

Celestial Grace Ministry News Center

Trump To Restructure A New American Government

PRESIDENT TRUMP CABINET SELECTIONS MENU:

On January 20, 2025, our nation entered into a new generation of American Government leadership.



President Trump is changing the face, character, and structure of the United States Government; it will be going through a complete restructuring. (This may cause some chaos for current government employees that could lose their jobs).



As President Donald Trump takes office for his second administration, he has selected numerous individuals to serve in key cabinet positions.

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These are the newly selected people in the 2025 Trump Administration that will be managing and restructuring the United States Government: [Trump Election Transition News](#)

[A Special Message About Donald Trump](#)

May God Bless Them All

PROFILES:

[White House Chief of Staff: Susie Wiles](#)

[White House Press Secretary: Karoline Leavitt](#)

[White House Deputy Chief of Staff: Dan Scavino](#)

[White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy: Stephen Miller](#)

[White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislative, Political and Public Affairs: James Blair](#)

[White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Personnel: Taylor Budowich](#)

[White House Counsel: William Joseph McGinley](#)

[White House Counselor to the President: Alina Habba](#)

[White House Staff Secretary: Will Scharf](#)

[White House Special Assistant to the President: Natalie Harp](#)

[Assistant to the President/Director of Communications: Steve Cheung](#)

[Assistant to the President/Director of the Presidential Personnel Office: Sergio Gor](#)

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U.S. National Security Adviser: Mike Walt, R-Fla.

Deputy U.S. National Security Adviser: Alex Wong

U.S. Attorney General: Pam Bondi

U.S. Deputy Attorney General: Todd Blanche

Principal Associate Deputy U.S. Attorney General: Emil Bove

U.S. Secretary of State: Marco Rubio, Senator-Fla.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State: Christopher Landau

U.S. Secretary Department of Defense: Pete Hegseth

U.S. Secretary Department of Homeland Security: Kristi Noem

U.S. Secretary Department of Health and Human Services:
Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services: Jim O'Neill

U.S. Secretary Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary
Doug Collins

U.S. Secretary Department of the Interior and head of WH
Energy Council: Doug Burgum

U.S. Immigration-Border Protection Czar: Tom Homan

Director of U.S. National Intelligence: Tulsi Gabbard

Director U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA): John Ratcliffe

Director of the Federal Burrow of Investigation (FBI):
Kash Patel

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Deputy Director of the Federal Burrow of Investigation (FBI):

Dan Bongino

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations: Elise Stefanik, R-N.Y.

U.S. Ambassador to NATO: Matthew Witaker

U.S. Ambassador to Israel: Mike Huckabee

U.S. Ambassador to Canada: Pete Hoekstra

U.S. Ambassador to France: Charles Kushner

U.S. Ambassador to United Kingdom: Warren A. Stephens

U.S. Ambassador to China: Sen. David Perdue

Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:

Lee Zeldin

Co-Director Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE):

Elon Musk

Co-Director Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE):

Vivek Ramaswamy

Head of House Oversight DOGE Subcommittee:

Marjorie Taylor Greene

U.S. Special Envoy to the Middle East: Steven C. Witkoff

U.S. Solicitor General: Dean John Sauer

U.S. Attorney for Southern District of New York: Jay Clayton

U.S. Energy Secretary: Chris Wright

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Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission:

Brendan Carr

U.S. Secretary of Transportation: **Sean Duffy**

U.S. Commerce Secretary: **Howard Lutnick**

U.S. Treasury Department Secretary: **Scott Bessent**

U.S. Labor Department Secretary: **Lori Chavez-DeRemer**

U.S. Agriculture Secretary: **Brooke Rollins**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary:
Scott Turner

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Administrator: **Dr. Mehmet Oz**

