Executive Order 13280—
Responsibilities of the Department
of Agriculture and the Agency for
International Development With
Respect to Faith-Based and
Community Initiatives
December 12, 2002

By the authority vested in me as President
by the Constitution and the laws of the
United States of America, and in order to
help the Federal Government coordinate a
national effort to expand opportunities for
faith-based and other community organiza-
tions and to strengthen their capacity to bet-
ter meet social needs in America’s commu-
nities, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Establishment of Centers for
Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at
the Department of Agriculture and the Agen-
cy for International Development. (a) The
Secretary of Agriculture and the Adminis-
trator of the Agency for International Devel-
opment shall each establish within their re-
pective agencies a Center for Faith-Based
and Community Initiatives (Center).

(b) Each of these Centers shall be super-
vised by a Director, appointed by the agency
head in consultation with the White House
Office of Faith-Based and Community Initia-
tives (White House OFBCI).

(c) Each agency shall provide its Center
with appropriate staff, administrative sup-
port, and other resources to meet its respon-
sibilities under this order.

(d) Each Center shall begin operations no
later than 45 days from the date of this order.

Sec. 2. Purpose of Executive Branch Cen-
ters for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.
The purpose of the agency Centers will
be to coordinate agency efforts to eliminate
regulatory, contracting, and other pro-
grammatic obstacles to the participation of
faith-based and other community organiza-
tions in the delivery of social services
by the agency, including but not limited to
regulations, rules, orders, procurement, and
other internal policies and practices, and out-
reach activities that either facially discrimi-
nate against or otherwise discourage or dis-
advantage the participation of faith-based
and other community organizations in Fed-
eral programs;

(b) coordinate a comprehensive agency ef-
fort to incorporate faith-based and other
community organizations in agency programs
and initiatives to the greatest extent possible;

(c) propose initiatives to remove barriers
identified pursuant to section 3(a) of this
order, including but not limited to reform
of regulations, procurement, and other inter-
nal policies and practices, and outreach ac-
tivities;

(d) propose the development of innovative
pilot and demonstration programs to increase
the participation of faith-based and other
community organizations in Federal as well
as State and local initiatives; and

(e) develop and coordinate agency out-
reach efforts to disseminate information
more effectively to faith-based and other
community organizations with respect to pro-
gramming changes, contracting opportuni-
ties, and other agency initiatives, including
but not limited to Web and Internet re-
sources.

Sec. 3. Responsibilities of the Centers for
Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Each Center shall, to the extent permitted
by law:

(a) conduct, in coordination with the
White House OFBCI, an agency-wide audit
to identify all existing barriers to the partici-
pation of faith-based and other community
organizations in the delivery of social services
by the agency, including but not limited to
regulations, rules, orders, procurement, and
other internal policies and practices, and out-
reach activities that either facially discrimi-
nate against or otherwise discourage or dis-
advantage the participation of faith-based
and other community organizations regarding

the program activities of the agency
and the preparation of applications or
proposals for grants, cooperative
agreements, contracts, and procure-
ment.

(c) Performance Indicators. The first re-
port, filed 180 days after the date of this
order, shall include annual performance indi-
cators and measurable objectives for agency
action. Each report filed thereafter shall
measure the agency’s performance against
the objectives set forth in the initial report.

Sec. 5. Responsibilities of the Secretary of
Agriculture and the Administrator of the
Agency for International Development. The
Secretary and the Administrator shall:

(a) designate an employee within their re-
spective agencies to serve as the liaison and
point of contact with the White House
OFBCI; and

(b) cooperate with the White House
OFBCI and provide such information, sup-
port, and assistance to the White House
OFBCI as it may request, to the extent per-
mitted by law.

Sec. 6. Administration and Judicial Re-
view. (a) The agency actions directed by this
executive order shall be carried out subject
to the availability of appropriations and to
the extent permitted by law.

(b) This order is not intended to, and does
not, create any right or benefit, substantive
or procedural, enforceable at law or equity
by a party against the United States, its agen-
cies, or entities, its officers, employees or
agents, or any other person.

Remarks Announcing the
Appointment of Stephen Friedman
as Assistant to the President for
Economic Policy and Director of the
National Economic Council

December 12, 2002

The President. Good afternoon. I’m
pleased to introduce the newest member of
my economic team, Mr. Steve Friedman.
Welcome, Steve. I also want to welcome Bar-
bara and Susie and Caroline and David and
Sam. We’re glad you all are here, and thank
you for your sacrifice.

Steve Friedman has spent a career at the
center of American enterprise and finance
and job creation. He’s an innovative eco-
nomic thinker, a proven manager, and he’s
a business leader of national standing. He has
served the country as a member of the Presi-
dent’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board
and as Chairman of a task force on modern-
izing financial management at the Pentagon.
Steve is a graduate of Cornell University, and
he holds a law degree from Columbia Uni-
versity and serves as chairman emeritus of
that university’s board.

I’m delighted that Steve will be joining the
White House staff as Assistant to the Presi-
dent for Economic Policy and Director of
the National Economic Council.

He replaces a dear friend, Larry Lindsey.
I appreciate so very much Larry’s service to
our country. He has a distinguished career
here in the White House. He’s earned the
respect of the President and everybody who
has worked with him.

I selected Steve for his wide experience
and steady and sound judgment. He under-
stands the free enterprise system. He knows
how the economy works. And he shares my
objectives for stronger economic growth,
high standards of corporate integrity, more
small businesses across our Nation, and
greater trade across the world.

I will work with Steve and others on a
growth and jobs package that we will present
to the new Congress. In order to continue