence for this office and an understanding of the incredible responsibilities and obligations, then I think you can get into trouble.

Q You're also not much of a tweeter. He was on a tirade this morning, sent out a lot of tweets early this morning. Clearly, according to him and his people, he's going to keep on doing it when he's sitting there behind that desk. Good idea?

THE PRESIDENT: On the one hand, information is moving quick and -- or the way in which people consume information is changing so fast. Clearly, this worked for him, and it gives him a direct connection to a lot of the people that voted for him.

I've said to him, and I think others have said to him, that the day that he is the President of the United States, there are world capitals and financial markets and people all around the world who take really seriously what he says in a way that's just not true before you're actually sworn in as President.

Q People take seriously what you say as well, and during the campaign, many of your speeches you say, all the progress we've made in the last eight years go out the window if we don't win. Still think that?

THE PRESIDENT: No. I think that the risk to all the progress we've made was at stake in the election because not just the President-elect but a lot of members of Congress, including, now, the Speaker of the House and the Senate Majority Leader, have said that their principle agenda was to undo a lot of this progress.

But, as I've been talking about over the last several days, when it comes to health care, the gains that we've made are there. Twenty million people have health insurance that didn't have it before. The uninsured rate is the lowest it's ever been. The rise in health care costs since Obamacare, the Affordable Care Act, was passed have been at their lowest rate in 50 years. Those savings have extended the Medicare trust fund by 11 years.

So we've got a base line of facts -- here's where we were, here's where we are now. So it is true theoretically that all that progress can be undone and suddenly 20 million people or more don't have health insurance. But, as I think Republicans now are recognizing, that may not be what the American people, including even Trump voters, are looking for.

And my hope is that the President-elect, members of Congress from both parties look at where have we objectively made progress, where things are working better, don't undo things just because I did them. I don't have pride of authorship. I said today in a forum on health care, if the Republicans can come up with a system that insures more people cheaper, better, I will be the first one --

Q I can tell by your smile you don't think they can do it.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I'm skeptical that they can do it, mainly because for seven years now, including when we first tried to pass health care, I said to them, okay, if this doesn't work, tell me what does. In this room, I remember having meetings with Republican senators who initially had been trying to engage but saw that the politics of "no" were growing inside the Republican Party. And I remember having a conversation in the Oval Office with one of those senators who was starting to get a little sheepish about what compromises might garner his support. And finally I asked him, is there any changes I can make that would get you to support this, and he said, probably not, Mr. President -- which was a nice change in terms of his candor.

But what that means then is, is that now the burden is to take a look -- all right, if you think that we've over-regulated in the environmental space, what I can show you is that we have tripled the amount of wind power in this country, increased by 10-fold the amount of solar power. We are producing as much oil and gas as we've ever produced. Gas is at two bucks a gallon. Utility rates and electricity rates are low, so it seems like the energy policy we've got right now is pretty good. If you think you've got a better idea in terms of how to approach this that's not going to result in more pollution and more asthma and more illness, then put your ideas out there. But don't just oppose things because this was Obama's agenda.

Q Sounds like that's what's happening right now.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, that's what's happening at the moment, but the American people are both anxious for change -- we're in a time of

. flux. The globe is shrinking. The information age is bringing a lot of changes. People are anxious about their future and their children's futures, but they don't want folks to be reckless, and they don't want this town to just be tit for tat.

And one of the gratifying things I think about the end of my presidency, even though, admittedly, my successor ran against a lot of what we stood for, is, when you look at the individual issues and the progress that we've made on a lot of those issues, we got the support of a pretty decent majority. Even on health care, what you've seen is a lot of stories surfacing lately about people who said, well, I voted for Trump but I don't think he's really going to take away my health care.

Q Is Obamacare going to survive?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it will. Or it may be called something else. And, as I said, I don't mind. If, in fact, the Republicans make some modifications -- some of which I may have been seeking previously but they wouldn't cooperate because they didn't want to make the system work -- and relabel it as Trumpcare, I'm fine with that. Because what I'm thinking about are the millions of people -- many of whom write me very personal letters -- "Dear Mr. President, I did not vote for you, I was against Obamacare, and then my son, who didn't have health insurance, signed up and we just found out that he had an illness, and, thankfully he's now covered, otherwise he might not have gotten treatment or I might have lost my house." "Dear Mr. President, my husband got hooked on opioids, and thank God we have coverage and we're able to access substance abuse. He's clean now. He's going back to work."

You have people around the country who are benefitting from the steps that we've taken. And as long as they continue to get helped, then at least I'll know in my own mind that the work we did here had a lasting impact.

Q You've often said that your toughest day in office was the day of the Newtown shootings. What was your toughest decision?

THE PRESIDENT: Toughest decision was early in my presidency when I ordered 30,000 more troops into Afghanistan as somebody who had run to end a large troop presence overseas.

Now, I had said from the start that I thought Iraq was a mistake, that we should have stayed focused on Afghanistan. I think it was the right decision, because the Taliban at that point had gotten a lot of momentum before I had gotten into office, partly because we hadn't been paying attention as much as we needed to to Afghanistan. And since that time, we've been able to build up the Afghan Security Forces and stabilize it.

But that was the first time in which I looked out at a crowd of West Point graduates and knew that some of those might not come back because of that decision.

Q Then how disappointing is it to you that, even though it's far fewer, there will still be troops in Afghanistan, still be troops in Iraq as you leave?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, one of the things that I've learned, and I think we've all learned, is that we are not going to get the kind of decisive, permanent victories in this fight against terrorism that we would get from fighting another country. We're not going to get that MacArthur-Emperor moment. Because by definition, even after decimating al Qaeda in the FATA, even after taking out bin Laden, there are still people there who have both the interest and the capacity, if we don't maintain vigilance, to strike against the United States.

And these are still countries that are fragile enough that we're going to have to partner with them in some way. But what we have done I think is build a model from a lot of hard lessons in Afghanistan and Iraq, but in other places around the world, where we are working with them in an advisory capacity. It still puts burden on some troops of ours who are there as advisors and facilitators, but we don't have this huge footprint. We are less likely to be targeted as occupiers.

And if you look at the current Mosul campaign against ISIL, for example, the few thousand troops that we have there to support that effort allows the Iraqi military to move forward in an effective way. Now, would they do it as fast as if we had 50,000 or 100,000 Marines in there? Obviously not. But it does give us the ability to make sure that we are strengthening those folks who are interested in building up their countries rather than destroying them, and doing so in a way that is sustainable and doesn't put a constant burden on the amazing men and women that we've got in uniform.

Q What has to be a disappointment on the home front is that it looks like the Democratic Party got pretty hollowed out on your watch, about 1,000 seats lost in the Congress, Senate, governors' state houses. Is that on you?

THE PRESIDENT: I take some responsibility for that. I think that some of it was circumstances. If you look at what happened, I came in in the middle of the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, and, unlike FDR, who waited -- well, didn't take office until about three years into the Great Depression; it was happening just as I was elected -- I think we did a really good job in saving this economy and putting us back on the track of growth.

But what that meant is, in 2010, there were a lot of folks who were still out of work. There were a lot of folks who had lost their homes or saw their home values plummet, their 401(k)s plummet. And we were just at the beginnings of a recovery, and whoever is President at that point is going to get hit and his party is going to get hit. That then means that suddenly, you've got a redistricting in which a lot of state legislatures

are now Republican. They draw lines that give a huge structural advantage in subsequent elections.

So some of this was circumstances, but I think that what is also true is that, partly because my docket was really full here -- so I couldn't be both chief organizer of the Democratic Party and function as Commander-in-Chief and President of the United States -- we did not begin what I think needs to happen over the long haul, and that is rebuild the Democratic Party at the ground level.

Q Part of your job now?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think that it's something that I have an interest in. As you know, George, my entire career -- I started as a community organizer. Every one of my campaigns was premised on getting new people involved. And if there's a theme in my public career, it's that if ordinary people get involved, then good things happen.

So I want to see the Democratic Party move in that direction. And what that means is that we aren't just micro-targeting to eke out presidential victories, it means that we're showing up in places where, right now, we're not winning a lot. And if you look at sort of how politics has divided itself here in this country, the big divide right now is between urban areas which have become increasingly Democratic, and rural or exurban areas that feel as if they're being ignored.

And if Democrats are not showing up in those places -- even if you're not going to win right away -- but if you're not in there at least making an argument that, hey, you know what, it's the Democrats who are trying to raise your minimum wage, it's the Democrats who are trying to make sure you've got health care or that your health care costs aren't killing you, it's Democrats who are making sure that your kids aren't drinking polluted water, it's Democrats who are trying to rein in the banks if they engage in excesses so that you don't end up having a problem -- if we're not there making the argument, then the cultural gulf that Republicans try to exploit, saying, oh, these city slickers, they're all looking down on you, they don't care about you, they're just trying to help out their various special interest constituencies -- that argument ends up being successful.

And so we've got to do a better job of showing up. And I was able to do that when I was the candidate, but I have not -- I've not seen or presided over that kind of systematic outreach that I think needs to happen.

Q This is JFK's desk, right?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, he used it.

Q Famous story about him. Clare Boothe Luce, the diplomat, former congresswoman, goes to him in 1962. He asks her, what's on your mind? She says, the greater the man, the easier it is to describe him in

a single sentence. And she said to him, what's your sentence? What's your sentence?

THE PRESIDENT: What was JFK's answer?

Q I don't care what history thinks.

THE PRESIDENT: (Laughter.) I'm sure he did.

I'd like to think that maybe the sentence is, President Obama believed deeply in this democracy and the American people. Because as I reflect back on what's worked for me in this office, it's been that I've gotten people who maybe didn't believe in the process to get engaged. Ironically, I've even gotten the other side that maybe didn't believe in the process to get engaged. You know, I gather I'm the father of the Tea Party. I invigorated the grassroots in the Republican Party as well as the Democratic Party.

So, you know, I -- health care got done because there were a lot of people out there who aren't professional politicians but are citizens who pushed for it even when the politics was hard.

Q But did you succeed on your own terms? Back in the campaign, you talked about Ronald Reagan changing the trajectory of the country, setting on a fundamentally different path. Do you think you did that?

THE PRESIDENT: I think I did in the sense that there's a whole generation coming up behind us that was engaged, inspired, worked for change during the course of my presidency, saw what was possible, and that generation -- it's coming. They're not the majority yet, but they're going to be the majority soon. And when you look at what they believe it, when you look at how they value diversity, how they believe in science, how they care about the environment, how they believe in everybody getting a fair shot, how they believe in not discriminating against people for sexual orientation and their belief that we have to work with other countries to create a more peaceful world and to alleviate poverty -- that's the majority of an entire generation that's coming up behind us.

Q They didn't come out to vote.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, you know, they came out to vote for me, and they came out to vote where that spirit was touched. The next phase, and this is part of what I'm interested in doing after I get out of the presidency, is to make sure that I'm working with that next generation so that they understand you can't just rely on inspiration -- there's a little perspiration involved in bringing about change, too. That you have to be organized. That you have to vote even when it's not exciting. You have to be involved during midterm elections. You have to care about what happens at a schoolboard level. You have to be involved in terms of what's happening in your local neighborhood and what issues are there.

So I think that there's going to be a lot of work to do in order to consolidate the transformations that I was interested in, but the spirit's there. And that's not just my imagination, I think if you look at surveys and attitudes among young people, you see it.

Q I imagine you think the presidency is something you get better at over time.

THE PRESIDENT: You do.

Q But at what point does the experience become a liability. What put this in mind was reading Bob Gates's memoir, and he talks about being in the meetings with you, talking about the raid on Osama bin Laden, saying maybe he's getting too cautious, he's been there too long. Is that a risk?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, what I'll say is this: I believe in term limits for Presidents because I think that -- there is no doubt I am a better President now than I was when I started. In fact, I would argue that I am the best President I've ever been over the last year or two. My team is more effective than it's ever been. But what is also true is, is that, number one, this is grueling, and sustaining the energy and focus involved in doing a good job I think starts to get tougher the longer you do it.

The second thing is, the bubble is the bubble. And I think we've done a pretty good job staying in touch with the American people, but at a certain point, you can't help but lose some feel for what's on the ground because you're not on the ground, and --

Q You didn't think Donald Trump could win.

THE PRESIDENT: Case in point. So that tells me that there is a utility in the democracy refreshing itself on an ongoing basis. And that's part of what I tried to describe to my team and supporters after the election. There was a lot of disappointment. What I've said to them is, look, we ran our leg of the race and we did a darn good job.

I can document -- in fact, this past week, we put out memos from every agency showing what did we do -- tried to be as honest as possible. There's a little hype involved, obviously. It's spin because it's our agencies; we feel some pride about it, but tried to be self-critical as well. And I can honestly say, George -- and I don't think there's a lot of dispute for this -- you can argue that we didn't get everything done that we wanted to get done, but I can make a really strong argument and I think prove that by almost every measure, the country is better off now than when I started.

And so, just to finish the thought, what that means then is that if we started here and we're now here -- just like I described in health care -- yeah, somebody comes in, they got new ideas, maybe ideas that are completely the opposite of my ideas, maybe some of that progress goes

back. Maybe they think of some things we didn't think of, and so in some other areas, we can learn something.

But that just gives sort of democracy an opportunity to test ideas, for those who lost to catch their breath, regain energy, reenergize themselves, and then get back in the arena, and then we'll make some more progress in the future.

Q One possible, big exception -- the first line of your biography is probably going to be, first African American President. The heart of your promise when you first burst on the national scene -- bringing everyone together. And you look now and most African Americans think we've gone backwards on race relations over the last eight years. What do you say to that?

THE PRESIDENT: I am absolutely convinced that race relations, on the whole, are actually better now than they were

--

Q Better now?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. But we have greater awareness of where we're falling short than we used to.

Let's just take the example of community-police relations. I mean, the truth of the matter is that the problem of police shootings and reactions in the community -- George, you and I are about the same age. I think you remember what happened in Los Angeles after Rodney King. I think you remember the divisions that happened after the O.J. trial. The notion that somehow any of that is new isn't the case. What is true, though, is now we've got a bunch of videos that, whatever side of the issue you're on, raises the temperature on these issues and makes people really focused and trying to figure out what exactly is this. And I think that is a healthy thing.

But I also -- I'm not so out of touch that I don't see how young people interact today, and --

Q That horrific Facebook Live video yesterday --

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it was horrific. And that's an example of something that -- it's not as if that's the first time that a hate crime has taken place in this country. Hate crimes have been taking place for hundreds of years in this country. But it's there on video. And the sort of seeing cruelty and callousness of that sort from young people is heartbreaking. And so, naturally, if you see a video like that, you're going to say to yourself, my God, this is horrible -- and rightfully so. But that allows us then to talk about, how do we break free from those kinds of attitudes. And I think that we are in a position to continue to make progress, but it's going to require us to both recognize what the problems are, also recognize the progress we've made.

Last point I'd make on this, since we're on criminal justice. During the course of my presidency, crime has been the lowest it's been probably since the '60s. But you wouldn't know it if you were watching TV or looking at the Internet. And you certainly wouldn't know it listening to this past campaign. There are some exceptions -- Chicago, my hometown, in particular -- but overall in the country, this is a much safer place than it used to be. But if you asked the average person, they'd tell you, no, it's much more dangerous -- despite the fact that violent crime has dropped precipitously.

