



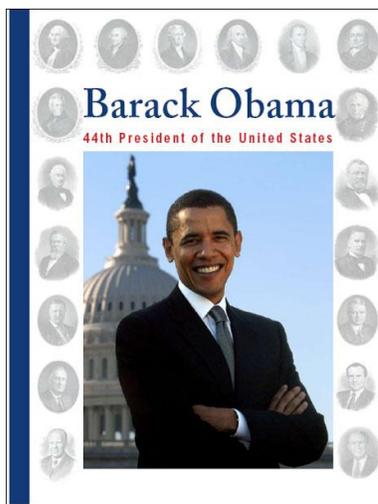
**AMERICAN INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER
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**IRC WHAT'S NEW
December 2008**

Special Issue: Presidential Transition

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Barack Obama: 44th President of the United States

Barack Obama, elected the 44th President of the United States, has lived a truly American life, and has opened a new chapter in American politics. This publication tells the story of Obama's life, describes how he captured the presidency, and portrays his vision for the future. It also introduces readers to the Obama family and to the new Vice President, Joseph Biden.

Ask America

Ask America allow foreign audiences to interact with American citizens on wide range of topics using a chat tool over the Internet. U.S. government and private sector subject experts, academics, journalists, and everyday citizens are brought on as guests to do webchats on USINFO. You may visit the [Ask America HomePage](#) to see upcoming ones, and read the transcripts of the previous webchats.

Podcasts

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/podcasts.html>
Audio files and transcripts from America.gov

Videos

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/video.html?videoid=1498976413>
Video files on foreign policy, U.S. politics, American life, democracy, science and health.

Blogs

<http://blogs.america.gov/>
Blogs at America.gov offers readers a place to discuss designated topics with experts from the United States and around the world, and to share their comments and reactions with the broader Internet public.

2008-2009 Presidential Transition Resources. General Services Administration and National Archives and Records Administration. November 2008.

The Presidential Transition Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-293) authorizes the General Services Administration (GSA) to develop a transition directory in consultation with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The Act provides that the transition directory "shall be a compilation of Federal publications and materials with supplementary materials developed by the Administrator that provides information on the officers, organization, and statutory and administrative authorities, functions, duties, responsibilities, and mission of each department and agency."

<http://directory.presidentialtransition.gov/PTT-PresTransInaug.cfm> [HTML format, various paging].

2008-2009 PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITIONS: NATIONAL SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS AND OPTIONS. Congressional Research Service, RL34456, Library of Congress. John Rollins. April 21, 2008.

The 2008-2009 election marks the first presidential transition in the post-9/11 era, and is of concern to many national security observers. Many observers suggest that the current security climate and recent acts of terrorism by individuals wishing to influence national elections and change foreign policies portend a time of increased risk to the current presidential transition period. The report discusses historical national-security related presidential transition activities, provides a representative sampling of national security issues the next administration may encounter, and offers considerations and options relevant to each of the five phases of the presidential transition period.

<https://www.policyarchive.org/bitstream/handle/10207/9671/RL34456.pdf?sequence=1> [PDF format, 52 pages].

ACHIEVING THE POTENTIAL: THE FUTURE OF E-RULEMAKING. Committee on the Status and Future of Federal e-Rulemaking. 2008.

The report provides suggestions for federal e-rulemaking. It contends that if a government-wide electronic docket and rulemaking support system were being designed in today's technological environment; the preferred architecture would not be a single and exclusive centralized system. If the current system can be enhanced, and situated within a new open and more flexible technical architecture, it can function as the primary rulemaking system for agencies with modest rulemaking activities, and as the core from which other agencies can build out more robust and innovative e-rulemaking capabilities. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://ceri.law.cornell.edu/documents/final-report-pr-2.pdf> [PDF format, 71 pages].

ACTIONS FOR RESTORING AMERICA. American Civil Liberties Union. October 27, 2008.

According to ACLU, Barack Obama has become chief executive of a nation that has been greatly weakened in our freedoms, our values, and our international reputation. Presidents have enormous power not only to set the legislative agenda, but also to establish policy by executive order, federal regulation, or simply by refocusing the efforts and emphases of the executive agencies. The report contends that the new president must use all of these tools to restore our

freedoms and move the country forward. The report lists many of the actions that the new president could take in order to decisively signal a restoration of American values.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://72.3.233.244/images/asset_upload_file45_37256.pdf [PDF format, 97 pages].

