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EXECUTIVE BRANCH

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Article II, section 1, of the Constitution provides that ''[t]he 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 Director of Central Intelligence; the Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers; the Counselor to the President; the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; the Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency; the Director, Office of Management and Budget; the Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy; the Administrator, Small Business Administration; 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.

THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

THE VICE PRESIDENT	AL GORE

Article II, section I, of the Constitution provides that the President ''shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years . . . together with the Vice President . . . .'' In addition to his role as President of the Senate, the Vice President is empowered to succeed to the Presidency, pursuant to Article II and the 20th and 25th amendments to the Constitution.

The executive functions of the Vice President include participation in Cabinet meetings and, by statute, membership on the National Security Council and the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

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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Chief of Staff to the President	JOHN D. PODESTA
Assistant to the President	SIDNEY BLUMENTHAL
Assistant to the President and Cabinet Secretary	THURGOOD MARSHALL, JR.
Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to the First Lady	MELANNE VERVEER
Assistant to the President and Counselor to the Chief of Staff	KAREN TRAMONTANO
Assistant to the President and Deputy Counsel to the President	BRUCE LINDSEY
Assistant to the President and Director of Advance	DAN K. ROSENTHAL
Assistant to the President and Director of Communications	LORETTA UCELLI
Assistant to the President and Director of Intergovernmental Affairs	MICKEY IBARRA
Assistant to the President and Director of Legislative Affairs	LAWRENCE J. STEIN
Assistant to the President and Director of Political Affairs	MINYON MOORE
Assistant to the President and Director of Presidential Personnel	BOB NASH