And so we have to recognize we've got some big problems on race, just like we got still big problems on crime, just like we got big problems on just about everything. But we also have to make sure that we draw confidence from the progress that we have made, because, otherwise, you get into this cycle of cynicism. And you also -- and I warn young people that I interact with about this -- you get into unrealistic expectations where you think that, well, we're going to eliminate racism like that. After Obama's elected, how could there be any racism? Well, you know, that was never a realistic expectation.

Q I have one final question. I have a very strong memory of your inaugural. In that moment, you're walking out of the Capitol, you see the Mall for the first time and you kind of pause and take it all in. Do you remember what you were thinking and feeling at that moment?

THE PRESIDENT: The two inaugurations were different. The first inauguration, I was thinking to myself, let's make sure I don't screw this up. I think there is a -- people always talk about how cool I am. I don't care how cool you are. JFK gave probably the greatest inauguration speech ever that first time, but I guarantee you, when he first walked out there, he was thinking, goodness gracious, this is big and I better be up to the task.

I think the second inauguration, you may recall, I finished my speech --

Q And you turned around.

THE PRESIDENT: I was walking out and I decided, you know what, let me turn back and remember this. And what I remember thinking at that point, having gone through both the ups and downs of my first four years, and seeing this sea of people, was what a remarkable country this is and how lucky am I that we live in a place where the son of a single mom, not born into any kind of fame or fortune, in a pretty remote state, somehow can end up being in a position to make a difference.

Q And at that moment, just a little under two weeks from now, when President-elect Trump finishes the oath, power passes from you to him -- what emotion will you be left with?

THE PRESIDENT: It's hard to say. It's hard to anticipate. I can tell you what I'm feeling right now is that I'm busier than I expected

these last two weeks. A great deal of emotion around the people that I've worked with and the gratitude that I feel for the sacrifices they've made on behalf of the American people, but also on behalf of me, personally. And I think I will still feel that same appreciation for what Churchill and other have said is the worst form of government except all the alternatives.

Q Mr. President, thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Appreciate it.

5:22 P.M. EST

From: Suntum, Peggy M. EOP/WHO
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 7:46 PM
Subject: Remarks by the President in Walk and Talk with George Stephanopoulos

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

Internal
Transcript

January 6, 2017

INTERVIEW OF THE PRESIDENT
BY GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS IN WALK AND TALK

Lower Cross Hall

Q Mr. President, thank you for doing this. As we're walking towards your office, I think you're going to miss the short commute.

THE PRESIDENT: (Laughter.) I am. It's one of the biggest benefits of being President that you really don't think about until you get here. I have never had to travel more than 30 seconds from home to office. And it's because of that that I've been able to maintain really a family life that has nurtured and sustained me during this time.

Q How long did it take for the White House to feel like home?

THE PRESIDENT: It took shorter I think for us just because when you got little kids, and you're tucking them in --

Q It's home.

THE PRESIDENT: -- it's home, right. When you open a door and they're in their pajamas, and they're wrestling with you and asking you to read to them and stuff, it starts feeling like home pretty quick, not to mention having a mother-in-law upstairs. And the dog. And now two. It feels even more like home now because you have all these memories that were formed watching your kids grow up.

Q You talk about your kids, and you were a little bit apprehensive coming to the White House. They were young. Was it a good experience for them?

THE PRESIDENT: You don't know how it would have turned out if they had grown up in Chicago instead in a more normal environment. All I can say is they have turned out to be terrific young women. We were concerned mostly about whether they'd develop an attitude.

Q Why not?

THE PRESIDENT: And they are sweet, kind, funny, smart, respectful people. And they treat everybody with respect. That's not just the biases of the parent. We feel pretty good when we hear back from friends -- because they still have sleepovers, and they go to other folks' houses. And when the parents say, oh, Malia, she's just so sweet, or Sasha helped to pick up the dishes -- what is it that you're doing to --

Q They never complained about it?

THE PRESIDENT: They complained about Secret Service as they became teenagers. And Secret Service has done the very best job they could accommodating them, so it hasn't restricted any of their activities. But as you might imagine, if you're a teenager, having a couple of people with microphones and guns always following you around, that can grate on them. But they've handled it with grace.

And I give Michelle most of the credit for how well they've done. But I also just think they are graceful, good young women.

Q This part of the White House is so iconic.

THE PRESIDENT: It's my favorite, yes. This walk -- it doesn't matter what time of day it is, in some ways I feel more attached to this walk even than the Oval Office.

Q I believe it.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, there's something about these steps and thinking about everybody who has walked here and all the business that's been done here.

Q Business gets done on this walk.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, exactly. And even when you go up this ramp and you think about FDR wheeling himself up, got a little cigarette holder in his mouth. And that awe that you feel, that reverence that you feel for the place never entirely leaves.

Q Well, that's one of the things that I was going to ask you because I know you kept in touch with people by reading those letters every day.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

Q How did you keep in touch with the presidency?

THE PRESIDENT: It's an interesting question. More than anything, obviously, the presidency is the people. And it's been interesting, the emotions in the last few months. What you realize is that you may never have a team that is together in the same way under the same pressures. And the attachments that you make to folks from your Chief of Staff down to --

Q It's the ultimate bunker.

THE PRESIDENT: It is. And the people here have been extraordinary. We had a farewell dinner for some of my senior staff. And generally, everybody likes to talk about how cool I was -- I had trouble getting through just a few remarks because not only do you appreciate the sacrifices they've made and the hours they've kept, and the soccer games they've missed, and the birthday parties, but I also had a lot of young people who came in here. And this probably echoes with you in your own experience, you were young when you got here.

Q Didn't feel like when I left.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. But now suddenly you got members of your team who were 23, 24, they met their wives here or their husbands here.

Q And you have a lot of eight-year people.

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah. And they start bringing in their kids who you think should be babies and now are in second grade or something. And you've watched them grow up.

So I think what ends up happening is you end up maintaining those networks and those contacts, but the concentrated interactions and experience that you have here, I don't think -- I don't expect you can duplicate anyplace else.

Q And we're about to walk into the Oval. And I was just wondering, the big gut-check decisions -- did you make them in there or up in the Treaty Room at home?

THE PRESIDENT: I think I made them on this walk sometimes. There were times where -- I'd say the Oval Office you use to gather the facts. The decisions you probably make late at night. At least I do. I'm kind of a night owl. Up there. But there are some times where you think you've made a decision, but during that walk where you're announcing the decision, you just got to make sure that you're prepared to live with it. Because as you know, George, a lot of these decisions are not -- the outcomes are uncertain.

END

Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: Suntum, Peggy M. EOP/WHO
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 3:01 PM
Subject: Remarks by the President in VoxTHE WHITE HOUSE Live Interview

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate
Release

January 6, 2017

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
VOX LIVE INTERVIEW

Blair House

11:15 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. (Applause.) Good morning.

MS. KLIFF: Good morning.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you for being here.

THE PRESIDENT: It is great to be here. And thank you so much for all the good reporting you guys have been doing on this important issue.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

MS. KLIFF: So we will get started. So there was an expectation that was shared among many of your staff, many congressional Democrats, that as the Affordable Care Act rolled out, as it delivered benefits to millions of people, that it would become more popular. It would be safe from repeal or even substantial reform. And it appears at this point that doesn't seem to be quite true. What do you think that theory got wrong? Why didn't the health care law become more popular?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, let's back up and say from the start there's a reason why for a hundred years no President could get expansion of health care coverage beyond the work that had been done for Medicare and Medicaid, targeting primarily seniors. And the reason was that this is hard. The health care system is big; it is very personal. Families I think recognize the need for health insurance, but it's not something that

they think about except when things go wrong -- when you have an accident or you're sick. And so any costs, particularly at a time when families are feeling stressed economically, any added costs, higher premiums, higher co-pays, all that ends up having real impacts on families.

And so the challenge of getting it passed was always the fact that, unlike other advanced countries, we didn't start with a system in which everybody was covered, and we have a very complicated marketplace, and we have third-party insurers. And what that meant was that even after we got the law passed anything that dissatisfied people about the health care system could be attributed to -- quote, unquote -- "Obamacare," even if it had nothing to do with Obamacare. And that was something that we recognized even when we were trying to get the law passed.

The other thing is the fact that the unwillingness of Republicans in Congress and around the country, including some governors, to, after the fight was over, say, all right, let's try to make this work -- the way Democrats did during the time when President Bush tried to expand the prescription drug program, Part D -- meant that the public never heard from those who had originally been opposed any concession that, you know what, this is actually doing some good. And that ends up affecting public opinion.

And the third thing is that whenever you look at polls that say 40-something percent are supportive of the law and 40-something percent are dissatisfied -- in the dissatisfied column are a whole bunch of Bernie Sanders supporters who wanted a single-payer plan. (Laughter.) And so the problem is not that they think Obamacare is a failure; the problem is that they don't think it went far enough and that it left too many people still uncovered, that the subsidies that people were getting weren't as rich as they should have been, that there's a way of dealing with prescription drug makers in a way that drives down those costs. And so all those things meant that even after the law was passed there was going to still be a lot tough politics.

Having said all that, the thing that I've been most proud of is the fact that not only have we gotten 20 million people covered, not only have we been able to reduce the pace at which health care costs have been going up -- ever since the law was passed, basically health care inflation has been as low as it's been in 50 years, which has saved the federal government hundreds of billions of dollars, extended the Medicare trust fund by 11 years -- but most importantly, for the people who have gotten insurance through the exchanges, there's been pretty high satisfaction rates, as surveys have shown.

So rather than look at public opinion as a whole, the thing I've been most interested in is, how is this affecting the people who have gotten benefits? These are real families who have gotten real coverage. And I get letters every single day from people who say, this has saved my life, or this has saved my bank account, or this has made sure that my son who got hooked on some sort of opioid was able to get treatment, or I was able

to get a mammogram that caught a cancer in time. And that ultimately is the measure of the success of the law.

MR. KLEIN: So do you think this dynamic where when you reform the health care system, you own it goes the other way? Republicans are beginning with the repeal-and-delay strategy. President-elect Trump has said that he does want to repeal Obamacare, but he also wants to replace it with something that covers as many people -- or he said that at least at certain points.

Do you think that the dynamic in which you became responsible for what people didn't like is going to hamper Republican movement in their efforts to change a system that maybe they don't like but does have a lot of people relying on it?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, let me start from a very simple premise: If it works, I'm for it. If something can cover all Americans, make sure that if they have a preexisting condition they can still get coverage, make sure that prescription drugs are affordable, encourage preventive measures to keep people healthy, that makes sure that in rural communities people have access to substance abuse care or mental health care, that Medicare and Medicaid continue to function effectively -- if you can do all that cheaper than we talked about, cheaper than Obamacare achieves and with better quality and it's just terrific, I'm for it.

I think that part of the challenge in this whole debate. And this is true, dating back to 2009, back to 2010, is this idea that somehow we had a fixed way of trying to fix the health care system, that we were rigid and stubborn and wouldn't welcome Republican ideas, and if we only had, they had all these great solutions. In fact, if you look at how this law evolved -- and I've said this publicly before, if I was starting from scratch, I probably would have supported a single-payer system because it's just easier for people to understand and manage. And that's essentially what Medicare is, is a single-payer system for people of a certain age. And people are very satisfied with it and it's not that complicated to understand or to access services. But that wasn't available; we weren't starting from scratch.

So what did I then do? I said, well, where is a system out there that seems to be providing coverage for everybody that politically we could actually get through a Congress and where we could get Republican support. And lo and behold, in Massachusetts there was a plan that had been designed on a bipartisan basis -- including by a Republican governor who ultimately became the nominee for the Republican Party -- that came close to providing universal coverage. And I would have thought since this was an idea that had previously gotten a lot of Republican support that it would continue to get a lot of Republican support. And yet, somehow, magically, the minute we said this is a great idea and it's working, Republicans said this is terrible and we don't want to do this.

So I say all this, Ezra, simply to make something very clear. From the very start, in the earliest negotiations in 2009, 2010, I made clear

to Republicans that, if they had ideas that they could show would work better than the ideas that we had thought of, I would be happy to incorporate them into the law. And rather than offer ideas, what we got was a big no, we just don't want to do this.

After the law passed, for the last six, seven years, there has been the argument that we can provide a great replacement that will be much better for everybody than what the Affordable Care Act is providing. And yet, over the last six, seven years, there has been no actual replacement law that any credible health care policy experts have said would work better. In fact, many of them would result in millions of people losing coverage and the coverage being worse for those who kept it.

And so now is the time when Republicans, I think, have to go ahead and show their cards. If, in fact, they have a program that would genuinely work better and they want to call it whatever they want -- they can call it Trumpcare, they can call it McConnellcare, or Ryancare. If it actually works, I will be the first one to say, great, you should have told me that back in 2009. I asked. (Laughter.) I suspect that will not happen.

And the reason it will not happen is because if you want to provide coverage to people, then there are certain baseline things that you got to do. Number one, health care is not cheap. And for people who can't afford health care or don't get it through the job, that means the government has got to pay some money.

Number two, all those provisions that the Republicans say they want to keep and that they like -- for example, making sure that people can get health care even if they have a preexisting condition -- well, it turns out that the only way to meet that guarantee is to either make sure that everybody has some modest obligation to get health care so that they're not gaming the system, or you've got to be willing to provide huge subsidies to the insurance companies so that they're taking in people who are already sick.

And I think what you're going to see now that you have a Republican President-elect, you have Republicans who control both chambers in Congress -- is that all the promises they made about how they can do it better, cheaper, everybody is going to be satisfied, are going to be really hard to meet.

And this is why the strategy of repeal first and replace later is just a huge disservice to the American people, and is something that I think, whether you're a Republican or a Democrat, you should be opposed to. These are real lives at stake.

I'm getting letters right now from people who say, I am terrified because my son's or daughter's insurance -- their ability to get lifesaving drugs, their ability to get drug treatment, their ability to get mental health services are entirely dependent on us being able to afford and keep our insurance.

And if, in fact, there's going to be a massive undoing of what's one-sixth of our economy, then the Republicans need to put forward very specific ideas about how they're going to do it. People need to be able to debate it, they need to be able to study it the same way they did when we passed the Affordable Care Act. And let the American people gauge is this going to result in something better than what Obamacare has produced.

And if they're so convinced that they can do it better, they shouldn't be afraid to make that presentation. It is really interesting to try to figure out why is it that they're trying to rush the repeal so quick. What is it that they're afraid of? Why wouldn't they want to say, here's our plan, and show, side by side, here's why our plan is better than what Obamacare has produced? Because they have said, absolutely, adamantly, that they can do it better.

I am saying to every Republican right now, if you, in fact, can put a plan together that is demonstrably better than what Obamacare is doing, I will publicly support repealing Obamacare and replacing it with your plan. But I want to see it first. (Applause.) I want to see it first. And I want third-party, objective people -- whether it's the Congressional Budget Office or health care experts across the ideological spectrum, or Vox, or whoever --

MR. KLEIN: We'd be happy to, yes. (Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: -- to just evaluate it. And the public will not have to take my word for it. They can -- we can designate some referees. And if they can show that they can do it better, cheaper, more effective, provide better coverage, why wouldn't I be for it? Why wouldn't I be for it?

This idea that somehow, oh, this is about Obama preserving his legacy -- keep in mind, I'm not the one who named it Obamacare. (Laughter.) They were the ones who named it Obamacare, because what they wanted to do was personalize this and feed on antipathy towards me in their party as an organizing tool, as politics.