ADDRESSING THE 2009 PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION AT THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY. National Academy of Public Administration. Frank Chellino et al. June 2008.

Recent history demonstrates that political transitions present an opportunity for terrorists to take advantage of real or perceived weaknesses in a nation's ability to detect, deter, prevent or respond to attacks. The study focuses on Department of Homeland Security's senior leadership cadre, political appointees and career civil servants, and the department's existing and anticipated plans to make the transition go smoothly. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.napawash.org/pc_management_studies/DHS/DHSExecutiveStaffingReport2008.pdf [PDF format, 135 pages].

BUILDING A SECURE ENERGY FUTURE. Brookings Institution. William Antholis and Charles Ebinger. November 11, 2008.

Building a secure energy future, including heading off catastrophic climate change, was a top campaign priority, second only to meeting the ongoing global economic crisis. Successfully addressing both issues simultaneously will require determination, bipartisan leadership and political courage.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2008/1111_energy_security_memo/1111_energy_security_memo.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

THE COUNCIL FOR EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNMENT'S 2008-2009 PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION INITIATIVE. Council for Excellence in Government. October 2008.

The non-partisan Council for Excellence in Government is already at work on the critical dimensions of the transition, which officially spans eleven weeks, from election day until the new Chief Executive takes the oath of office at noon on January 20, 2009. The planning and management of this historic changing of the guard in the federal government is of vital importance not only to the new President and his team, but also to the American public and the world. The Council offers a variety of resources to the new Administration to help navigate a smooth transition and get its programs, personnel and policies off to a strong start. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://ceg.files.cms-plus.com/usermedia/images/uploads/PDFs/Updated%20Transition%202008-2009%20Document%20_electronic%20letterhead_%20_6a_.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

DEFENSE IMPERATIVES FOR THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. Defense Science Board. Web posted November 5, 2008.

The pressing issues for the Department of Defense is described herein only a fraction of the defense challenges facing the new administration. The report describes those issues that the next Secretary of Defense should place at the top of the agenda, issues that will require the attention of the Commander-in-Chief, and, if left unresolved, could lead to future military failure, according to the report. It offers recommendations drawn from reports prepared by the Defense Science Board, an advisory body to the Secretary of Defense, which address topics at the confluence of technology, policy, and management. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.acq.osd.mil/dsb/reports/2008-11-Defense_Imperatives.pdf [PDF format, 72 pages].

FACT SHEET: ENSURING A SMOOTH AND EFFECTIVE PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION. White House. October 28, 2008.

The Transition Coordination Council (TCC) will help ensure that the Administration's efforts are comprehensive and well coordinated. The TCC membership includes the President's Chief of Staff and others with authority and expertise in areas that affect a Presidential transition, as well as senior officials in critical areas such as national security, homeland security, and our economy. [Note: contains copyrighted material]
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2008/10/20081028-1.html> [HTML format, various paging].

FEDERAL PERSONNEL: CONVERSION OF EMPLOYEES FROM APPOINTED (NONCAREER) POSITIONS TO CAREER POSITIONS IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. Congressional Research Service, RL34706, Library of Congress. Barbara L. Schwemle. October 14, 2008.

The term “burrowing in” is sometimes used to describe an employment status conversion whereby an individual transfers from a federal appointed (noncareer) position to a career position in the executive branch. Conversions are permissible when laws and regulations governing career appointments are followed, but they can invite scrutiny because of the differences in the appointment and tenure of noncareer and career employees.

Appointments to career positions in the executive branch are governed by law and regulations that are codified in Title 5 of the *United States Code* and Title 5 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, and are defined as personnel actions.
http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34706_20081014.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT: PROVIDING A FOUNDATION FOR TRANSITION. Association of Government Accountants' Annual CFO Survey. 2008.