U.S. Secretary Department of Education: **Linda McMahon**

Director Centers for Disease Control (CDC): **Dave Weldon**

U.S. Surgeon General: **Janette Nesheiwat**

Director U.S. Office of Management and Budget: **Russell Vought**

Commissioner of the Federal Food and Drug Administration:
Martin Marty Makary

Director U.S. Drug Enforcement: **Derek S. Maltz**

Senior Director for U.S. Counterterrorism: **Sebastian Gorka**

Special Envoy to Ukraine and Russia: **General Keith Kellogg**

U. S. Secretary of the Navy: **John Phelan**

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Director of the Small Business Administration: Kelly Loeffler

Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service: Billy Long

Special Envoy For Hostage Affairs: Adam Bohler

Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection:

Rodney Scott

Director U.S. Justice Department's Civil Rights Division:

Harmeet K. Dhillon

Director U.S. Voice of America: Kari Lake

Get To Know Trump's Cabinets Picks

[Cabinet List](#) ---- [Appointee List](#)

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President-Elect Trump announced that billionaire Elon Musk and former GOP presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy will lead the Department of Government Efficiency.

Trump said that the pair will work together to "dismantle Government Bureaucracy, slash excess regulations, cut wasteful expenditures, and restructure Federal Agencies."

"It will become, potentially, 'The Manhattan Project' of our time," the announcement on Tuesday evening said. "Republican politicians have dreamed about the objectives of 'DOGE' for a very long time."

The president-elect said that Musk and Ramaswamy will provide "advice and guidance from outside of Government, and will partner with [the White House](#) and Office of Management & Budget to drive large scale structural reform, and create an entrepreneurial approach to Government never seen before."

TRUMP'S PICKS SO FAR: HERE'S WHO WILL BE ADVISING THE NEW PRESIDENT



Vivek Ramaswamy and Elon Musk. The pair have been tapped to lead Trump's Department of Government Efficiency.

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Trump said that the agency will be focused on creating a more efficient U.S. government that looks to make "life better [for all Americans](#)."

"Importantly, we will drive out the massive waste and fraud which exists throughout our annual \$6.5 Trillion Dollars of Government Spending. They will work together to liberate our Economy, and make the U.S. Government accountable to 'WE THE PEOPLE.'" Trump said.

"Their work will conclude no later than July 4, 2026 - A smaller Government, with more efficiency and less bureaucracy, will be the perfect gift to America on the 250th Anniversary of The Declaration of Independence. I am confident they will succeed!"



Republican presidential candidate former President Trump greets Vivek Ramaswamy while speaking during a campaign rally in New Hampshire.

In a X post, Ramaswamy reacted to his appointment.

"We will not go gently, [Elon Musk](#)," he wrote in the post.

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WILLIAM MCGINLEY TAPPED AS TRUMP'S WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL

Ramaswamy has been a vocal supporter of Trump after he suspended his presidential campaign in Jan. 24.

In a statement on X, the founder Roivant Sciences, a pharmaceutical company, said that he would be dropping out of the Ohio Senate appointment.

"And yes, this means I'm withdrawing myself from consideration for the pending Senate appointment in Ohio," he wrote. "Whoever Governor DeWine appoints to JD's seat has some big shoes to fill. I will help them however I can."



Elon Musk jumps on the stage as Republican presidential nominee former President Trump speaks at a campaign rally at the Butler Farm Show, Oct. 5, in Butler, Pa.

Similarly, Musk has been a key component to Trump's campaign – with the tech entrepreneur crisscrossing key battleground states leading up to the 2024 election.

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In response to his position in Trump's White House, Musk wrote: "Threat to democracy? Nope, threat to BUREAUCRACY!!!"

The world's richest man, who said he voted for former Democratic presidential candidates including [President Biden](#) in the past, endorsed Trump this summer following the first assassination attempt on the 45th president on July 13.

The chief communications officer for America First Policy, Marc Lotter, told Newsmax that Vivek Ramaswamy and Elon Musk can operate the newly dubbed Department of Government Efficiency as a commission, thus ruling out the need to seek congressional approval to create an actual department.

However, Lotter added, the two would need congressional approval when it comes to slashing agencies and or government pork.