But I don't have a pride of authorship on this thing. If they can come up with something better, I'm for it. But you have to show -- and I would advise every Democrat to be for it -- but you have to show that it's better. And that's not too much to ask. And that's the challenge.

And the question right now for Paul Ryan and Mitch McConnell is, why is it that you feel obliged to repeal it before you show what it is that is going to replace?

Because the majority of Americans have been very clear that they think that's a bad idea. You now have Republican governors, some Republican senators, who have said, we don't think that's a good idea. And there's been no real explanation to why you would actually try

to do this before the new President is even inaugurated. (Laughter.) What exactly is this rush? Particularly if you're going to delay the actual repeal.

If they were making the argument that this is so disastrous that we actually think we have to repeal it completely today because it's just terrible, well, I would disagree, but at least I could understand it. But here you're saying, we're going to vote to repeal, but then were going to delay its effects for a couple of years. Well, why, if it's so bad?

And if the answer is, well, it would be disruptive and we don't want to take people's insurance away right away, well, then that means you have time to show us and, more importantly, show the American people who need health insurance what exactly you're replacing it with.

In that sense -- Ezra, I know that was a long answer -- (laughter) -- but in that sense, the answer is the Republicans, yes, will own the problems with the health care system if they choose to repeal something that is providing health insurance to a lot of people, and providing benefits to every American who has health insurance even if they're getting it through the job, and they haven't shown us what it is that they're going to do. Then they do own it. Because that is irresponsible. And even members of their own party, even those who are opposed to me, have said that that is an irresponsible thing to do.

MS. KLIFF: Let me follow up a little bit on the congressional fight. So we saw yesterday President-elect Donald Trump, he said yesterday on Twitter, "It's time for Republicans and Democrats to get together and come up with a health care plan that really works" -- which is something -- I remember you saying similar things in 2009, 2010, when I was covering this debate. Knowing what you know now about partisanship, a President who has tried to do this, was, like you said, unable to get Republican votes -- what three pieces of advice would you give someone trying to attempt to pass a bipartisan health care law?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, look, I think I sort of gave the advice just now, which is, if, in fact, this is not about politics but this is about providing the best possible health care system for the American people, then my advice would be to say what precisely is it about Obamacare that you think doesn't work. Because you've already said that there are some things you think do work.

The Republicans keep on saying, well, we want to keep the things that people like and that are working well. So they think that it's a good idea that Obamacare says your kids can stay on your health insurance plan until they're 26. They think that's a good idea. They think it's a good idea that if you've got a preexisting condition you can still get health insurance. I assume they think it's a good idea that seniors have gotten discounts on their prescription drugs -- we closed the doughnut hole during the course of Obamacare. They approve of some of the changes we've made to encourage a health care system that rewards quality rather than just the number of procedures involved, and how we pay providers.

So we could make a list of all the things that, as terrible as Obamacare is, actually they think works, according to them. All right, well, let's make, then, a list of the things they don't like or the American people are concerned about.

Well, what we know is that people would always like lower costs on their premiums and their out-of-pocket expenses. And although the Affordable Care Act provides a lot of subsidies to a lot of people so they can afford health insurance, what is absolutely true is we would love to see even higher subsidies to relieve the costs even more. But that costs money.

What we also know is that where we've seen problems in the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, it has been in certain areas, particularly more rural areas, less densely populated areas, where we're not seeing as many insurers so there's not as much competition. Well, one way that we've suggested we could solve that problem is to say that if, in fact, there aren't enough insurers to drive competition and reduce costs and give people enough choices, then we should have a public option that's available.

So if you look at the things that people are frustrated about with Obamacare, the Affordable Care Act, the big things are the subsidies aren't as high as they'd like and they don't have as many options as they'd like. And I'm happy to provide both those things. I'd sign on to a Republican plan that said we're going to give more subsidies to people to make it even cheaper, and we're going to have a public option where there isn't an option.

Here's the problem. I don't think that's the thing that they want -- (laughter) -- to do.

MS. KLIFF: I don't think so, no.

THE PRESIDENT: But I guess my point is this, that it is possible for people of goodwill to try to come up with significant improvements to the law that we already have, but it does require to be specific about what it is that you think needs to be changed. And that, so far, has not happened.

And my advice to the President-elect -- in fact, we talked about this when I met with him for an hour and a half right after he got elected -- I said make your team and make the Republican members of Congress come up with things that they can show will actually make this work better for people. And if they're convincing, I think you would find that there are a lot of Democrats out there -- including me -- that would be prepared to support it. But so far, at least, that's not what's happened.

MR. KLEIN: I think Obamacare has exposed an interesting tension between controlling costs in the system and controlling economic pain for individuals. So the law has, until now, come in under budget. But part

of the ways it's done that are higher deductibles than people expected, higher co-pays now in networks. In a couple of years, if it doesn't change, the excise tax on high-value insurance will come into play, the individual mandate. And these things -- individual people -- while they keep the usage of health care down and they keep the cost of health care down, they make health care feel more expensive. They make health care feel unusable.

Do you think the Affordable Care Act got the balance right on controlling system-wide costs versus insulating individuals from their health expenses?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, let me make a couple distinctions. First of all, part of what happened at the beginning of the marketplaces -- and for those who aren't wonks -- (laughter) -- I was teasing Ezra and Sarah, I said this is like a Wonkapalooza. (Laughter.) This is some serious policy detail, here.

But so the marketplaces are basically just those places where insurers put up, here's the insurance package we're offering, and you can choose from a variety of different packages, and then once you've chosen you can figure out the subsidies that you're qualified for and that will give you a sense of what your out-of-pocket costs are.

And what we discovered was that a lot of insurers underpriced early on, because they had done surveys and -- look, people who are purchasing health insurance are like people who are purchasing everything else, they like to get the best deal for the lowest price. What makes health care tricky is, when you buy a TV you can kind of see what the picture looks like; when you're buying health insurance it's tempting to initially buy the cheapest thing -- until, heaven forbid, you get sick and it turns out, gosh, I can't see the doctor I want or the specialist I want, or this is more inconvenient than I expected.

So what ended up happening was people bought, oftentimes, the cheapest insurance that they could. Insurance companies, wanting to get as much market share as possible, ended up creating very low-cost plans, but those are going to have restrictions on them. And that's not just if you're buying health insurance in Obamacare, that's generally how it is even when employers buy health insurance for their employees.

Now, I think that what we're seeing is insurers now making adjustments, saying, okay, we need to charge more. And that is something that, the good news is, appears to -- may have stabilized and might be kind of a one-time thing, and now we're in a position to be able to do an evaluation of have we gotten this balance right, as you say.

We can't get health care for free. You're going to have to pay for it one way or another. Either the government is going to pay more so that people don't have as many out-of-pocket costs -- and that means, in some fashion, higher taxes for somebody -- or individuals are going to have to pay more out of pocket in one way or another.

The same is true for employers. Either employers pay more for a really good health care package, but that takes something out of the employer's bottom line, or they're putting more costs onto workers in the form of higher deductibles and higher co-pays.

And I think that a lot of the good work that can be done in lowering costs had to do not with cost shifting, but with actually making the system work better. And we've done a lot of work on that. What I referred to earlier, incentivizing a system that instead of ordering five tests because doctors and providers are getting paid for the test, you now have a system where you're going to get reimbursed if the person gets healthy quicker and is not returned to the hospital. Well, it turns out that that can, over time, be a real cost reduction.

Those are the kinds of things that we're implementing in the system as a consequence of Obamacare. The more we do that kind of stuff the less we're going to see this cost shifting. But the intention has never been to say let's make it more expensive for people to get health care so they're going to access the system more. And I think the proof of that is, is that even though per-person costs have not gone up a lot, the overall spending on health care has gone up because more people have come into the system.

We want people to use the health care system. We just don't want them to use it in the emergency room. We want them to use it to stay healthy -- and smoking cessation plans, and making sure that they're getting regular checkups and mammograms, those are the things that are ultimately going to save us as much money as we can.

MS. KLIFF: I have a wonky follow-up question.

THE PRESIDENT: There you go. (Laughter.)

MS. KLIFF: What about controlling prices? We have some of the highest health care prices in the world in the United States. Most other developed countries, they regulate how much you can charge for an MRI, for an emergency room visit, for an appendectomy. That seems like it's really at the core of this tension, the fact that we have these very high prices. Americans don't go to the doctor more, we just pay a lot more when we go to the doctor. That is something the health care law did not tackle. And I'm curious to hear you reflect on that and what you would think about the role of price controls in American medicine.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, look, this is the irony of this whole debate, is the things that people are most dissatisfied with about Obamacare, about the Affordable Care Act, are things that essentially in other countries are solved by more government control, not less. (Laughter.) And so Republicans are pointing at these things to stir up dissatisfaction, but when it comes to, all right, what's the solution for it, their answer is less government regulation and letting

folks charge even more and doing whatever they want and letting the marketplace work its will.

I think that there are strengths to our system because we have a more market-based system. Our health care system is more innovative. Prescription drugs is probably the best example of this. It is true that we essentially come up with the new drugs in this country because our drug companies are fat and wealthy enough that they can invest in the research and development. They make bigger profits, which they can, then, plow back into drug development. And essentially we have a lot of other countries that are free riders on that system. So they can negotiate with the drug companies and force much lower prices, but they generally don't have a drug industry that develops new drugs.

That's true. This is an example where you probably do want some balance to maintain innovation, but to have some tougher negotiations around the system as a whole. And we are trying to use Medicare as the place where, since there's no health care provider or stakeholder in the health care industry that doesn't in some ways want to get Medicare business, we're trying to use Medicare as a lever to get better deals for consumers and better prices for consumers -- not just those in Medicare, but also people throughout the system.

But as I said, the irony is, is that when we tried to do that the people who are most resistant are the very Republican members of Congress who are criticizing us -- or at least telling the American people that you should want lower prices on various procedures.

If we want to control prices for consumers more, then the marketplace by itself will not do that. And the reason is because health care is not exactly like other products. It's not like buying a flat-screen TV. If you're sick, or if your kid is sick, most of the time you're not in a position to negotiate right there and then. You can't walk out of the store and say, well, I'm going to see if I can get a better deal. You're trying to figure out -- like when Sasha got meningitis when she was four months old -- make my child better, and that's all -- and I'll worry about the costs later. And that's the mentality that most people have when it comes to health care.

So the traditional models of the marketplace don't work perfectly in the health care system. There are areas where we can increase marketplace competition. There are areas in which we can make it work better. But ultimately, if we want to really get at some of these costs, there has to be some more expensive regulation in certain areas than we currently have.

MS. KLIFF: So I recently took a trip to an area of Kentucky -- on a slightly different topic -- I saw some huge coverage gains under the health care law, but also voted overwhelmingly for President-elect Trump. And one of the people I met there was Kathy Oller, who's here with us today. She is an Obamacare enrollment worker who has signed up more than a thousand people for coverage. She supported you in 2008 and 2012, but voted for President-elect Trump in 2016, and expects him to improve on

the Affordable Care Act. And she would like to ask you a question about that.

THE PRESIDENT: Go ahead, Kathy.

Q Hello, President Obama. I'm so excited to meet you.

THE PRESIDENT: It's good to see you.

Q Thanks. I'm a little bit nervous, as you can see. But over the years, I've enrolled and talked to numerous Kentuckians, and I've signed up some the first time -- so it was working -- in the Affordable Care Act. And also we've been, going over the years, and I've talked to people. But recently we found out that there was fewer choices in our area, and the increase in the premiums and deductibles, and our facilities aren't even taking some of them. And many Kentuckians now are looking at the Affordable Care as unaffordable and unusable.

And I have the opportunity to ask you a few questions that you have probably went over, but how do you think this happened? How can we fix it? Do we start all over again? What do you think we should do?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, first of all, Kathy, I want to thank you for being out there enrolling people.

Q Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: That's been hugely important. (Applause.)

The second point I would make is that Kentucky is a place where this has really worked, and it's worked for two reasons. One is Kentucky expanded Medicaid. And we haven't talked a lot about that, but a big chunk of Obamacare was just making Medicaid accessible to more people. And those states that expanded Medicaid have seen a much bigger drop in the uninsured than those states who didn't.

And by the way, those states that didn't, they didn't do so just out of politics -- I'll just be very blunt -- because the federal government was going to pay for this Medicaid expansion. And there are some states, because they had all this uncompensated care, ended up making money by providing more health insurance to your people. It was a hard bargain -- a hard deal to turn down, and yet you got a number of states that turned it down mainly because Republican governors and Republican state legislatures didn't want to make it work.

Kentucky, under Steve Beshear, was one of those people that did expand Medicaid, had a really active program. Because I don't poll that well in Kentucky, they didn't call it Obamacare, they called it Connect -- Kentucky Connect, right? (Laughter.)

And so there were a whole lot of people who said, well, we don't like Obamacare -- (laughter) -- but I like this program and we'll signed you

up, right? You signed people up, you didn't tell them it was Obamacare all the time. (Laughter.) And it's actually worked. Right?

Now, what is true in Kentucky, though, is true in some other states. You had a governor who ran explicitly on the idea of rolling back Obamacare even though it was working. And so the state marketplace, the state exchange he dismantled, which means we had to shift everything onto the federal exchange. Most people got shifted, but it indicated a lack of interest and effort on his part in making the thing work. He promised to roll back Medicaid, but he started realizing that wasn't as good politics as he thought it was when he was running, so he hasn't done that.

But what is also true is -- and this is my main criticism of Obamacare, of the Affordable Care Act -- is that the subsidies aren't as high as they probably should be for a lot of working people. If you don't qualify for Medicaid where you don't have to pay, for the most part, for your coverage, and instead you're buying health insurance on the marketplace -- so you're a working person but you don't have a lot of money, and particularly if you are older, where you use the health care system more and you need a better benefit package than somebody 18 or 20 might, then there are families where the premiums are still too high.

And as I said earlier, there are some parts of the country where there are only a handful of hospitals and a few doctors, and where you don't have a lot of competition, and the insurers are looking and they're saying, we're not going to make a lot of money there, so you don't end up having a lot of insurance plans in those areas.

So the two things that we could do that would really make it work even better for people in Kentucky would be, number one, provide more subsidies to folks who are working hard every day but still find the premiums even with the subsidies hard to meet, and have the public option for those communities where they're not getting a lot of competition and insurers aren't coming in.

The problem is, is that that's not what's being proposed by Mitch McConnell, the senator from Kentucky. Instead what he's proposing, I gather, is you're going to repeal the law, then you're going to come up with something, except you will have taken away all the -- the way we pay for the subsidies for working people is we're taxing wealthier folks at a little bit higher. So he wants to cut those taxes, and that money would be gone right away. And then he's going to promise you, or those people who you've been signing up, better health care, except there's not going to be any money to pay for it. And nobody has explained to me yet how that's going to work.

And so I think this takes me back to the point I made earlier. If, in fact, the people you've been signing up, the folks in your communities, are not fully satisfied with the benefits that they're getting now and are hopeful for something better, then at the very least you should be putting pressure on your members of Congress to say, show us exactly what the deal is going to be for us before you take away the deal that we got. Because

the people you sign up, they may not be as happy as they'd like, but -- tell me if I'm wrong -- they like it better than not having any insurance at all.

MS. KLIFF: And some didn't even have insurance.

THE PRESIDENT: And some people didn't have insurance. Because I get letters from folks who say, for the first time in my life -- I have had a bad hip for 15 years and I've been pain-free for the first time because I finally got insurance. So the answer is not for them not to have insurance. And if we go back to a system where they've got to buy it on their own, they're not going to buy it because they'll have even less subsidy.