In 2008, 239 federal financial management executives and managers took part in the 12th annual chief financial officer (CFO) survey sponsored by the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) and conducted by Grant Thornton LLP. The report says that the government must head in a new direction to achieve greater gains. Future improvements need to focus on how the CFO can add value to missions and programs, not just comply with regulations. In the future, the quintessential federal CFO will have a relationship of mutual trust with departmental and agency leaders and be skilled in developing and retaining an effective financial team. Such CFOs will understand the federal budget process, have accounting acumen, know the business information needs of program managers and be skilled in selling a budget to OMB and Congress, internal control to program managers and the benefits of integrated financial and performance information to everyone. [Note: contains copyrighted material]
<http://www.agacgfm.org/research/downloads/cfosurvey2008.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

FIXING NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND. Century Foundation. Richard D. Kahlenberg. September 2008.

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) was passed in 2001 with broad bipartisan support, but in the years since its enactment it has come under sharp attack from many quarters. The controversial legislation, which requires states receiving federal funding to test students in reading and math in grades 3 through 8 and to hold schools accountable for making adequate yearly progress in raising student achievement, is now widely acknowledged to need a major overhaul when it is reauthorized. [Note: contains copyrighted material]
https://www.policyarchive.org/bitstream/handle/10207/10864/TCF_Kahlenberg_Agenda.pdf?sequence=1 [PDF format, 16 pages].

A FRESH START FOR A NEW ADMINISTRATION: REFORMING LAW AND JUSTICE POLICIES. American Constitution Society for Law and Policy. November 2008.

On October 16th and October 30th, American Constitution Society released a package of proposals for a new Administration, of either party, and hosted a panel discussion on the topics they address. The proposals, contained in two dozen papers, cover a range of law and justice policy areas. The leading experts in these fields, past and present U.S. Senators, a former Attorney General and other high-ranking executive branch officials, distinguished scholars, and prominent advocates, offer their ideas for reforming federal law and policy. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://www.acslaw.org/lawandjustice> [HTML format, various paging with PDF files].

GETTING IT DONE: A GUIDE FOR GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE. IBM Center for Government. Mark A. Abramson et al., eds. Web posted October 11, 2008.

The report is written for those who have answered the call to public service. It focuses on the environment in which they will work. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://www.businessofgovernment.org/pdfs/GettingItDone.pdf> [PDF format, 150 pages].

INTERNET IN TRANSITION. Center for Democracy & Technology. June 2008.

The document examines a broad range of issues the next President and Congress must address in order to keep the Internet a powerful engine for innovation, economic growth and democratization. The policies outlined in the paper describe current threats to the Internet and then proposes policies and actions that the next President and Congress should take to protect innovation, privacy, consumer choice, and freedom of expression.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://www.cdt.org/election2008/election2008.pdf> [PDF format, 30 pages].

LEAD WITH CONFIDENCE. Brookings Institution. Darrell West. November 7, 2008.

The author gives suggestions on how the new president elect should lead the government. He wants to make sure the ruling party's control of the federal government does not encourage complacency within the administration. He cites examples of how in 1993-94, Democrats controlled both the presidency and Congress, yet Bill Clinton was unable to win a single vote on health care reform, the centerpiece of his domestic agenda. Republicans proved to be strong and committed adversaries and Democrats never united behind his major policy goals.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2008/1107_lead_memo/1107_lead_memo.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

LIBERTY AND SECURITY: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS. 2009 Transition, Constitution Project. November 18, 2008.

The study reflects the ongoing, collaborative efforts of a coalition of more than twenty leading organizations and over seventy five people in the human rights and liberty and security communities. The recommendations, at the intersection of national security and civil liberties, address a wide variety of issues including privacy, secrecy and surveillance; detention, interrogation, and trials of so-called "enemy combatants," and discrimination in immigration and charities policy.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://2009transition.org/liberty-security/> [HTML format, various paging].

MEDIA COALITION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION BY THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION TO STRENGTHEN TRANSPARENCY AND INTEGRITY IN GOVERNMENT. Sunshine in Government Initiative. November 2008.

According to the recommendations, the past several years have witnessed a broad expansion of government secrecy. Federal agencies take longer to respond to requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), even though incoming requests have dropped across the federal government. To counteract it, the administration of President-elect Barack Obama should take immediate, concrete steps to strengthen open government.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.sunshineingovernment.org/transition/sgi_obama_recs.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

MOVING TOWARD A 21ST CENTURY RIGHT-TO-KNOW AGENDA: RECOMMENDATIONS TO PRESIDENT-ELECT OBAMA AND CONGRESS. Right to Know Community. November 2008.