"It would be great if Congress could get on board" in supporting a government efficiency department, Lotter told "The Chris Salcedo Show" on Wednesday. "But ultimately, the president can create this commission on his own."

"When we start to see how much waste and mismanagement there is in the federal government, I think the American people will be like, Yeah, let's do that," i.e. make cuts, Lotter added. "Then it will fall on Congress to actually having to do it, because that's going to be the issue. Congress is going to have to approve it."

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[President-elect Trump's Political Agenda Upon Starting His New 4 Year Term.](#)



Republican presidential nominee former President Trump pumps his fist as he arrives to speak at a campaign event at Nassau Coliseum, Sept.18, 2024, in Uniondale, N.Y.

Trump Team To Create 'Warrior Board' To Purge Generals

The transition team for President-elect Donald Trump is reviewing a draft executive order that would establish a "warrior board" of former generals and non-commissioned officers with the power to review three and four-star officers and recommend their removal, The Wall Street Journal [reported](#) Tuesday.

The order takes direct aim at "woke generals" that Trump has vowed to remove from the military ranks, according to the report.

Officially, the order, should Trump sign it, would fast-track the removal of generals and admirals who are found to be "lacking in requisite leadership qualities," according to the Journal, citing a draft of the order.

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The draft order originated with an outside policy group working with Trump's transition team, according to the report.

"The American people reelected President Trump by a resounding margin giving him a mandate to implement the promises he made on the campaign trail. He will deliver," Karoline Leavitt, the Trump-Vance Transition spokeswoman, told the Journal.

Trump has already stated that any general who had a role in the United States' military withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021 that led to the deaths of 13 U.S. service members in a suicide bombing at the Kabul airport will be asked to resign by "noon on Inauguration Day."

Speculation has also centered on Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Gen. C.Q. Brown, also Chief of Staff of the Air Force, who has been a staunch supporter of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives (DEI).

"There is some anxiety. I think they are immediately worried," a Defense Department official recently [said](#) of Brown's team.

Whomever Trump picks for Defense Secretary would impact whether he signs or amends the order, according to the report. The secretary would also have a role in Trump's reform of the joint staff, which has "gotten way too big," a transition source told the Journal.

The draft order cites Gen. George Marshall's creation of a "plucking board" in 1940 that used retired officers to review files of active military officers and "remove from line promotion any officer for reasons deemed good and sufficient," the Journal reported.

"We've had a total failure of leadership at all appointed levels and to a smaller extent and at the uniformed level in some areas," Rep. Jack Bergman, a retired U.S. Marine Corps three-star general who won reelection to Congress this past week, told [Newsmax](#) on Saturday.

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"But I think that's going to sort itself out naturally here in the next year or two, but it's going to start to happen quickly after Jan. 20."

Since winning the election last week, [President-elect Trump](#) has begun evaluating and rolling out his Cabinet picks, with dozens of people jockeying for about two dozen of the highest-level positions in government.

President Trump, as of November 25th, has appointed most of his primary Cabinet members with only the Director of the FBI to be determined, however, many political pundits are predicting he will select [Kash Patel](#) as the new FBI Director.

To look over the profiles on each of the appointees, select from the Cabinet Selections Menu:

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Chief of Staff – Susie Wiles

[Wiles has been widely lauded](#) for heading Trump's successful campaign this year, having run Trump's campaign operations in Florida in 2016 and 2020. She maintained close ties with the president-elect throughout the Biden administration and signed on as CEO of Trump's Save America PAC in 2021.

"Susie is tough, smart, innovative and is universally admired and respected. Susie will continue to work tirelessly to Make America Great Again.

It is a well deserved honor to have Susie as the first-ever female Chief of Staff in United States history. I have no doubt that she will make our country proud," Trump said in a statement.



Trump picked campaign manager Susie Wiles for his chief of staff

Susie Wiles is about to be the most powerful woman in Washington. But many people in this town are just learning who she is.