How much time do we got?

MR. KLEIN: I think we're quite low.

THE PRESIDENT: We got low time? Because I got all kinds of more stuff. (Laughter.)

MR. KLEIN: Well, it's your schedule. We're happy to keep you as long as you'd like.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, there are a couple points I want to make in closing --

MR. KLEIN: Excellent.

THE PRESIDENT: -- but why don't you ask some questions.

MR. KLEIN: So one thing we haven't touched on yet in much detail is the delivery system of follow-ups, which are a big part of the law. So what is a policy or experiment or change in that space that has over-performed your expectations? And what's one that has maybe not panned out as you'd liked or hoped?

THE PRESIDENT: You know, I think a good example of something that's worked better than we expected, or at least worked as well as we expected is the issue of hospital readmissions. Now, it turns out that a lot of times you go to the hospital -- let's say, you get your appendix taken out, and then you go home and then there's a complication, and then you have to go back into the hospital. That's obviously inconvenient for you and it's expensive for the system as a whole. And it turns out that there are just a few things that you can do that help reduce people being readmitted.

First of all, making sure that the first procedure goes well, but, secondly, making sure that there's good follow-up. So it might be that a hospital or a health care system pays for, when you do go home, you just getting some phone calls to remind you to take the medicine that you got to take to make sure you heal properly -- because they may have done a

study and it turns out that people forget to do what they're supposed to do, they don't follow exactly their doctor's instructions, and they can't afford to have a nurse in their house who's doing it for them. Well, maybe there are just a few things that can be done to help make sure that they do what they are supposed to do, and that way they don't have complications.

What we've seen is a significant reduction in hospital readmissions over the course of this law just by doing some smart incentivizing, just saying to the hospitals we'll reimburse you or we'll give you some other benefit for doing smart follow-up. That's an area where I think we've made some real progress.

The other place -- and this is connected -- where I think we've got some good bipartisan support is just encouraging what's called -- shifting from what's called fee-for-service payments, where you get paid by the procedure, which means that you may end up getting five tests instead of getting one test that's emailed to five providers who are treating you. And we've started to see some real movement when we say to the system as a whole we're going to pay you for outcomes -- did the patient do well. And that has been helpful.

In terms of areas where I think we haven't seen as much improvement as I'd like, it's probably -- one thing that comes to mind is on the electronic medical records. If you think about how wired and plugged in everybody is now -- I mean, you can basically do everything off your phone. The fact that there are still just mountains of paperwork, and you don't understand what these bills are that still get sent to your house, and nobody -- and the doctors still have to input stuff, and the nurses are spending all their time on all this administrative work -- we put a big slug of money into trying to encourage everybody to digitalize, catch up with the rest of the world here.

And it's proven to be harder than we expected, partly because everybody has different systems, they don't all talk to each other. It requires retraining people in how to use them effectively. And I'm optimistic that over time it's inevitable that it's going to get better, because every other part of our lives, it's become paperless. But it's been a lot slower than I would have expected.

And some of it has to do with the fact that, as I said, it's decentralized and everybody has different systems. In some cases, you have sort of economic incentives that are pushing against making the system work better. For example, there are service providers -- people make money on keeping people's medical records, so making it easier for everybody to access each other's medical records means that there are some folks who could lose business. And that has turned out to be a little more complicated than I expected.

MS. KLIFF: Do you have any closing remarks? And one thing I'm interested in is kind of what you see your role in this debate we're gearing up for.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, let me make a couple of closing remarks. Number one, I think it is important to remember that just because people campaigned on repealing this law, it is a much more complicated process to repeal this law than I think was being presented on the campaign trail, as my Republican friends are discovering.

The way this process is going to work, there's this rushed vote that's taking place this week, next week to -- quote, unquote -- "repeal Obamacare." But really all that is, is it's a resolution that is then instructing these committees in Congress to start actually drafting a law that specifically would say what's being repealed and what's not. Then, after that, they'd have to make a decision about what's going to replace it and how long is that going to take. And that stretches the process out further.

And so I think, whether you originally supported Obamacare or you didn't, whether you like me or you don't, the one thing I would just ask all the American people to do is adopt the slogan of the great state of Missouri -- "Show me." (Laughter.) Show me. Do not rush this process.

And to Republicans, I would say: What are you scared of? If you are absolutely convinced, as you have been adamant about for the last seven years, that you can come up with something better, go ahead and come up with it. And I'll even cut you some slack for the fact that you've been saying you can come up with something better for seven years and I've never seen it. (Laughter.) But we'll restart the clock.

It's interesting that we're here in the Blair House because this is a place where I met, in front of the American people, with Republicans who had already indicated their adamant opposition to health care. And I sat with them for a couple hours -- how long was it?

SECRETARY SEBELIUS: Eight.

THE PRESIDENT: Eight hours. (Laughter.) Kathleen Sebelius, who is my Secretary of Health and Human Services, remembers -- for eight hours, on live TV, to talk about here's why we're trying to do what we're doing here, and challenging them to come up with better answers than the ones we had come up with. And we spent a year of really significant debate.

And I would think that given that we now have proof that 20 million people do have health insurance, that we're at the lowest rate of uninsured in our history, that health care costs, rather than spiking way up, have actually gone up slower than they have in 50 years; given that the vast majority of people who get health insurance through Obamacare have said they're satisfied with their care and that they're better off than when they didn't have care; given that even though a lot of people don't know it, even if you're not getting health insurance through Obamacare, you've benefitted, because if you get health insurance on the job, it now doesn't have a lifetime limit, it doesn't have fine print that could end up costing you a lot of money -- given all those things, I would

• think that you'd at least want to explain to the American people what it is that you want to do.

And that, I think, is a minimum expectation out of this Congress and out of the President-elect.

I'm make a second point, and that is that we just worked, on a bipartisan basis, to sign something called the Cures Bill that included two really important bipartisan priorities. One was Joe Biden's Cancer Moonshot initiative -- because we're seeing so many medical breakthroughs in so many areas that we have an opportunity to make a real dent in how we deal with cancer, which affects everybody in some fashion -- somebody has been touched in your family with this terrible disease. So we got a lot more money for research in that, and the bill also contained a big investment in the opioid challenge.

As many of you know, you're seeing more and more communities that are being ravaged by, initially, prescription drugs; then that ends up being a gateway into heroin, some of which, like synthetic heroin being produced called Fentanyl, just has terrible rates of overdose deaths. And this is not an inner-city problem, per se, but this is reaching every community. In some ways, it's worse in a lot of rural communities.

So there was a bipartisan effort for us to put some more money into that. But here's the thing. If we just put money into cancer research, and we just put money into dealing with the opioid crisis, and now we're taking away money that is providing drug treatment services in those very same communities by repealing Obamacare, and taking away the ability to access a doctor to get new cancer treatments, then we're not really helping anybody. So that's a second point I want to make.

A third point I want to make is that I would encourage local communities to get involved in this process. And I think part of the problem with this whole law has been that the people who benefit aren't out there making noise, and the people who ideologically have opposed it have been really loud. Well, now is the time for people who have benefitted or seen their families benefit to tell their stories.

Because, ultimately, this is not a political game. This is really something that affects people in the most personal ways. My friend, Natoma Canfield, is here in the front row. Some of you heard Natoma's story before, where -- a cancer survivor who, because she had now a preexisting condition, was faced with either keeping her health insurance at such a high rate -- the only way she could get health insurance with a preexisting condition was to basically pay so much that she could no longer afford to pay the mortgage on her house.

And I remember her writing to me, and I thought, that could be my mom. That could be yours. And that's not a choice that people should have to make. And when most people, even if they're not Obama supporters, hear Natoma's story or the stories of other people who have been helped, they know it's wrong to just take away their health care. And it becomes

less about who's winning here in Washington. It becomes about how are we doing right by our fellow Americans.

But those stories have to be heard. And I would just encourage people to start telling their stories. And tell their stories -- you're not always going to get a lot of attention here in Washington because they want to know this vote and this insult that was hurled back-and-forth between whoever. But you know what, tell that story in your local newspapers. Talk to your local reporters. Congregations that are involved in caring for those in need, make sure that you're telling stories in church and in services so that people know.

Because the one thing that I'm convinced about is the American people want to do the right thing. They just -- it's hard to get good information, and unless you're reading Vox every day, which is hard to do --

MR. KLEIN: It's not that hard to do. (Laughter.)

THE PRESIDENT: -- getting the details of all this policy is hard. It's complicated. You don't know what's true; you don't know what's not true.

I mean, those folks in Kentucky that you've signed up -- there are a lot of people who voted for not just a President, but also for a member of Congress who said, explicitly, we're going to eliminate this. Well, I understand why people might think, okay, well, he's going to eliminate it, but he will give us something better. But this is hard. And what you don't want is a situation where they make a promise that they can't keep.

And I've worked on this a long time. If we had had a better way to do this, we would have done it. It would have been in my interest to do it, because I knew I was going to be judged on whether or not it worked. And those areas that don't work had to do with there not being enough money in the system and not having a public option. And I'm more than happy to put those fixes in place, anytime, anyplace. But that's not, so far, what the Republicans are proposing. You deserve to know what it is that they're doing.

So, anyway, I appreciate you guys taking the time to tell the story.

MR. KLEIN: Real quick, Sarah had asked about your role going forward.

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, my role going forward? Well, look, I mean, I do deserve a little sleep. (Laughter.) And I've got to take Michelle on a vacation. But I've said consistently that the most important office in a democracy is the office of citizen. And I will be a citizen who still remembers what it was like when his mom died of cancer younger than I am now, and who didn't have all the insurance and disability insurance and support, and wasn't using the health care system enough to have early detection that might have prevented her from passing away.

You know, Michelle's dad had multiple sclerosis -- MS -- but was part of that generation that just didn't have a lot of expectations about health care and so just kind of suffered for years. I mean, those are our stories. So it's not like I'm going to suddenly fade away on this. I will be a part of the work of our fellow citizens in trying to make sure that the wealthiest country on Earth is able to do the same thing that every other advanced country is able to do.

I mean, it's not as if this has never been done before. If you're in Canada, you got health care, no matter who you are. If you're in France, you got health care. If you're in England, you got health care. If you're in Australia, you got health care. If you're in New Zealand, you got health care.

I remember talking to my friend, John Key, who was the Prime Minister of New Zealand. He is part of the Conservative Party in New Zealand. And he said to me in the middle of this health care debate, he said, boy, if I proposed that we took away people's health care, that we repealed it, I'd be run out of office by my own party. (Laughter.) Because it was just assumed that, in a country this wealthy that this is one of the basic rights, not privileges, of citizenship in a well-to-do country like ours.

So I'll be working with all of you. But my voice is going to be less important than the voices of people who are directly affected. And so I would urge everybody to make your voice heard. Now is the time to do it.

The people who have opposed this were opposing it not based on facts, but were opposing it based on sort of an ideological concern about expansion on the state, and taxes on wealthier people that are helping people who don't have as much money. And I respect their role in the democracy. They've been really fighting hard. Well, folks here got to fight just as hard.

My final piece of advice would be to the news media, which is, generally speaking, when Obamacare has worked well it wasn't attributed to Obamacare, and when there were problems they got front-page headlines. And I think that, hopefully, now is a time where people can be a little -- this doesn't apply to Vox, by the way. (Laughter.) But I think it would be a good time for people to be a little more measured and take a look at what are the facts of this thing. Because the stakes are high.

Even on this whole premium issue -- increase issue that happened right before the election, it is true, as I said, that insurers adjusted and hiked premiums. But I kept on trying to explain, number one, if you're getting a tax subsidy, this wasn't going to affect your out-of-pocket costs because the tax credit would just go up. But nobody kind of heard that.

And number two, these increases in premiums only applied to people who were buying health insurance on the exchanges. In fact, 85 percent of

the people don't get health insurance through Obamacare. And for you, your health care premiums actually have gone up a lot less since Obamacare was passed than they did before Obamacare was passed. The average family has probably saved about \$3,000 in lower health care premiums than if you had seen those same health care cost trends increase at the pace that they did before the law was passed. But I didn't see a lot of headlines about that -- which I understand, I mean because it's not controversial enough, or it's a little bit too complicated to get in a soundbite.

So that's why the individual voice is so important. And that's why I'm so appreciative of journalists who actually know what they're talking about. (Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. President. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Thanks. Appreciate it. (Applause.)

MS. KLIFF: Thank you.

12:23 P.M. EST

Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 10:59 AM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: Fwd: Pool Report #1

Begin forwarded message:

From: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>
Date: January 6, 2017 at 10:44:16 AM EST
To: Brian Gabriel <brian_a_gabriel@who.eop.gov<mailto:brian_a_gabriel@who.eop.gov>>
Subject: Pool Report #1

Hello from the pool gather spot (Aka Ice Station Zebra). We're gearing up for the movement to Blair House and the interview.

Your pooler would strongly suggest that any outlets interested in the content of the interview be sure to watch the live-stream (there is also apparently a network camera with the ability to go live, though intent to go live cannot be discerned at this time).

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 11:22 AM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: Fwd: Pool Report #2

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From: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>
Date: January 6, 2017 at 11:18:23 AM EST
To: <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov<mailto:Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>>
Subject: Pool Report #2
Reply-To: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>

At 11:03 am, President Obama emerged through the vehicle gate to West Executive Drive, flashing a smile and clutching a white paper cup with a lid. He walked to Blair House, past a cluster of vehicles seemingly arrayed across Penn Ave to shield his walk from folks gaping from 17th St. Several white minivans, a couple of white SUVs, an ambulance. He reached the stairs to Blair House moments later. He was met there by Randy Bumgardener, the assistant chief of protocol and Blair House General Manager. "Happy New Year!" the president said as they shook hands. "This is where we started!"

Pool is now in a large room in Blair House, where a few dozen people on folding chairs await POTUS. Watch the live-stream!

Olivier Knox
Chief Washington Correspondent
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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 11:37 AM
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Subject: Fwd: Pool report #3

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From: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>
Date: January 6, 2017 at 11:33:58 AM EST
To: <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov<mailto:Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>>
Subject: Pool report #3
Reply-To: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>

And we're off. Your pooler has asked who is sitting in this audience - apart from the marvelous Liz Allen, who is directly in front of your pooler - and will report back with any details. It's a **very** friendly crowd, laughing along with POTUS at the thinnest prompting. News-ish: POTUS attacks "repeal now and replace later," says GOP promises to do health care better will prove hard to do.

Check quotes against your recording and transcript (I know that's...sub-optimal, but I'm not a verbatim machine).

Question 1 (paraphrase): You and your aides said Obamacare would get more popular over time. What did you get wrong?

POTUS says it is popular among many people, while those disapproving include "a whole bunch of Bernie Sanders supporters who want a single-payer plan."

"I get letters every single day from people who say 'this has saved my life' or 'this has saved my bank account'..." says POTUS.

Question 2 (paraphrase): If Republicans enact their own reforms, do they "own" the repercussions?

"If it works I'm for it," POTUS replies. "If something can cover all Americans, make sure that if they have a pre-existing condition they can still get coverage, make sure that prescription drugs are affordable," encourage preventive care, help rural communications, "if you can do all that cheaper than we talked about, cheaper than Obamacare achieves, and with better quality and it's just terrific, I'm for it."