Taken in total, the recommendations in the report propose a transformational role for government. It calls for reconnecting our government with all of us, "We, the people." It calls on government to move its methods for serving the public's right to know into the 21st century; for adopting Web 2.0 thinking and strategies. And it calls on government to make itself more open than any past administration in order to rebuild trust and accountability in our government. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://www.ombwatch.org/21strtkreecs.pdf> [PDF format, 112 pages].

THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. IBM Center for the Business of Government. 2008.

The Manual is written for newly appointed agency heads, those who lead departments, bureaus, or programs, and their senior management teams, consisting of both political and career executives. It is these teams, augmented by an experienced career staff that must navigate the seemingly endless rules and procedures of government. The Manual describes the tools available to new agency heads and their management teams that can assist them in implementing their policy and program objectives. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.businessofgovernment.org/pdfs/Operators_Manual.pdf [PDF format, 194 pages].

THE OVAL OFFICE FACEBOOK GROUP – GOVERNMENT 2.0: THE PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION. Science Progress. Mark Drapeau. November 3, 2008.

The report provides suggestions on how social software can work for the next administration.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://www.scienceprogress.org/2008/11/the-oval-office-facebook-group/> [HTML format, various paging].

PASSING THE BATON: PREPARING FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION. Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, U.S. Congress. September 24, 2008.

On Wednesday, September 24, 2008, the Subcommittee held a hearing titled, "Passing the Baton: Preparing for the Presidential Transition." The transition teams of the executive branch and the incoming administration will have much work to do to ensure that the incoming Administration can begin its work immediately. The hearing reviewed the steps that General Services Administration (GSA) is taking to fulfill its responsibility to assist members of the

incoming and outgoing administrations. The hearing also reviewed expert research on federal executive management challenges surrounding the transition.

<http://governmentmanagement.oversight.house.gov/story.asp?id=2170> [HTML format, with PDF files of each testimony].

PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP TO ENSURE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE SERVICE OF NATIONAL NEEDS: A REPORT TO THE 2008 CANDIDATES. Center for the Study of the Presidency. 2008.

The next President will confront major policy challenges that have essential ingredients of science and technology, the renewal of prosperity for Americans in a changed world, environmental protection, climate change, food and water scarcity, energy, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. According to the authors, the success of the Presidency will likely be determined by his effectiveness in dealing with these great challenges and others yet over the horizon. Now well into the 21st century, science and technology are embedded in every aspect of modern life. Accordingly, cohesive and informed policies and effective policy implementation for these and other complex problems will require marshalling the best science and technology capabilities within the Federal government and throughout the nation. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.thepresidency.org/pubs/science_tech_2008.pdf [PDF format, 31 pages].

PRESIDENTIAL POWERS IN NATIONAL SECURITY: A GUIDE TO THE PRESIDENT ELECT. White House Transition Project, Law Library of Congress. Web posted November 3, 2008.

The report explains the effective use of military force and foreign policy initiatives to the building of consensus, public understanding, and acting within the law.

<http://www.loc.gov/law/help/usconlaw/pdf/presidential-power-national-security.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION. U.S. General Services Administration. November 2008.

The U.S. General Services Administration provides online directory of presidential transition resources.

<http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/home.do?tabId=15> [HTML format, various paging].

PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION: GUIDE TO FEDERAL HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management. June 2008.

All executive branch employees are subject to the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch, 5 CFR part 2635. The Office of Government Ethics provides overall policy leadership for executive branch departments and agencies. The report states the guidelines for the federal agencies on their personnel issues. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://www.chcoc.gov/Transmittals/Attachments/trans1300.pdf> [PDF format, 66 pages].

PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITIONS. Congressional Research Service, RL30736, Library of Congress. Stephanie Smith. February 11, 2008.

Since President George Washington first relinquished his office to incoming President John Adams in 1797, this peaceful transition, symbolizing both continuity and change, has demonstrated the stability of our system of government. Aside from the symbolic transfer of power, an orderly transition from the outgoing Administration to the incoming Administration is essential to ensure continuity in the working affairs of government. Necessary funding for both the incoming and outgoing Administrations is authorized by the Presidential Transition Act, as

amended. The General Services Administration (GSA) is authorized to provide suitable office space, staff compensation, communications services, and printing and postage costs associated with the transition. <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL30736.pdf> [PDF format, 38 pages].

PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITIONS: ISSUES INVOLVING OUTGOING AND INCOMING ADMINISTRATIONS. Congressional Research Service, RL34722, Library of Congress. L. Elaine Halchin. Web posted November 1, 2008.

The smooth and orderly transfer of power can be a notable feature of presidential transitions, and a testament to the legitimacy and durability of the electoral and democratic processes. Yet, at the same time, a variety of events, decisions, and activities contribute to what some may characterize as the unfolding drama of a presidential transition. Inter party transitions in particular might be contentious. Using the various powers available, a sitting President might use the transition period to attempt to secure his legacy or effect policy changes. Some observers have suggested that, if the incumbent has lost the election, he might try to enact policies in the waning months of his presidency that would “tie his successor’s hands.” On the other hand, a President-elect, eager to establish his policy agenda and populate his Administration with his appointees, will be involved in a host of decisions and activities, some of which might modify or overturn the previous Administration’s actions or decisions.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL34722.pdf> [PDF format, 35 pages].

PROTECTING HOMELAND FROM DAY ONE: A TRANSITION PLAN. Third Way.

Mike Signer et al. Web posted November 16, 2008.

The Homeland Security Presidential Transition Initiative, or HSPTI, is a joint project of Third Way and the Center for American Progress Action Fund. The premise of the HSPTI is that the country may face an increased risk of a terrorist attack during the transition and the first months of the administration, just as U.S. Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and U.K. Prime Minister Gordon Brown all saw terrorist attacks during their first years in office. The new president and his senior team must act urgently to address this threat, beginning during the transition itself.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.thirdway.org/data/product/file/175/Homeland_Security_Presidential_Transition_Manual_--_final.pdf [PDF format, 30 pages].

REBOOTING AMERICA: IDEAS FOR REDESIGNING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY FOR THE INTERNET AGE. Personal Democracy Forum. November 2008.

According to the Forum, voting is our most visible political activity; it’s easy to see and measure, but it’s only a small part of the spectrum of political activities that form the backbone of our democracy. Social media and broad, enthusiastic participation together can profoundly affect governance and policy development, who runs for office and how, the communications between elected officials and citizens beyond elections, and the loosening of the death grip of moneyed, interests on politics and policies. The essays range from revisiting the need for checks and balances within government and between the government and its citizenry, to a radical reinterpretation of the public’s “right to know,” to the exponential power of many-to-many deliberation to shape public policy. The Forum hopes to provide ideas to the presidential transition. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://rebooting.personaldemocracy.com/files/Rebooting_America.pdf [PDF format, 256 pages].

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRANSITION TEAMS. Project on Government Oversight. Web posted October 20, 2008.

Project on Government Oversight's advice includes making agency missions more modern and relevant, protecting inherently governmental functions, improving whistleblower protections, halting the revolving door between the government and the private sector, increasing government transparency, and implementing multiple measures to improve and strengthen contract oversight. [Note: contains copyrighted material]
<http://pogoarchives.org/m/go/transition-paper-20081016.pdf> [PDF format, 7 pages].

REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON A UNIFIED SECURITY BUDGET FOR THE UNITED STATES, FY 2009. Foreign Policy in Focus, Institute for Policy Studies. Miriam Pemberton and Lawrence Koreb. September 2008.

Both presidential nominees have cited increasing spending on non-military foreign engagement as a key security measure. In July John McCain said that "Foreign aid really needs to eliminate many of the breeding grounds for extremism, which is poverty, which is HIV/AIDS, which is all of these terrible conditions that make people totally dissatisfied and then look to extremism." Barack Obama has said, "I know development assistance is not the most popular of programs, but as president, I will make the case to the American people that it can be our best investment is increasing the common security of the entire world and increasing our own security." Increasing spending on non-military security tools and curbing unneeded military spending are crucial. The report tells McCain and Obama how they could do both. [Note: contains copyrighted material]
<https://www.policyarchive.org/bitstream/handle/10207/10955/USB-FY-2009.pdf?sequence=1> [PDF format, 68 pages].

RETIREMENT REFORM INITIATIVE: BRIEFING BOOK. National Center for Policy Analysis. September 30, 2008.

