

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

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WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Article II, section 1, of the Constitution provides that “the executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, * * * together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term * * *” In addition to the powers set forth in the Constitution, the statutes have conferred upon the President specific authority and responsibility covering a wide range of matters (United States Code Index).

The President is the administrative head of the executive branch of the Government, which includes numerous agencies, both temporary and permanent, as well as the 14 executive departments.

THE CABINET

The Cabinet, a creation of custom and tradition dating back to George Washington’s administration, functions at the pleasure of the President. Its purpose is to advise the President upon any subject, relating to the duties of the respective offices, on which he requests information (pursuant to Article II, section 2, of the Constitution).

The Cabinet is composed of the heads of the 14 executive departments—the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Labor, State, Transportation, Treasury, and Veterans Affairs, and the Attorney General. Additionally, in the Clinton administration, Cabinet-level rank has been accorded to: the Chief of Staff to the President; the Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers; the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; the Director, Office of Management and Budget; the U.S. Representative to the United Nations; and the U.S. Trade Representative. The Vice President also participates in Cabinet meetings, and from time to time, other individuals are invited to participate in discussions of particular subjects. A Secretary to the Cabinet is designated to provide for the orderly handling and followup of matters brought before the Cabinet.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Under authority of the Reorganization Act of 1939 (5 U.S.C. 133–133r, 133t note), various agencies were transferred to the Executive Office of the President by the President’s Reorganization Plans I and II of 1939 (5 U.S.C. app.), effective July 1, 1939. Executive Order 8248 of September 8, 1939, established the divisions of the Executive Office and defined their functions. Subsequently, Presidents have used Executive orders, reorganization plans, and legislative initiatives to reorganize the

Executive Office to make its composition compatible with the goals of their administrations.

The White House Office

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Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for White House Operations	ERSKINE BOWLES
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Assistant to the President and Director for Special Projects	RAHM I. EMANUEL
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Assistant to the President and Director of Intergovernmental Affairs	MARCIA L. HALE
Assistant to the President and Director of Public Liaison	ALEXIS M. HERMAN
Assistant to the President and Press Secretary	MIKE MCCURRY
Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs	ANTHONY LAKE
Assistant to the President and Deputy Counsel to the President	BRUCE LINDSEY
Assistant to the President and Staff Secretary	TODD STERN
Assistant to the President, and Chief of Staff and Counselor to the Vice President	JOHN M. QUINN
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy	CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President and Director of the National Economic Council	LAURA D. TYSON
Assistant to the President for National Service	ELI J. SEGAL
Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to the First Lady	MARGARET A. WILLIAMS
Assistant to the President for Management and Administration	JODIE TORKELSON
Assistant to the President for Speechwriting and Research	DONALD BAER
Assistant to the President and Director of Presidential Personnel	BOB NASH