POTUS complains that the GOP attitude back in 2009 was "a big 'no.'" Says he'll support "McConnellCare or Ryancare" if it achieves all of those goals.

"I suspect it will not happen," POTUS says. "All the promises they made about how they can do it better, cheaper" will be hard to fulfill.

"Repeal first and replace later is just a huge disservice to the American people." "These are real lives at stake."

Obama dismisses the "legacy" argument. "I don't have pride of authorship on this thing," he says. "I'm not the one who named it Obamacare."

Olivier Knox
Chief Washington Correspondent
Yahoo News

Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 11:38 AM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: Fwd: Pool Report #4

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Date: January 6, 2017 at 11:35:00 AM EST
To: <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov<mailto:Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>>
Subject: Pool Report #4
Reply-To: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>

Via the White House:

The audience includes people from across the country who have worked on and are affected by the Affordable Care Act, including letter writers to the President and members of Vox's ACA Facebook group.

Olivier Knox
Chief Washington Correspondent
Yahoo News
(202) 669-4950
@OKnox

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 12:04 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: Fwd: Pool Report #5

Begin forwarded message:

From: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>
Date: January 6, 2017 at 12:00:04 PM EST
To: <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov<mailto:Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>>
Subject: Pool Report #5
Reply-To: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>

First Q from the audience, from a Kentucky Obamacare enrollment who voted for POTUS in 08 and 12 but for Trump in 16. (She was profiled in Vox recently).

She says Kentuckians are finding "fewer choices in our area" in terms of plans and "an increase in premiums and deductibles." She said Kentuckians are finding the ACA "unaffordable and unusable" and asked how to fix things.

POTUS says "Kentucky is a place where this has really worked," blames politics for some governors not expanding Medicaid.

But POTUS offers what he describes as "my main criticism of Obamacare," which is that "the subsidies aren't as high as they probably should be for a lot of working people."

POTUS says subsidies should be higher to help more working people pay premiums, says there should be a public option as well.

Says McConnell is not proposing this.

To people who are unhappy about Obamacare, POTUS says, you should "at the very least you should be putting pressure" on repeal-ers to lay out the details of their plans to replace it.

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 12:06 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: Fwd: Pool report #6

Begin forwarded message:

From: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>
Date: January 6, 2017 at 12:03:42 PM EST
To: <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov<mailto:Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>>
Subject: Pool report #6
Reply-To: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>

The question from the audience came from Kathy Oller, per WH.

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: Fwd: Pool report #7

Begin forwarded message:

From: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>
Date: January 6, 2017 at 12:12:24 PM EST
To: <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov<mailto:Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>>
Subject: Pool report #7
Reply-To: Olivier Knox <oknox@yahoo-inc.com<mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com>>

A few notable attendees (thanks to Ken Thomas of AP).

Burwell, Sebelius, Cecile Richards.

POTUS making closing remarks so expecting to be pulled out of Blair House soon. Or soon-adjacent.

Olivier Knox
Chief Washington Correspondent
Yahoo News
(202) 669-4950
@OKnox

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 2:41 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: FW: Pool Report #9

From: Olivier Knox [mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com]
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 2:36 PM
To: Gabriel, Brian A. EOP/WHO <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Pool Report #9

On the record from NSC Spokesperson Ned Price:

The President was apprised this afternoon by Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Lisa Monaco of the shooting at Fort Lauderdale airport and will be kept updated as the investigation unfolds.

Olivier Knox Chief Washington Correspondent Yahoo News (202) 669-4950 @OKnox

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 12:48 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: FW: Pool Report #8

From: Olivier Knox [mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com]
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 12:42 PM
To: Gabriel, Brian A. EOP/WHO <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Pool Report #8

As POTUS left Blair House, your pooler called out to ask whether POTUS had read the Russia hacking report and whether he had discussed it with the POTUS-elect. POTUS heard the question but did not reply.

In his "closing remarks," POTUS was asked what his role will be as Congress debates repeal/replace.

"The most important office in a democracy is the office of citizen. And I will be a citizen who still remembers what it was like when his mom died of cancer," he said, adding that his mother did not benefit from early detection that can save lives. He also highlighted Michelle Obama's father's fight with MS.

"Those are our stories," POTUS said. "It's not like I'm going to suddenly fade away on this."

"I'll be working with all of you, but my voice is going to be less important than the voices of people (who are?) directly affected," POTUS said, inviting those folks to "make your voice heard."

Olivier Knox Chief Washington Correspondent Yahoo News (202) 669-4950 @OKnox

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 8:05 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: FW: Pool Report #11

From: Olivier Knox [mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com]
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 7:40 PM
To: Gabriel, Brian A. EOP/WHO <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Pool Report #11

On the record from NSC Spokesperson Ned Price:

The President spoke by phone today with Florida Governor Rick Scott and Broward County Mayor Barbara Sharief following the tragic loss of life at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. The President, on behalf of the American people, extended his sincere condolences to the families and other loved ones of those killed and noted that his thoughts and prayers are with the wounded. He added that federal authorities will continue to assist the ongoing investigation into this horrific shooting.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: FW: Pool Report #10

From: Olivier Knox [mailto:oknox@yahoo-inc.com]
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 5:19 PM
To: Gabriel, Brian A. EOP/WHO <Brian_A_Gabriel@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Pool Report #10

Travel photo lid as of 5:08 pm.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 4:17 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: Statement by the Press Secretary on S. 3084

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2017

Statement by the Press Secretary on S. 3084

On Friday, January 6, 2017, the President signed into law:

S. 3084, the "American Innovation and Competitiveness Act," which amends and establishes new authorities for various programs at the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, as well as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education authorities.

###

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 10:31 AM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: Statement by the President on the Celebration of Orthodox Christmas

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2017

Statement by the President on the Celebration of Orthodox Christmas

Michelle and I wish a joyful Christmas to Orthodox Christians in the United States and around the world. During this sacred season, we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and reflect on the commandment that we love one another as He has loved us. We are grateful for the many ways in which Orthodox Christians have shown such love to their neighbors and strengthened both religious and civic bonds. As worship services take place in churches across the nation and around the world, we reaffirm our commitment to protect the universal and inalienable right of all people to practice their faith and stand in solidarity with communities and congregations that have been persecuted and subjected to violent attacks. As we enter this new year, we join our Orthodox brothers and sisters in praying and working for peace and justice.

###

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The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE



Perspective

Repealing the ACA without a Replacement — The Risks to American Health Care

Barack H. Obama, J.D.

January 6, 2017 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMp1616577

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Article

Health care policy often shifts when the country's leadership changes. That was true when I took office, and it will likely be true with President-elect Donald Trump. I am proud that my administration's work, through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and other policies, helped millions more Americans know the security of health care in a system that is more effective and efficient. At the same time, there is more work to do to ensure that all Americans have access to high-quality, affordable health care. What the past 8 years have taught us is that health care reform requires an evidence-based, careful approach, driven by what is best for the American people. That is why Republicans' plan to repeal the ACA with no plan to replace and improve it is so reckless. Rather than jeopardize financial security and access to care for tens of millions of Americans, policymakers should develop a plan to build on what works before they unravel what is in place.

Thanks to the ACA, a larger share of Americans have health insurance than ever before.¹ Increased coverage is translating into improved access to medical care — as well as greater financial security and better health. Meanwhile, the vast majority of Americans still get their health care through sources that predate the law, such as a job or Medicare, and are benefiting from improved consumer protections, such as free preventive services.

We have also made progress in how we pay for health care, including rewarding providers who deliver high-quality care rather than just a high quantity of care. These and other reforms in the ACA have helped slow health care cost growth to a fraction of historical rates while improving quality for patients. This includes better-quality and lower-cost care for tens of millions of seniors, individuals with disabilities, and low-income families covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program. And these benefits will grow in the years to come.

That being said, I am the first to say we can make improvements. Informed by the lessons we've learned during my presidency, I have put forward ideas in my budgets and a July 2016 article² to address ongoing challenges — such as a lack of choice in some health insurance markets, premiums that remain unaffordable for some families, and high prescription-drug costs. For example, allowing Medicare to negotiate drug prices could both reduce seniors' spending and give private payers greater leverage. And I have always welcomed others' ideas that meet the test of making the health system better. But persistent partisan resistance to the ACA has made small as well as significant improvements extremely difficult.

Now, Republican congressional leaders say they will repeal the ACA early this year, with a promise to replace it in subsequent legislation — which, if patterned after House Speaker Paul Ryan's ideas, would be partly paid for by capping Medicare and Medicaid spending. They have yet to introduce that "replacement bill," hold a hearing on it, or produce a cost analysis — let alone engage in the more than a year of public debate that preceded passage of the ACA. Instead, they say that such a debate will occur after the ACA is repealed. They claim that a 2- or 3-year delay will be sufficient to develop, pass, and implement a replacement bill.

This approach of "repeal first and replace later" is, simply put, irresponsible — and could slowly bleed the health care system that all of us depend on. (And, though not my focus here, executive actions could have similar consequential negative effects on our health system.) If a repeal with a delay is enacted, the health care system will be standing on the edge of a cliff,

resulting in uncertainty and, in some cases, harm beginning immediately. Insurance companies may not want to participate in the Health Insurance Marketplace in 2018 or may significantly increase prices to prepare for changes in the next year or two, partly to try to avoid the blame for any change that is unpopular. Physician practices may stop investing in new approaches to care coordination if Medicare's Innovation Center is eliminated. Hospitals may have to cut back services and jobs in the short run in anticipation of the surge in uncompensated care that will result from rolling back the Medicaid expansion. Employers may have to reduce raises or delay hiring to plan for faster growth in health care costs without the current law's cost-saving incentives. And people with preexisting conditions may fear losing lifesaving health care that may no longer be affordable or accessible.

Furthermore, there is no guarantee of getting a second vote to avoid such a cliff, especially on something as difficult as comprehensive health care reform. Put aside the scope of health care reform — the federal health care budget is 50% bigger than that of the Department of Defense.³ Put aside how it personally touches every single American — practically every week, I get letters from people passionately sharing how the ACA is working for them and about how we can make it better. "Repeal and replace" is a deceptively catchy phrase — the truth is that health care reform is complex, with many interlocking pieces, so that undoing some of it may undo all of it.

Take, for example, preexisting conditions. For the first time, because of the ACA, people with preexisting conditions cannot be denied coverage, denied benefits, or charged exorbitant rates. I take my successor at his word: he wants to maintain protections for the 133 million Americans with preexisting conditions. Yet Republicans in Congress want to repeal the individual-responsibility portion of the law. I was initially against this Republican idea, but we learned from Massachusetts that individual responsibility, alongside financial assistance, is the only proven way to provide affordable, private, individual insurance to every American. Maintaining protections for people with preexisting conditions without requiring individual responsibility would cost millions of Americans their coverage and cause dramatic premium increases for millions more.⁴ This is just one of the many complex trade-offs in health care reform.

Given that Republicans have yet to craft a replacement plan, and that unforeseen events might overtake their planned agenda, there might never be a second vote on a plan to replace the ACA if it is repealed. And if a second vote does not happen, tens of millions of Americans will be harmed. A recent Urban Institute analysis estimated that a likely repeal bill would not only reverse recent gains in insurance coverage, but leave us with more uninsured and uncompensated care than when we started.⁵

Put simply, all our gains are at stake if Congress takes up repealing the health law without an alternative that covers more Americans, improves quality, and makes health care more affordable. That move takes away the opportunity to build on what works and fix what does not. It adds uncertainty to lives of patients, the work of their doctors, and the hospitals and health systems that care for them. And it jeopardizes the improvements in health care that millions of Americans now enjoy.

Congress can take a responsible, bipartisan approach to improving the health care system. This was how we overhauled Medicare's flawed physician payment system less than 2 years ago. I will applaud legislation that improves Americans' care, but Republicans should identify improvements and explain their plan from the start — they owe the American people nothing less.

Health care reform isn't about a nameless, faceless "system." It's about the millions of lives at stake — from the cancer survivor who can now take a new job without fear of losing his insurance, to the young person who can stay on her parents' insurance after college, to the countless Americans who now live healthier lives thanks to the law's protections. Policymakers should therefore abide by the physician's oath: "first, do no harm."

Disclosure forms provided by the author are available at NEJM.org.

The Massachusetts Medical Society copyright applies to the distinctive display of this *New England Journal of Medicine* article and not to the President's work or words.

This article was published on January 6, 2017, at NEJM.org.

Mr. Obama is President of the United States.

References

Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2017 6:04 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: DAILY GUIDANCE AND PRESS SCHEDULE FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 5, 2017

**DAILY GUIDANCE AND PRESS SCHEDULE FOR
FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017**

In the morning, the President and the Vice President will receive the Presidential Daily Briefing in the Oval Office. This meeting is closed press.

Later in the morning, the President will participate in an interview with Vox's Ezra Klein and Sarah Kliff to discuss the Affordable Care Act. This interview at the Blair House will be covered by the in-town travel pool and livestreamed at www.whitehouse.gov/live.

In-Town Travel Pool

Wires: AP, Reuters, Bloomberg
Wire Photos: AP, Reuters, AFP
TV Corr & Crew: CNN
Print: Yahoo
Radio: ABC

EST

9:30AM In-Town Pool Call Time

10:00AM THE PRESIDENT and THE VICE PRESIDENT receive the Presidential Daily Briefing
Oval Office
Closed Press

11:10AM THE PRESIDENT participates in an interview with Vox's Ezra Klein and Sarah Kliff
Blair House
Pooled Press (In-Town Travel Pool Gather Time 10:40AM – North Doors of the Palm Room)

Briefing Schedule

12:45PM Press Briefing by Press Secretary Josh Earnest

Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2017 8:35 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: DAILY GUIDANCE FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Vice President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 5, 2017

DAILY GUIDANCE FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT
Friday, January 6, 2017

In the morning, the Vice President will attend the President's Daily Briefing in the Oval Office.

At 1:00 PM, the Vice President will preside over a Joint Session of Congress to count electoral ballots at the United States Capitol. This will be open press.

At 3:10 PM, the Vice President will hold a meeting with electronic health record companies and other leaders in health information technology and cancer care as a part of the Cancer Moonshot. There will be a pool spray at the top of this meeting in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building.

At 4:20 PM, the Vice President will sign the drawer of the desk in his Ceremonial Office. This will be pooled press.

###

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Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 3, 2017 6:04 PM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: FIRST LADY MICHELLE OBAMA IN FINAL SPEECH TO HONOR 2017 SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the First Lady

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 3, 2017

FIRST LADY MICHELLE OBAMA IN FINAL SPEECH TO HONOR 2017 SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR

Friday, January 6th

The White House * 11:00 AM ET – First Lady Michelle Obama will deliver her final remarks as First Lady at the 2017 School Counselor of the Year event in the East Room of the White House. School Counselor of the Year is an annual White House tradition started in 2015 by Mrs. Obama.

As part of her Reach Higher initiative, Mrs. Obama has championed school counselors and encouraged post-secondary education for students across the country. Awardees from all 50 states are selected by the American School Counselor Association, based on criteria including: creative school counseling innovations, effective school counseling programs, leadership skills, and contributions to student enhancement.

Prior to the First Lady's remarks, awardees and guests will attend a panel featuring Education Secretary John B. King Jr., former Education Secretary Arne Duncan, *Friday Night Light's* actress Connie Britton, 2016 School Counselor of the Year Katherine Pastor, and First-Generation Baltimore Founder Verlando Brown.

Follow along with the 2017 School Counselor of the Year ceremony by using the hashtag #SCOY17 and #ReachHigher.