NCPA's recommendations on retirement reform, including: social security; private pensions; private retirement accounts; state and local employee retirement benefits; and Medicare, Medicaid and post-retirement health care. [Note: contains copyrighted material]
<https://www.policyarchive.org/bitstream/handle/10207/10941/NCPA%20Retirement%20Briefing%20Book%20100308.pdf?sequence=1> [PDF format, 30 pages].

ROADMAP TO REFORM: A MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION. Partnership for Public Service. October 2008.

Effective government requires effective management. The transition from one presidential administration to the next offers an important opportunity for effective management. To help shape the next president's management framework, a number of leading government reform experts forged a consensus about critical federal workforce management issues and actions our next president should take to improve government operations. [Note: contains copyrighted material]
http://www.ourpublicservice.org/OPS/programs/documents/PMI_RoadmaptoReform.pdf [PDF format, 25 pages].

SERVING THE CONGRESS AND THE NATION. U.S. Government Accountability Office. November 2008.

Following each presidential election, U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) serves as a resource to assist with the transition to a new Congress and administration. On this Web site, using its institutional knowledge and broad-based, nonpartisan work on matters across the government spectrum, GAO provides insight into, and recommendations for addressing, the

nation's major issues, risks and challenges.

http://www.gao.gov/transition_2009/ [HTML format, various paging, including videos].

SMART ON CRIME: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS. The 2009 Criminal Justice Transition Coalition. Web posted November 5, 2008.

The report identifies critical needs for federal policy reform. It contains comprehensive policy recommendations at every stage of the justice system for the new Administration and Congress. "Americans of all political stripes, and especially professionals with experience in every aspect of the criminal justice system, recognize that the system is failing too many, costing too much, and helping too few," says the report. It will be distributed to the Obama/Biden transition team and key leadership on Capitol Hill. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.sentencingproject.org/tmp/File/Drug%20Policy/dp_transitiondocument.pdf [PDF format, 263 pages].

TESTIMONY BEFORE U.S. HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, ORGANIZATION, AND PROCUREMENT. White House Transition Project. Martha J. Kumar. September 24, 2008.

The director, Martha J. Kumar, explains the role of the White House Transition Project.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://whitehousetransitionproject.org/resources/briefing/WHTP-Kumar%20Testimony%202008-09-24.pdf> [PDF format, 10 pages].

TRANSITION TO A NEW PRESIDENTIAL ADMINISTRATION. U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Web updated November 10, 2008.

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management provides guidance on presidential transition.

<http://www.opm.gov/transition/TRANS20R-Ch1.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT ACT 2008 (REVISED). Sunlight Foundation. 2008.

It covers all the titles, I through IX. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

<http://www.publicmarkup.org/bill/transparency-government-act-2008-revised/> [HTML format, various paging].

THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS: A RESOURCE FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION. U.S. Office of Government Ethics. November 2008.

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics provides guidance to the 2009 presidential transition team.

http://www.usoge.gov/directors_corner/2009trans_guide.pdf [PDF format, 36 pages].

THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION. U.S. Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs. November 2008.

The Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs website gives various aspects of the presidential transition, including the Presidential Transition Act of 2000 and Transition Activities.

http://www.senate.gov/~gov_affairs/transitions/pta_index.htm [HTML format, various paging].

WHAT NOW? STAFFING THE WHITE HOUSE. Brookings Institution. Stephen Hess. November 10, 2008.

The nerve center of the Executive Office of the President is the White House Office (WHO). It is imperative to choose certain White House officials immediately in order to move forward efficiently with the staffing process, from selection to confirmation, that shapes the administration. According to Hess, many problems of the Clinton transition arose because the president-elect, consumed, as he stated in his memoirs, with “micromanaging the cabinet appointments,” failed to appoint his White House staff, except for Chief of Staff Thomas F. McLarty, until six days before taking office. [Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2008/11_transition_whitehouse_hess.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

WHERE OBAMA SHOULD FIND CABINET MEMBERS. Brookings Institution. November 6, 2008.

The brief contends President-elect Barack Obama faces complicated problems. Obama has twice as many jobs to fill as Kennedy did. When choosing his departmental secretaries and filling other Cabinet-level positions, he must factor in diversity as well as political and managerial talent. Kennedy’s Cabinet was all male and all white.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2008/1106_obama_hess.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

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