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A veteran of Florida politics, Wiles rose from Donald Trump's 2016 Florida campaign director to senior adviser to his 2024 bid. She's credited with running a disciplined, professionalized campaign operation that helped Trump secure a sweeping Electoral College victory and probably a popular vote win as well.

Wiles' [selection is unsurprising](#). She's earned the respect and ear of the former president, and has demonstrated an ability to help control Trump's impulses — to the extent that's possible — in a way few others have. In a statement, Trump said Wiles is “tough, smart, innovative, and is universally admired and respected.”

But she's still a Washington outsider with little experience in the federal government — which could be a challenge as she takes on one of the most demanding and complex governing staff jobs anywhere.

Wiles, 67, rarely speaks publicly — at Trump's victory speech early Wednesday, she almost seemed to recoil at the candidate's invitation to say a few words — believing that an understated, behind-the-scenes presence can be effective.

Why Republicans are thrilled by Trump's first pick: Susie Wiles

Here's five things to know about Wiles:

Her main experience is in running campaigns — not the government

Wiles was a fixture in Florida politics for decades before helping both Trump and Ron DeSantis with winning campaigns.

She is credited with saving DeSantis' struggling 2018 campaign for governor, when he was a low-profile congressman.

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Wiles later split with DeSantis, prompting the Florida governor to convince [the Trump team to fire her](#) ahead of his 2020 campaign.

Wiles didn't let the slight go. She used her up-close knowledge of DeSantis to [dismantle him when he ran against](#) Trump in the GOP presidential primary this year. Wiles rarely posts on social media, but she did just that the day DeSantis ended his presidential bid, writing "Bye, bye" in a now-deleted post on X.

Before Trump, Wiles worked on local and national campaigns for decades. She's worked in private-sector lobbying, both for Ballard Partners and Mercury. Early in her career, she served as chief of staff to the mayor of Jacksonville, and she held low-level roles working for members of Congress and at the Department of Labor.

She's worked for a spectrum of Republicans, from Mitt Romney to Rick Scott

In addition to working for Rep. Jack Kemp (N.Y.), Wiles was a scheduler for former President Ronald Reagan and worked in Reagan's Labor Department.

Since then, she has worked for Republicans across the ideological spectrum. She was deputy director of operations for the vice presidential campaign for the Bush-Quayle ticket in 1988, and Wiles was co-chair of Romney's Florida advisory council during his 2012 presidential bid.

She also ran Scott's 2010 campaign for Florida governor and briefly managed former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman's 2012 presidential campaign.

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, once Trump's chief rival for the GOP presidential nomination, [called Wiles a](#) "great choice" for chief of staff.

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When she joined Trump's 2016 bid for the White House as co-chairwoman of Florida, Wiles encountered skepticism from some fellow Republican operatives.

But she explained to the [Tampa Bay Times](#) at the time that she felt none of the other Republicans running for the White House represented the kind of change she felt Washington needed.



"I said, 'I don't want this to continue.' I think it seriously will damage our republic and who among that group can really have the fortitude to shift what I've seen happening over all these years?" Wiles said.

Wiles also learned early on to brush aside some of Trump's more boorish traits and inflammatory rhetoric.

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“I will tell you this: The Donald Trump that I have come to know does not behave that way, and the lens that I look at him through, I don’t see any of that. I see strengths, I see smarts, I see a work ethic that is unparalleled,” she told the Tampa Bay Times in 2016. “I blanch sometimes. But, again, it’s

A veteran of Florida politics, Wiles rose from Donald Trump’s 2016 Florida campaign director to senior adviser to his 2024 bid.

She turned Trump’s dysfunctional political universe into something organized

Trump’s 2016 campaign, his White House and his losing 2020 campaign had something in common: They were a dysfunctional mess, characterized by excessive infighting, backstabbing, leaking and a cast of controversial characters who generated headlines for all the wrong reasons.

Then Wiles entered the picture. After Trump hit a political low in 2021 — having lost not just reelection, but the support of some Republicans after the Jan. 6 storming of the Capitol — he hired Wiles to oversee his comeback.