MEDIA REGISTRATION: *The First Lady's remarks and panel will be available via livestream at wh.gov/live. To attend the First Lady's remarks, please RSVP by Noon EST, Thursday, January 5th at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/webform/media-rsvp-first-lady-michelle-obama-honor-2017-school-counselor-year-her-final-speech-first>. Press not holding White House hard passes must also fill out the following form by the deadline for access to the White House complex: <https://events.whitehouse.gov/form?rid=KGCXJ2PWKH>.*

###

From: White House Press Office <noreply@useopwh.service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, January 6, 2017 9:40 AM
To: Carter, Debbie G. EOP/WHO
Subject: Eight Years of Labor Market Progress and the Employment Situation in December

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2017

Eight Years of Labor Market Progress and the Employment Situation in December

WASHINGTON, DC – Jason Furman, Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, issued the following statement today on the employment situation in December. You can view the statement [HERE](#).

Summary: The economy added 156,000 jobs in December, extending the longest streak of total job growth on record, with U.S. businesses adding 15.8 million jobs over the recovery.

Employment grew at a solid rate of 156,000 jobs in December as the longest streak of total job growth by far on record continued. Average hourly earnings for private employees increased 2.9 percent in 2016, the fastest twelve-month pace since the financial crisis. U.S. businesses have now added 15.8 million jobs since early 2010 amid the U.S. economy's strong recovery from its worst crisis since the Great Depression. The unemployment rate – 4.7 percent in December – has been cut by more than half since its peak, falling much faster and further than expected, and nearly all measures of labor underutilization have fallen below their pre-recession averages. Real wages have grown faster over the current business cycle than in any since the early 1970s, and in 2015 U.S. households saw the largest increase in real median income on record. Since 2010, the United States has put more people back to work than all other G-7 economies combined. Thanks in part to the forceful response to the crisis and policies throughout the eight years of the Obama Administration to promote robust, shared growth, the U.S. economy is stronger, more resilient, and better positioned for the 21st century than ever before. Even with this remarkable progress, it remains important to build on these efforts to support further job creation and real wage growth in the years ahead.

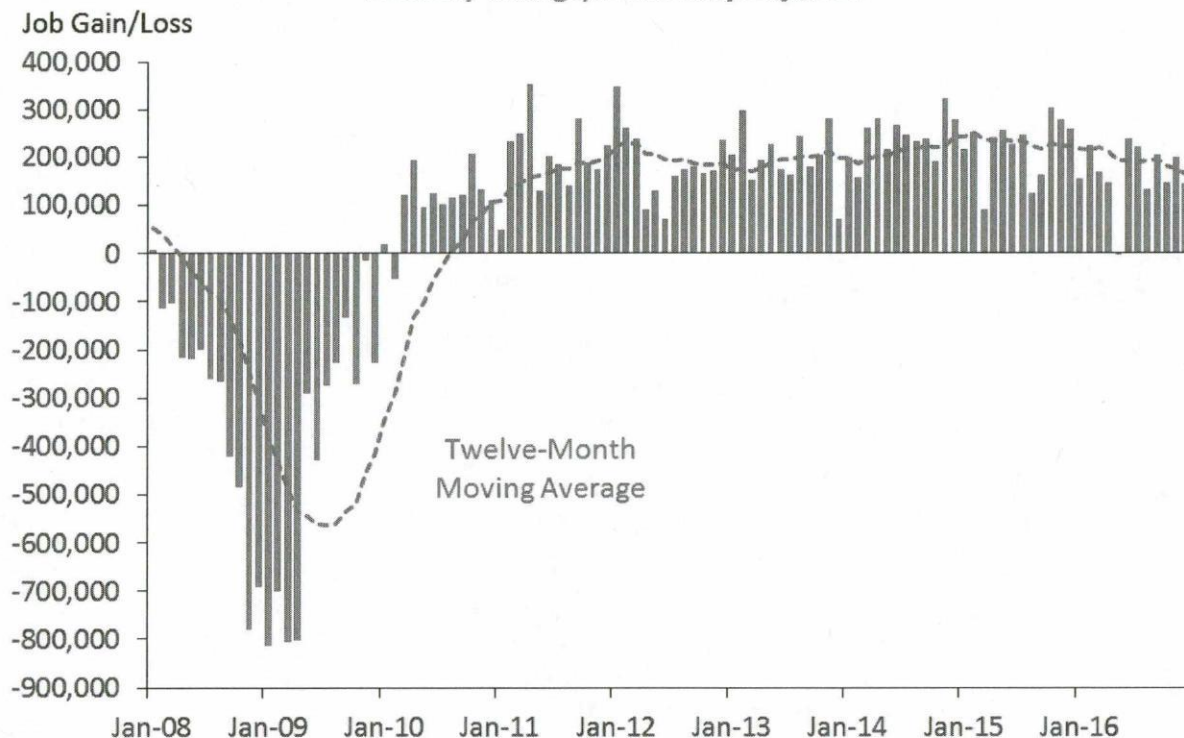
THIRTEEN KEY POINTS ON LABOR MARKET PROGRESS OVER THE LAST EIGHT YEARS

1. U.S. businesses have now added 15.8 million jobs since private-sector job growth turned positive in early 2010. Today, we learned that private employment rose by 144,000 jobs in December. Total nonfarm employment rose by 156,000 jobs, slightly below the monthly average for 2016 as a whole but substantially higher than the pace of about 80,000 jobs per month that CEA estimates is necessary to maintain a low and stable unemployment rate given the impact of demographic trends on labor force participation. The unemployment rate ticked up to 4.7 percent in December, less than half its peak during the recession, while the labor force participation rate – which has been largely unchanged over the past three years despite downward pressure from demographic trends – increased to 62.7 percent. Average hourly earnings for all private workers increased 2.9 percent over

the past year, the fastest twelve-month pace since the end of the recession and above the pace of inflation in 2016.

Private-Sector Payroll Employment

Monthly Change, Seasonally Adjusted

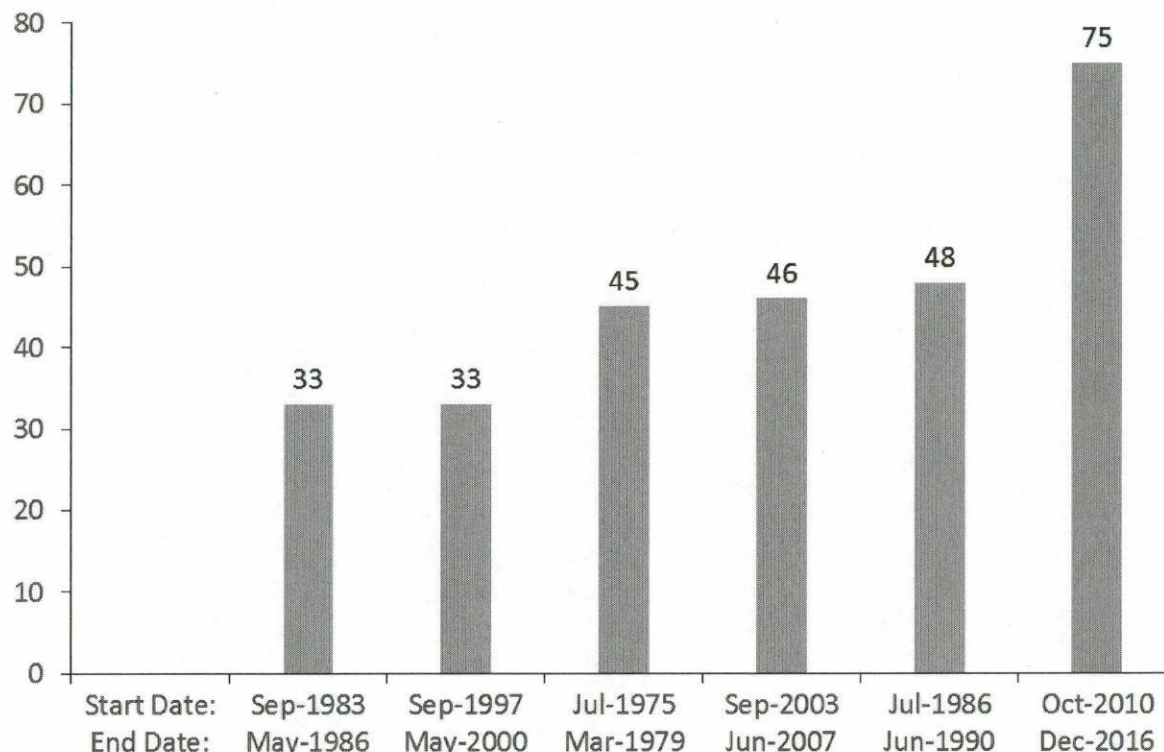


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics; CEA calculations.

2. Since job growth turned positive in October 2010, the U.S. economy has added jobs for 75 straight months – the longest streak of job growth on record and more than two years longer than the next-longest streak. Over this period, nonfarm employment growth has averaged a robust 199,000 jobs a month. On a calendar-year basis, the pace of job growth peaked at 251,000 jobs a month in 2014, the best year for job creation since the 1990s. In 2016, job growth remained strong, averaging 180,000 jobs a month. As of December 2016, total nonfarm employment exceeded its pre-recession peak by 6.9 million jobs. All of the net job creation in the current recovery has been in the private sector, as private-sector payroll employment exceeded its pre-recession peak by 7.0 million jobs as of December.

Longest Streaks of Total Nonfarm Job Growth, 1948-2016

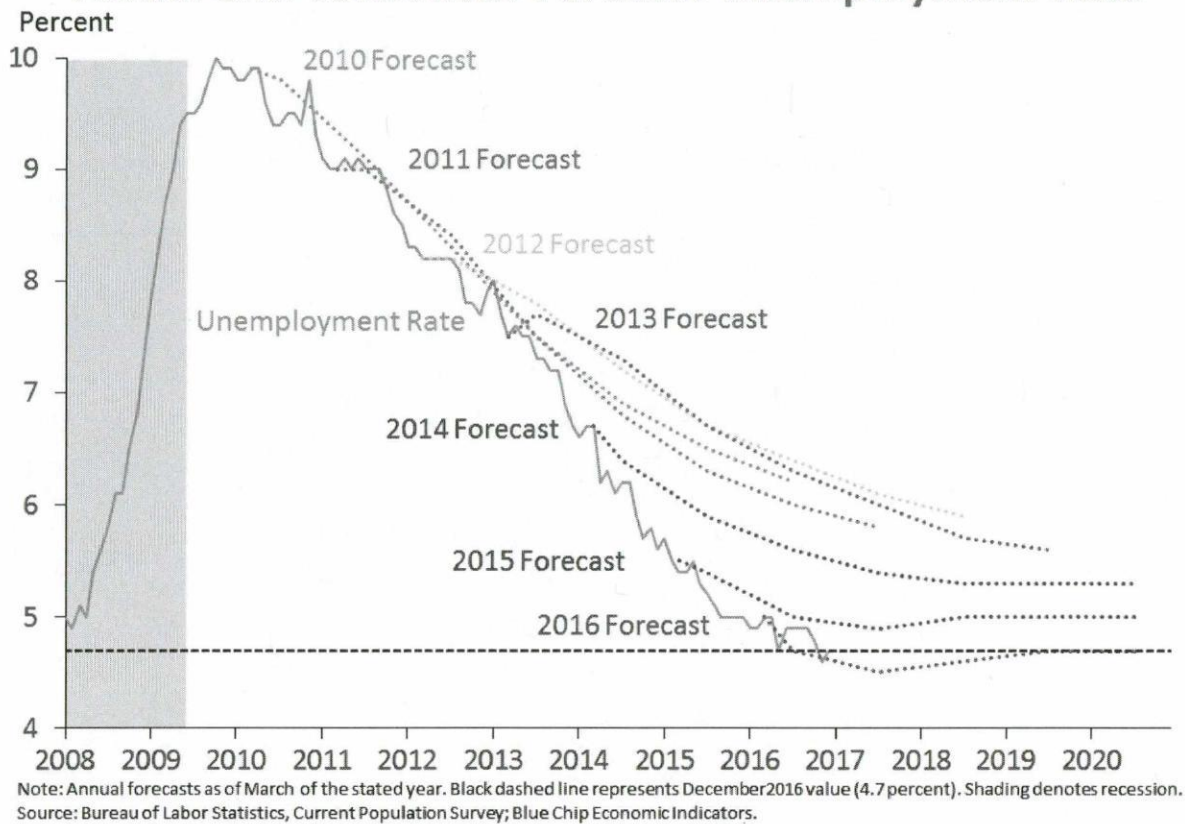
Months



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics; CEA calculations.

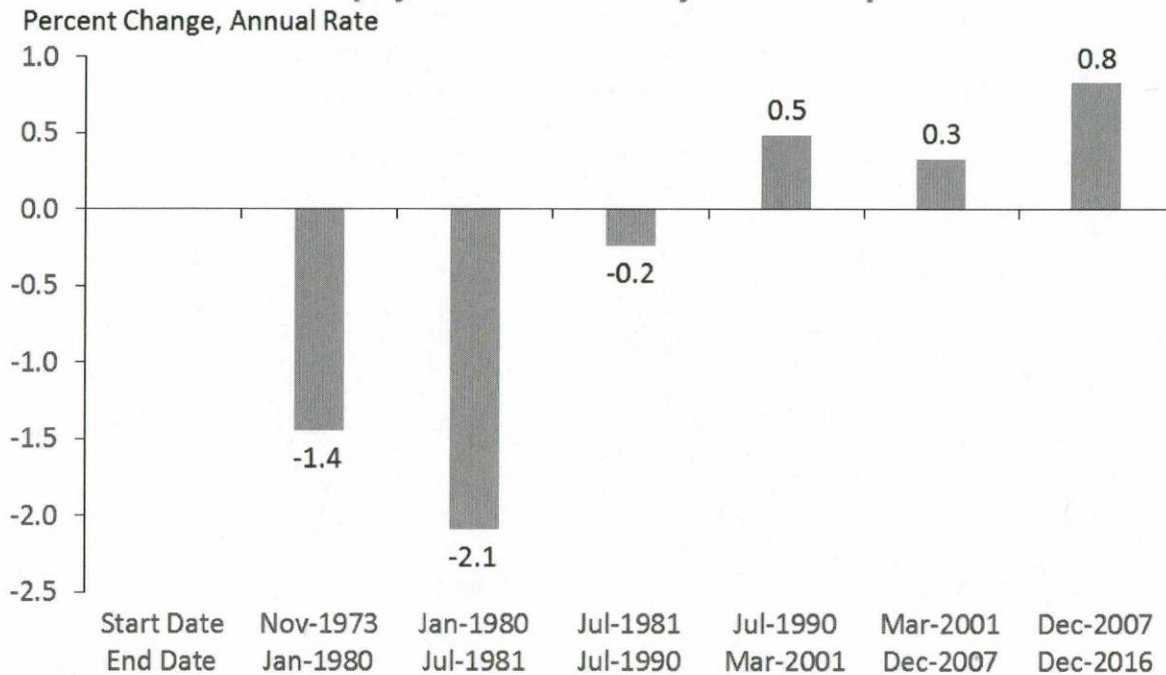
3. The unemployment rate has been cut by more than half since its peak in 2009, falling much faster and further than expected. After peaking at 10.0 percent in October 2009, the unemployment rate fell rapidly over the course of the recovery, and by mid-2015 had recovered fully to its pre-recession average. Since then, it has fallen even further, standing at 4.7 percent at the end of 2016. The rapid decline in the unemployment rate came far more quickly than most economists predicted: as recently as March 2014, private forecasters expected the unemployment rate to remain above 5.0 percent until at least 2020.

