

**The United States
Government Manual
2007/2008**

**Office of the Federal Register
National Archives and Records Administration**

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On the cover: Celebrating 50 years of publishing the **Public Papers of the Presidents**.

The **Public Papers of the Presidents (Public Papers)** series, published by the Office of the Federal Register of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), began in 1957 during the administration of President Dwight Eisenhower as an official publication of the public writings, speeches, messages, and statements of the President of the United States.

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Each volume of the **Public Papers** features a foreword signed by the President and a portfolio of photographs from the time period covered in the volume, as well as subject and name indexes and a document categories list. Volumes are generally published twice a year, with each volume covering approximately a 6-month period.

We accord special thanks to NARA's Presidential Libraries and the White House for providing the commemorative photographs used on the cover. We also thank the office of Creative and Digital Media Services at the Government Printing Office for its artistic contributions in designing the cover.

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Preface

As the official handbook of the Federal Government, *The United States Government Manual* provides comprehensive information on the agencies of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches. The *Manual* also includes information on quasi-official agencies; international organizations in which the United States participates; and boards, commissions, and committees.

A typical agency description includes a list of principal officials, a summary statement of the agency's purpose and role in the Federal Government, a brief history of the agency, including its legislative or executive authority, a description of its programs and activities, and a "Sources of Information" section. This last section provides information on consumer activities, contracts and grants, employment, publications, and many other areas of public interest.

The 2007/2008 *Manual* was prepared by the Presidential and Legislative Publications Unit, Office of the Federal Register, under the supervision of Gwendolyn J. Henderson. Alfred W. Jones was Managing Editor, assisted by Matthew R. Regan, and Jennifer Partridge.

THE FEDERAL REGISTER AND ITS SPECIAL EDITIONS

The *Manual* is published as a special edition of the *Federal Register* (see 1 CFR 9.1). Its focus is on programs and activities. Persons interested in detailed organizational structure, the regulatory documents of an agency, or Presidential documents should refer to the *Federal Register* or one of its other special editions, described below.

Issued each Federal working day, the *Federal Register* provides a uniform system for publishing Presidential documents, regulatory documents with general applicability and legal effect, proposed rules, notices, and documents required to be published by statute.

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recommendations for executive, legislative, and judicial salaries; reorganization plans; proposed and ratified amendments to the Constitution; and Presidential proclamations. Included with many of these documents are sidenotes, U.S. Code and statutes citations, and a summary of their legislative histories.

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Contents

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE	1
CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES	5
Chart: The Government of the United States	21
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	
Congress	25
Architect of the Capitol	43
United States Botanic Garden	45
Government Accountability Office	47
Government Printing Office	50
Library of Congress	54
Congressional Budget Office	60
JUDICIAL BRANCH	
The Supreme Court of the United States	67
Lower Courts	68
Special Courts	75
Administrative Office of the United States Courts	77
Federal Judicial Center	80
United States Sentencing Commission	82
EXECUTIVE BRANCH	
The President of the United States	87
The Vice President of the United States	87
Executive Office of the President	88
The White House Office	88
Office of the Vice President of the United States	89
Council of Economic Advisers	90
Council on Environmental Quality	91
National Security Council	92
Office of Administration	93
Office of Management and Budget	93
Office of National Drug Control Policy	96
Office of Policy Development	97
Office of Science and Technology Policy	98
Office of the United States Trade Representative	99
Executive Agencies	
Departments	
Department of Agriculture	103
Department of Commerce	127
Department of Defense	151
<i>Department of the Air Force</i>	162
<i>Department of the Army</i>	167
<i>Department of the Navy</i>	176

<i>Defense Agencies</i>	187
<i>Joint Service Schools</i>	198
Department of Education	202
Department of Energy	210
Department of Health and Human Services	219
Department of Homeland Security	232
Department of Housing and Urban Development	238
Department of the Interior	244
Department of Justice	259
Department of Labor	279
Department of State	294
Department of Transportation	309
Department of the Treasury	332
Department of Veterans Affairs	348
Independent Establishments and Government Corporations	
African Development Foundation	363
Broadcasting Board of Governors	364
Central Intelligence Agency	367
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	368
Consumer Product Safety Commission	370
Corporation for National and Community Service	373
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board	377
Environmental Protection Agency	379
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	383
Export-Import Bank of the United States	389
Farm Credit Administration	391
Federal Communications Commission	394
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation	400
Federal Election Commission	404
Federal Housing Finance Board	405
Federal Labor Relations Authority	408
Federal Maritime Commission	411
Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service	415
Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission	416
Federal Reserve System	418
Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board	423
Federal Trade Commission	424
General Services Administration	429
Inter-American Foundation	436
Merit Systems Protection Board	437
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	439
National Archives and Records Administration	445
National Capital Planning Commission	454
National Credit Union Administration	456
National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities	458
<i>National Endowment for the Arts</i>	459
<i>National Endowment for the Humanities</i>	460
<i>Institute of Museum and Library Services</i>	463
National Labor Relations Board	465
National Mediation Board	469
National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak)	472
National Science Foundation	474
National Transportation Safety Board	479
Nuclear Regulatory Commission	483
Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission	486

Office of the Director of National Intelligence	489
Office of Government Ethics	491
Office of Personnel Management	492
Office of Special Counsel	497
Overseas Private Investment Corporation	498
Peace Corps	499
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	502
Postal Regulatory Commission	506
Railroad Retirement Board	507
Securities and Exchange Commission	510
Selective Service System	515
Small Business Administration	517
Social Security Administration	527
Tennessee Valley Authority	531
Trade and Development Agency	533
United States Agency for International Development	536
United States Commission on Civil Rights	541
United States International Trade Commission	543
United States Postal Service	548
Guide to Boards, Commissions, and Committees	553
Quasi-Official Agencies	
Legal Services Corporation	557
Smithsonian Institution	559
State Justice Institute	574
United States Institute of Peace	575
Selected Multilateral Organizations	579
Selected Bilateral Organizations	589
Appendix A: Commonly Used Abbreviations and Acronyms	591
Appendix B: Terminated and Transferred Agencies	597
Appendix C: Agencies Appearing in the Code of Federal Regulations	655
NAME INDEX	665
AGENCY/SUBJECT INDEX	685
RECENT CHANGES	691