Since then, Trump’s third bid for office has been described by campaign pros on both sides of the aisle as a particularly professional operation, despite Trump’s own tendencies to embrace chaos.

And Wiles has even had success reining in Trump, stepping in at times to get him back on message or to see why some of his decisions could be tremendous political liabilities. She has encouraged Trump to tone down his rhetoric about losing the 2020 election and to urge his supporters to vote by mail.

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Wiles “just has a master ability to manage multiple things of significance simultaneously,” Chris LaCivita, who served as co-campaign manager with Wiles, said in an interview Thursday, “which makes her, from a management standpoint, the perfect pick.”

LaCivita added that “organization matters ... because if you don’t pay attention to the small things, the big things will slip by.”

She is a longtime lobbyist

She lobbied for the tobacco company Swisher International while running the Trump campaign.



Wiles is a leader of the lobbying giant Mercury, whose clients include SpaceX, AT&T, and the Embassy of Qatar (although Wiles is not registered to lobby for any of these clients).

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Wiles, who has been with Trump's most recent campaign since 2022, lobbied Congress on "FDA regulations" between 2023 and the beginning of 2024. Mercury was paid \$120,000 for its work for Swisher during that time, according to public disclosures. Mercury ended its relationship with Swisher earlier this year.

In a statement, Mercury CEO Kieran Mahoney congratulated Wiles on her selection, saying "This is great news for the country. Susie has been a valued colleague. We are all proud of her and wish her the best."

She is the daughter of legendary sportscaster Pat Summerall

Wiles grew up in New Jersey and is one of Summerall's three children. Her first job in politics was as an assistant to the late Kemp, who was one of Summerall's teammates during his playing career with the New York Giants.

Summerall, an alcoholic, credited Wiles with his decision to get sober and into the Betty Ford Clinic for treatment. In his memoir, he wrote, "I hadn't been there much for my kids, but Susan's letter made it clear that I'd hurt them even in my absence."

When he died in Dallas in 2013, Wiles described her father as "an extraordinary man and a wonderful father."

One of Wiles' colleagues also noted she's related to Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry, the U.S. naval officer who headed an expedition to Japan in the 1850s credited with breaking down the country's isolationism and opening up trade and diplomatic relations with the West.

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United Nations Ambassador – Elise Stefanik

The New York Republican representative and current House GOP Conference Chair has been an attack dog for Trump in Congress. She is a staunch supporter of Israel, having made headlines for her [combative lines of questioning of](#) Ivy League university presidents over their handling of anti-Israel protests, some of which prompted the presidents [to resign](#).



President-elect Trump picked Elise Stefanik to be the next ambassador to the United Nations.

President-elect Donald Trump [will nominate](#) New York Rep. Elise Stefanik to serve as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, tapping a key House ally to join his administration.

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Stefanik, 40, has been one of Trump's most vocal defenders in Congress. She's likely to be confirmed by the new, GOP-led Senate when the president-elect takes office in January, which will set up a race not only to fill Stefanik's seat in the lower chamber, but also to succeed her as chair of the Republican conference.

File: Representative Elise Stefanik, a Republican from New York, during a news conference in Washington, DC, US, on Thursday, June 13, 2024. Tom Williams/CQ Roll Call/Bloomberg via Getty Images

"I am honored to nominate Chairwoman Elise Stefanik to serve in my Cabinet as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations," Trump said in a statement to CBS News. "Elise is an incredibly strong, tough, and smart America First fighter."

Here is what to know about the New York Republican.

Stefanik's record in Congress:

Stefanik was elected to represent New York's 21st Congressional District in 2014 and at the age of 30, became the youngest woman elected to Congress. Currently in her fifth term, she cruised to reelection in November, defeating Democrat Paula Collins with more than 62% of the vote.

Stefanik serves on the Armed Services, Education and Workforce, and Intelligence Committees. She also is a member of the Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government, which was [created in 2023](#) when Republicans took control of the House. The weaponization panel was a nod to what many Republicans believed was federal investigators' unfair treatment of Trump.