Actual and Consensus Forecast Unemployment Rate



4. Real hourly wages have grown faster over the current business cycle than in any cycle since the early 1970s. In recent years, American workers have seen sustained real wage gains, as hourly earnings have grown faster than inflation. The chart below plots the average annual growth of real hourly earnings for private production and nonsupervisory workers—a group comprising about four-fifths of private nonfarm employment—over each business cycle, including both recessions and recoveries. (Economists prefer comparing across entire business cycles, as they generally represent economically comparable periods.) Since the beginning of the current business cycle in December 2007, real wages have grown at a rate of 0.8 percent a year, faster than in any other cycle since 1973.

Real Hourly Wage Growth Over Business Cycles (Cycle Peak to Cycle Peak)

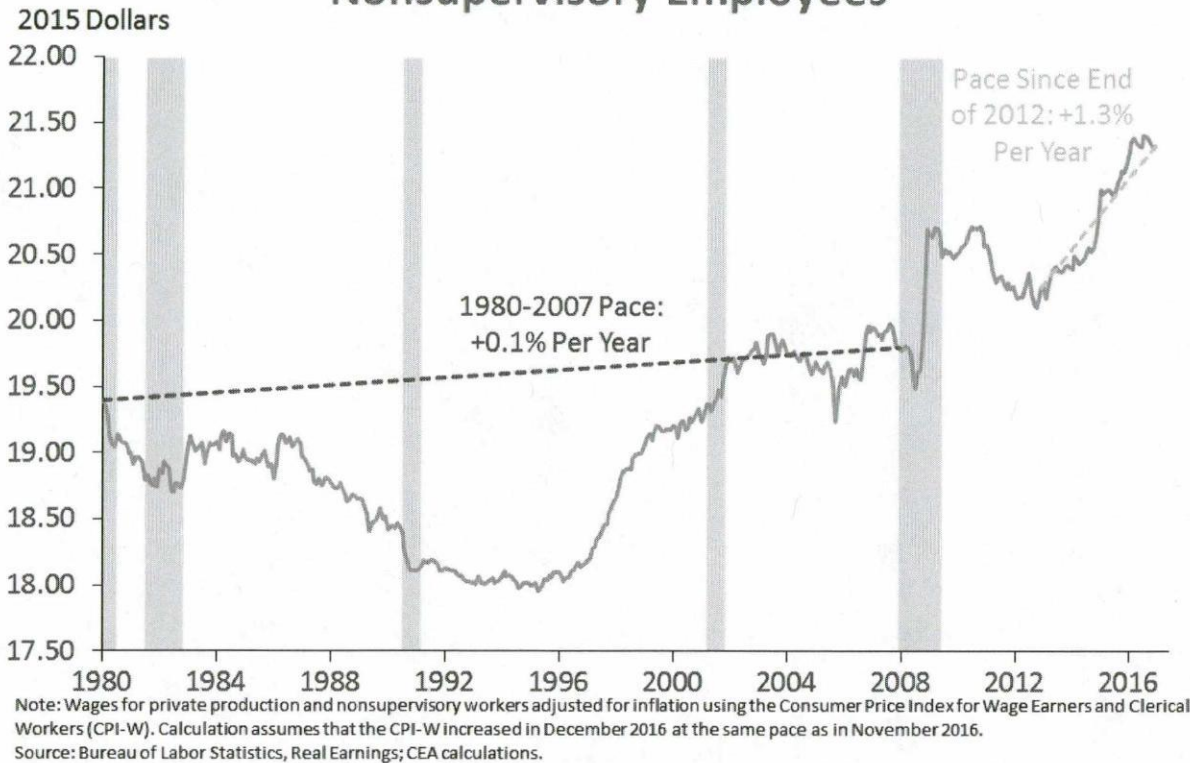


Note: Wages for private production and nonsupervisory workers adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index for Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Calculation assumes that the CPI-W increased in December 2016 at the same pace as in November 2016.

Source: National Bureau of Economic Research; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Real Earnings; CEA calculations.

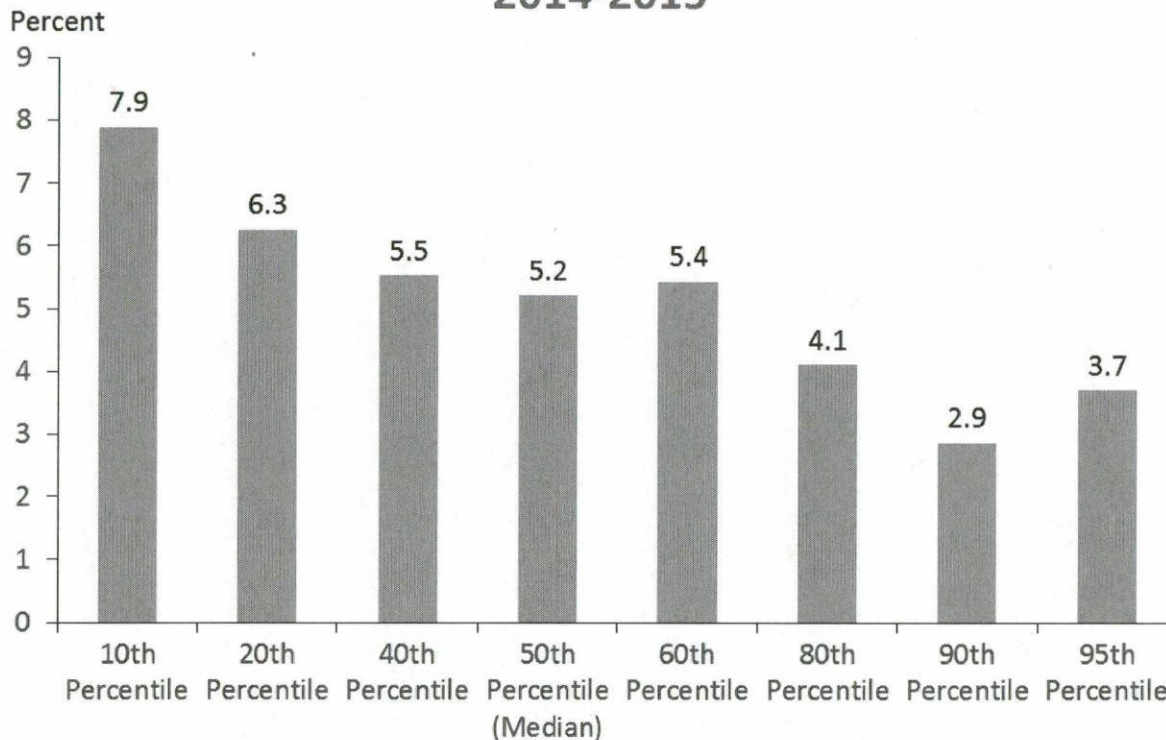
5. Since the end of 2012, real wages for non-managerial workers have grown nearly 18 times faster than they did from 1980 to 2007. In fact, since the end of 2012, real wages for private production and nonsupervisory workers have grown over 5 percent cumulatively, more than double their 2.1-percent total growth from the business cycle peak in 1980 to the business cycle peak in 2007—a sign of the remarkable progress made by American families in the current recovery after years of slow growth in wages.

Real Hourly Earnings, Private Production and Nonsupervisory Employees



6. Robust real wage growth and strong employment growth have translated into rising real incomes for households, with the largest gains going to low- and middle-income families. From 2014 to 2015, real median household income increased by \$2,800, or 5.2 percent, the largest annual increase on record. Gains were even larger in the lower half of the income distribution, ranging from an increase of 5.5 percent for households at the 40th percentile to an increase of nearly 8 percent for households at the 10th percentile. While households in the top half of the income distribution also saw increases, their gains were smaller, with an increase of 2.9 percent at the 90th percentile of household income. Growth in both real wages and employment in 2016 point to continued gains in real incomes for American households.

Growth in Real Household Income by Percentile, 2014-2015



Source: Census Bureau; CEA calculations.

7. On net, essentially all of the increase in employment over the recovery has been in full-time jobs. As measured by the household survey, U.S. employment reached a trough in December 2009. Since then, full-time employment has increased by 13.7 million. In contrast, part-time employment has increased by just 420,000 over the course of the recovery.

Net Change in Full-Time and Part-Time Employment Since December 2009

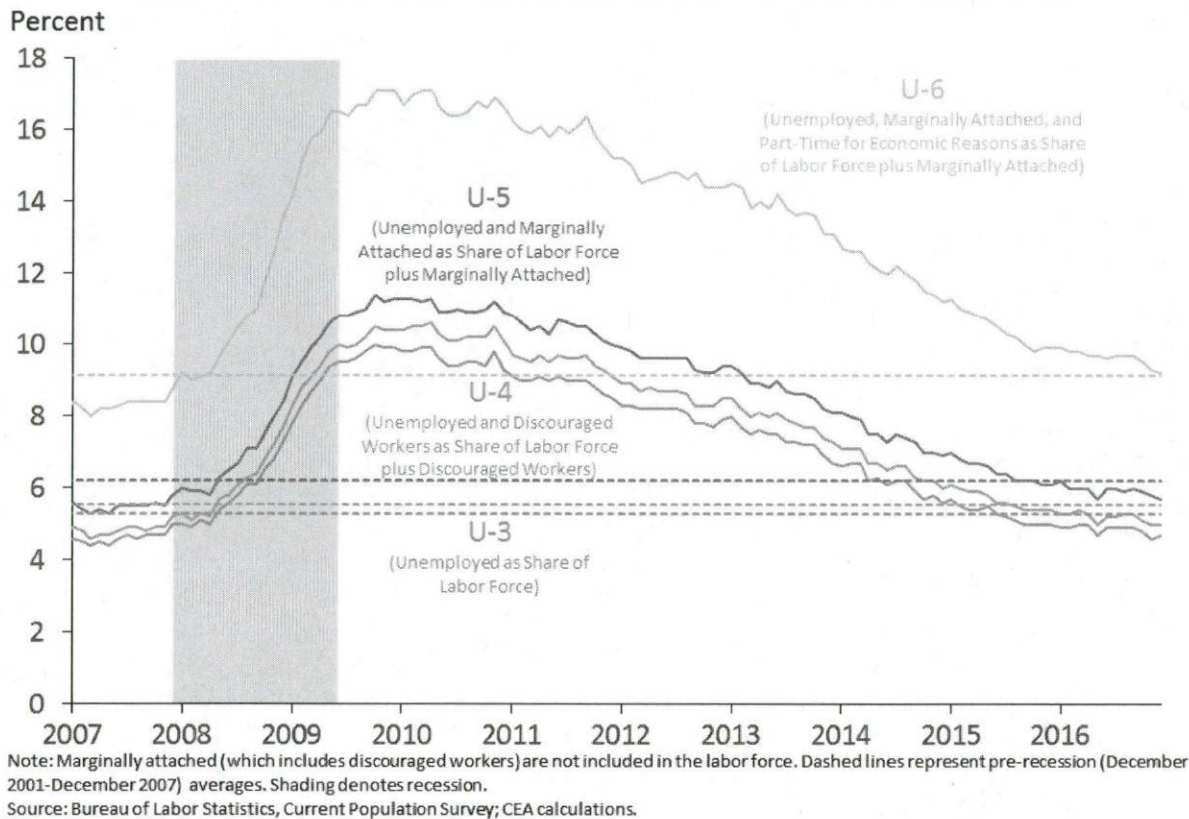


Note: Shading denotes recession.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey; CEA calculations.

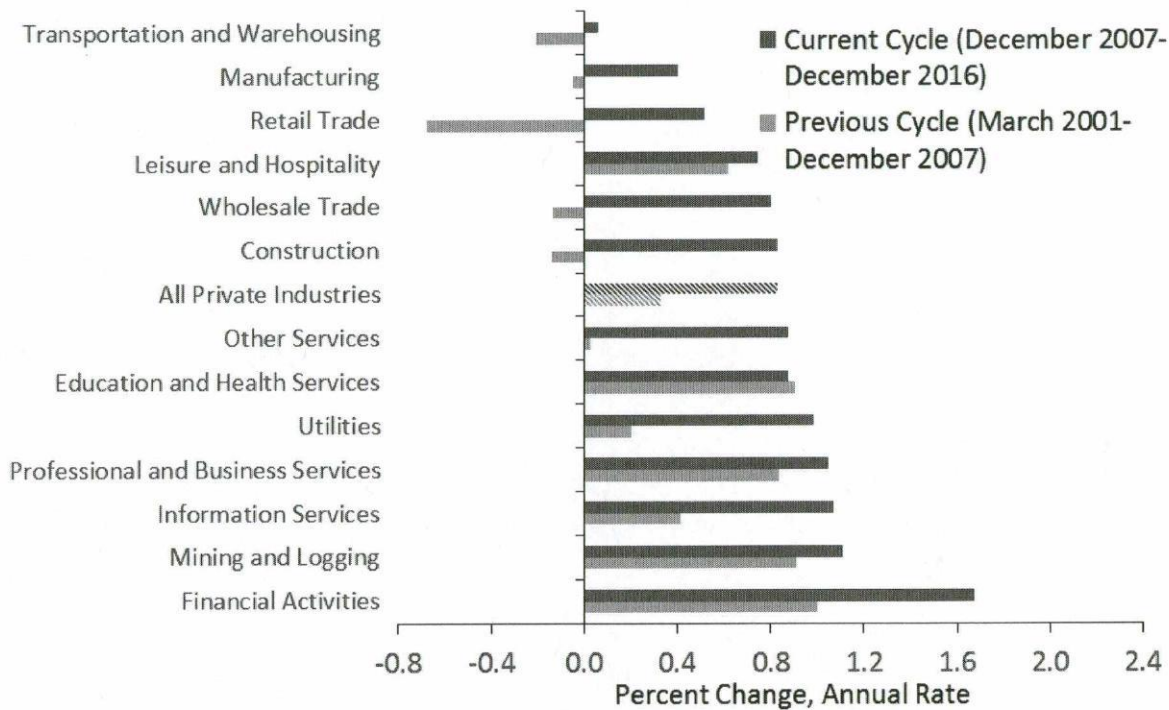
8. Broader measures of labor underutilization have also steadily improved, and all but one are below their pre-recession averages. The headline unemployment rate, the U-3 rate, includes unemployed persons who have looked for work in the last four weeks. Broader measures of labor underutilization each include a progressively larger group of individuals: U-4 counts discouraged workers in addition to the unemployed, U-5 adds in others who are marginally attached to the labor force, and U-6 also includes people working part-time who would prefer a full-time job ("part-time for economic reasons"). Like the headline unemployment rate, all of these measures saw large increases during the recession, with the U-6 rate in particular reaching a record high. However, U-3, U-4, and U-5 all recovered fully to their respective pre-recession averages in the summer of 2015 and have fallen further since. As of December, the U-6 rate was just 0.1 percentage point above its pre-recession average.

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization



9. Real average hourly wages have risen in every major industry over the current business cycle—and in nearly all, the pace of increase has been faster than in the previous cycle. Since the beginning of the current business cycle, real wages for non-managerial workers have grown at an average rate of 0.8 percent a year. However, this average masks considerable variation in real wage growth among workers in different industries. As the chart below shows, workers in all major sectors have seen real increases in their hourly earnings, ranging from average gains of 0.1 percent a year for workers in the transportation and warehousing industry to gains of 1.7 percent a year for workers in the financial activities sector. For nearly all major industries, real wage gains so far in the current business cycle have outpaced gains in the 2000s business cycle.

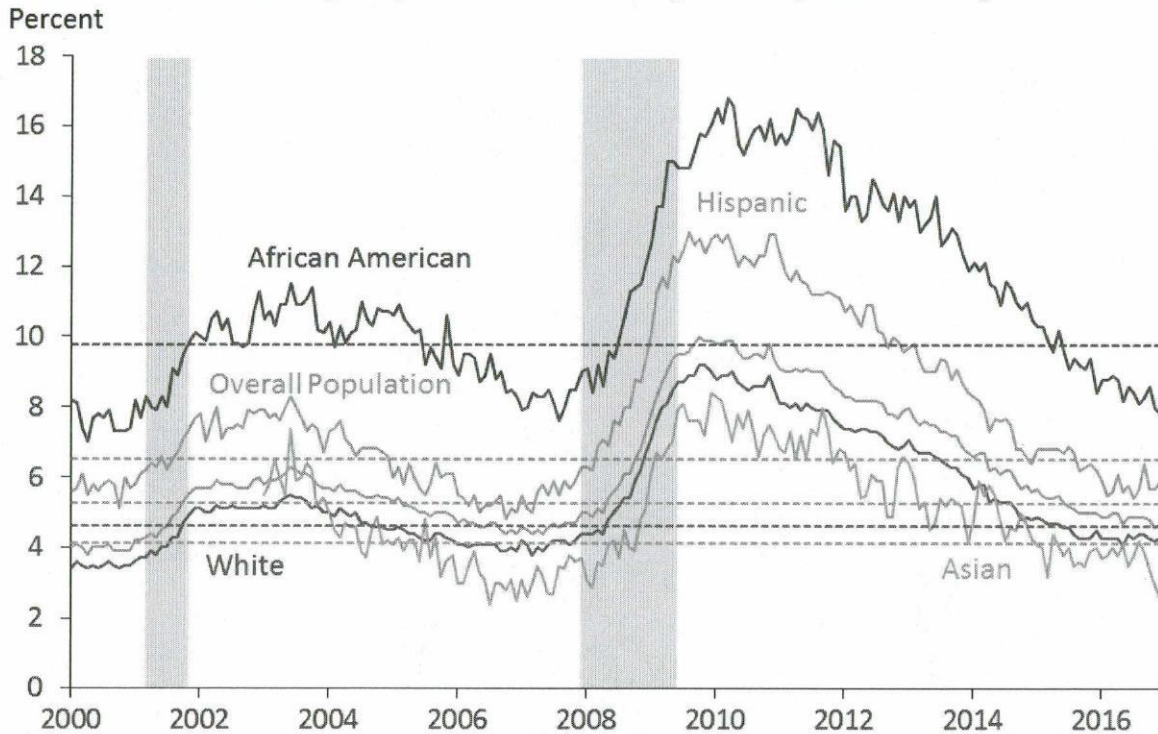
Annual Pace of Real Wage Growth by Industry



Note: Wages for private production and nonsupervisory workers adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index for Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Calculation assumes that the CPI-W increased in December 2016 at the same pace as in November 2016.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Prices; CEA calculations.

10. Unemployment rates for all major demographic groups have recovered to below their respective pre-recession averages, though more work remains to close longstanding disparities in the labor market. The unemployment rates for African Americans and Hispanic Americans peaked at 16.8 percent and 13.0 percent, respectively, after experiencing larger percentage-point increases from their pre-recession averages than the overall unemployment rate did. By mid-2015, both the African-American and Hispanic-American unemployment rates had recovered to their respective pre-recession averages. Similarly, the unemployment rates for white Americans and for Asian Americans, which have historically tended to be lower than the overall unemployment rate, have more than recovered to their pre-recession averages. Still, the fact that the unemployment rates for African Americans and Hispanic Americans are much higher than the overall unemployment rate is a reminder that much more work remains to ensure that the benefits of the strong labor market are shared among all Americans, including through efforts like the My Brother's Keeper initiative.

Unemployment Rate by Race/Ethnicity

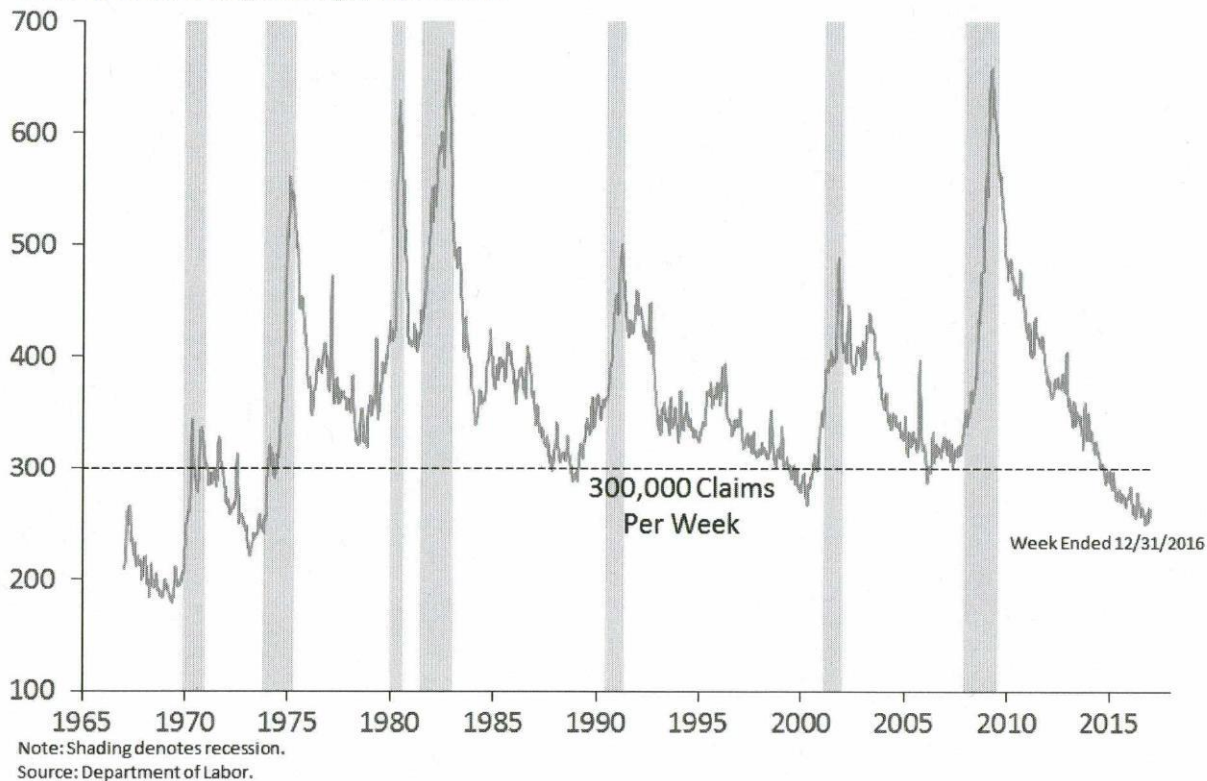


Note: Dashed lines represent pre-recession averages (December 2001 to December 2007). Seasonally adjusted data for Asians are available starting in January 2003; pre-recession average for Asian unemployment rate shown is from January 2003 to December 2007. Shading denotes recession.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey; CEA calculations.

11. Initial claims for unemployment insurance (UI) have been below 300,000 for 96 consecutive weeks, the longest such streak since 1970. During the Great Recession, claims for unemployment insurance – which are an important leading indicator of recessions – rose sharply to near-record highs. However, they have since declined to well below their pre-recession average, and average weekly initial claims in 2016 were the lowest of any calendar year since 1973. Still, the share of unemployed workers eligible for unemployment insurance has fallen in recent years, in part as a result of reductions in coverage within States' UI programs. A number of reforms – including several in the President's Fiscal Year 2017 Budget – would build on the strengths of the UI system to ensure that it both provides effective assistance for those who lose a job through no fault of their own and helps to stabilize the U.S. economy during future downturns.

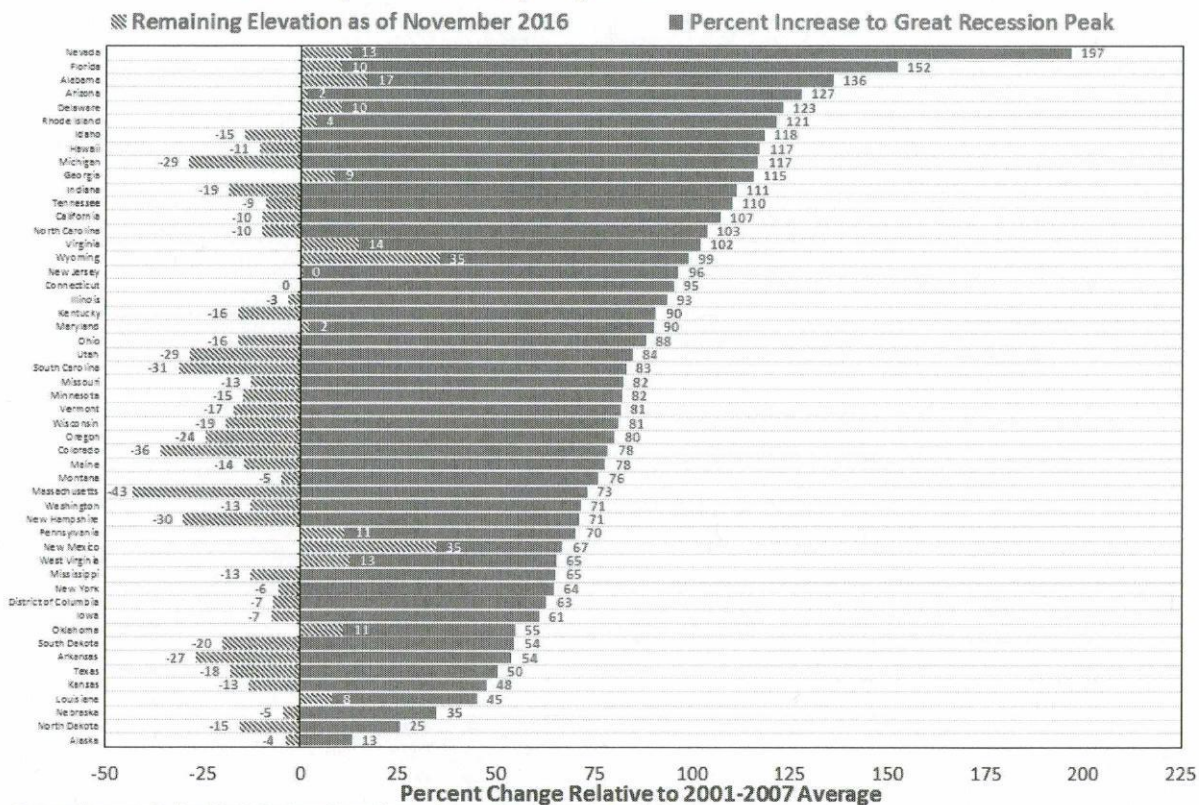
Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance

Four-Week Moving Average, Thousands



12. Two-thirds of States have seen their unemployment rates fall below their pre-recession averages. There was extremely wide variation in the effect of the Great Recession on unemployment rates across States and the District of Columbia, with increases ranging from nearly 200 percent (Nevada) to just 13 percent (Alaska) of their respective pre-recession averages. As of November 2016, however, 34 States and the District of Columbia have seen their unemployment rates recover fully, with a number of States seeing unemployment rates substantially below their pre-recession averages. The sixteen States that still have elevated unemployment rates include the six that saw the largest percentage increases in their unemployment rates in the recession.

Recovery in Unemployment Rate Across States

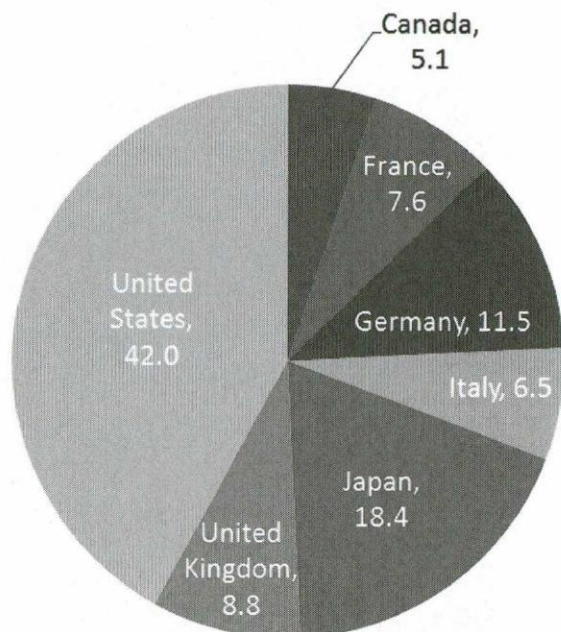


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics; CEA calculations.

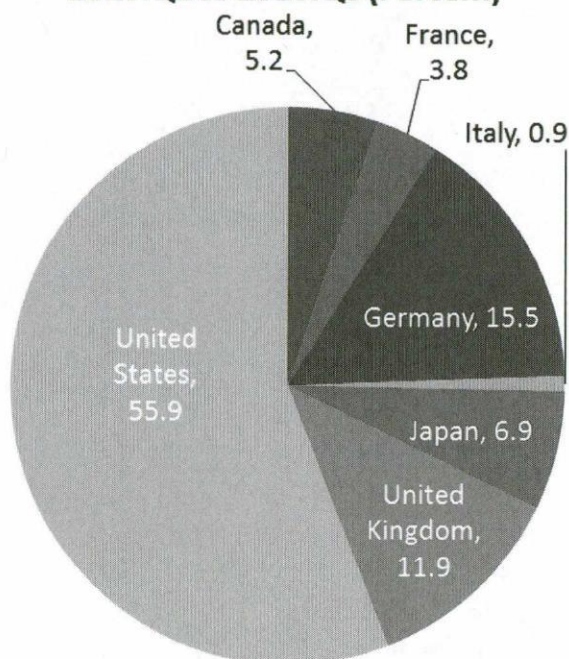
13. Since 2010, the United States has put more people back to work than all the other G-7 economies combined. The rebound of the U.S. economy from the Great Recession occurred much faster than in most other advanced economies and compares favorably with the historical record of countries recovering from systemic financial crises. As shown in the chart below, the United States has been responsible for a disproportionate share of employment growth in the G-7 economies during the recovery. Although the United States comprises about two-fifths of total employment in the G-7, it has been responsible for more than 55 percent of the net employment growth since 2010, a further sign of the strength and resilience of the U.S. economy and the importance of the policies of the last eight years in putting it on a sounder footing.

Employment Growth in G-7 Countries, 2010:Q1-2016:Q3

Share of Total Employment,
Average 2010:Q1-2016:Q3 (Percent)



Share of Net Growth in Employment,
2010:Q1 to 2016:Q3 (Percent)



Note: Components may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; CEA calculations.

As the Administration stresses every month, the monthly employment and unemployment figures can be volatile, and payroll employment estimates can be subject to substantial revision. Therefore, it is important not to read too much into any one monthly report, and it is informative to consider each report in the context of other data as they become available.

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