The New York Republican is the highest-ranking woman in the House, serving in leadership as the GOP conference chair. She [replaced](#) former Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming in the post after [Cheney was ousted](#) for her criticisms of Trump following the Jan. 6, 2021, assault on the U.S. Capitol.

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Stefanik has been one of Trump's staunchest defenders in the House, having emerged as a crucial ally during his first impeachment proceedings in 2019. She also [introduced](#) a nonbinding resolution last year that sought to "expunge" both of Trump's impeachments by the House.

During this Congress, Stefanik made headlines for her grilling of university presidents [during a hearing](#) about their response to antisemitic incidents following the Oct. 7, 2023, terror attacks on Israel by Hamas. The presidents of [Harvard](#), Stefanik's alma mater, and the [University of Pennsylvania](#) resigned following the hearing.

While Stefanik supported earlier packages sending assistance to Ukraine, she voted against a plan to [send \\$60.8 billion](#) to aid Ukraine in its war against Russia in April.

Stefanik and the 2020 election:

The congresswoman was among a group of more than 100 House Republicans who signed onto a friend-of-the-court brief filed with the Supreme Court after the 2020 election in a [longshot bid](#) to overturn the election results in four battleground states. She also joined GOP lawmakers in objecting to certifying Pennsylvania's election results.

"Tens of millions of Americans are concerned that the 2020 election featured unconstitutional overreach by unelected officials and judges, ignoring state election laws," Stefanik said during a [speech](#) on the House floor after the Capitol attack. "We can and we should peacefully discuss these concerns."

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But the congresswoman also condemned the violence of Jan. 6 during the same speech, calling it a "truly tragic day" for the country.

"We all join together in fully condemning the dangerous violence and destruction that occurred today in our nation's Capitol," she said.

"Americans will always have the freedom of speech and the Constitutional right to protest, but violence in any form is absolutely unacceptable, it is anti-American, and must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

Earlier this year, Stefanik would not commit to certifying the results of the election, [telling NBC News](#) in January it would depend on whether "this is a legal and valid election."

Stefanik before Congress:

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Stefanik graduated from Harvard University and worked in the White House for President George W. Bush on the Domestic Policy Council and in the chief of staff's office. She also was an adviser to former House Speaker Paul Ryan during the 2012 presidential campaign, when he was the Republican vice presidential nominee.

Stefanik and her husband, Matt, have one son, Sam.

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Tom Homan was tapped by President-elect Donald Trump to be his "Border Czar."

Homan, the former acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, was an architect of Trump's zero-tolerance policy during his first administration, one that led to backlash from family separations at the border.



Homan has served under six administrations and presidents in both parties, dating back to the Reagan era, as a rank-and-file Border Patrol agent. He was appointed to the position of executive associate director of enforcement and removal operations for ICE under President Obama.

While serving at a "czar" level rather than in an official Cabinet position, Homan will be in charge of "[the Southern Border](#), the Northern Border, all Maritime, and Aviation Security," Trump announced on Truth Social.

"I've known Tom for a long time, and there is nobody better at policing and controlling our Borders," Trump wrote. "Likewise, Tom Homan will be in charge of all Deportation of Illegal Aliens back to their Country of Origin. Congratulations to Tom. I have no doubt he will do a fantastic, and long awaited for, job."

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Israel Ambassador – Mike Huckabee

Huckabee, the former governor of Arkansas, is a staunch supporter of Israel, prompted by his evangelical faith.

"Mike has been a great public servant, Governor, and Leader in Faith for many years. He loves Israel, and the people of Israel, and likewise, the people of Israel love him", a statement attached to Trump's Truth Social post said. "Mike will work tirelessly to bring about Peace in the Middle East!"



Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee will be Trump's ambassador to Israel

Mike Huckabee (born August 24, 1955, [Hope](#), Arkansas, U.S.) is an American politician who served as governor of [Arkansas](#) (1996–2007) and who unsuccessfully ran for the [2008](#) as well as ran for the [2016 Republican](#) U.S. presidential [nomination](#). In 2024 President-elect [Donald Trump](#) picked Huckabee to serve as U.S. ambassador to [Israel](#) in his upcoming administration.

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Education and early career

The first male member of his family to finish [high school](#), Huckabee graduated from Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, in 1975 and received a [master's degree](#) from the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in [Fort Worth](#), Texas, in 1980. He then became an ordained Baptist minister and spent the next decade as a pastor in various Arkansas churches and as an executive in local media companies.

Governor of Arkansas

Huckabee's interest in serving a larger public role was [stoked](#) in 1989 when he was elected president of the Arkansas Baptist Convention. He turned to politics in 1992 but lost his bid for the U.S. Senate. The following year Huckabee won a special [election](#) to fill Arkansas's vacant lieutenant governor's seat after the previous tenant, Jim Guy Tucker, became governor following [Bill Clinton](#)'s ascent to the presidency. Tucker's resignation in 1996 made Huckabee only the third Republican governor of Arkansas since [Reconstruction](#) (1865–77). He was reelected to full terms in 1998 and 2002.

[Arkansas governor](#) Mike Huckabee, 2004.

As governor, Huckabee instituted wide-scale changes to the state's health care system, education programs, and environmental policies. Having served his state's gubernatorial maximum of two consecutive four-year terms, Huckabee's successful [tenure](#) ended in 2007.

He gained national attention in 2004 by losing more than 110 pounds after being diagnosed with type 2 diabetes; he documented his weight loss in his book *Quit Digging Your Grave with a Knife and Fork: A 12-Stop Program to End Bad Habits and Begin a Healthy Lifestyle* (2005). Huckabee's other writings included *Character Is the Issue: How People with Integrity Can Revolutionize America* (1997), *Living Beyond Your Lifetime*:

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How to Be Intentional About the Legacy You Leave (2000), *From Hope to Higher Ground: 12 Steps to Restoring America's Greatness* (2007), *Do the Right Thing: Inside the Movement That's Bringing Common Sense Back to America* (2008), *God, Guns, Grits, and Gravy* (2015), and *The Three Cs That Made America Great: Christianity, Capitalism, and the Constitution* (2020; written with Steve Feazel).

2008 presidential election

In 2007 Huckabee announced that he was running for president in 2008. His campaign platform emphasized education reform, the repeal of federal income and payroll taxes in favor of a flat national [sales tax](#), and an opposition to abortion rights.



Although he was initially seen as a dark horse candidate, his campaign received a boost in January 2008 when he finished first in the [Iowa caucuses](#). As the primary season progressed, Huckabee remained in third place in most national polls. However, wins in a number of Southern states on [Super Tuesday](#) in early February drew attention to his ability to influence the ultimate outcome of the race. He ended his bid for the [White House](#) after convincing wins by [John McCain](#) in a number of early March 2008 primaries made it mathematically impossible for him to gain the nomination.

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Later activities and second presidential bid

Huckabee subsequently became a contributor to the [Fox News Channel](#), and his [eponymous](#) show debuted on that channel in September 2008. The following year he also began hosting the radio program *The Huckabee Report*, and he launched another radio show in 2012. Amid growing speculation that he would run for [president in 2016](#), Huckabee began ending his various media ventures, and the final episode of his Fox program aired in January 2015.

Four months later Huckabee announced his candidacy for president. However, amid a crowded Republican field, he failed to gain much support. After a poor showing in the 2016 Iowa caucuses, Huckabee suspended his campaign.

He subsequently [endorsed Donald Trump](#), who became the Republican nominee and was the eventual presidential winner. Huckabee's daughter, [Sarah Huckabee Sanders](#), worked on Trump's campaign and later served as [White House press secretary](#) before becoming governor of Arkansas. In 2017 the show *Huckabee* returned to television, airing on the Christian-based Trinity Broadcast Network.

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Mike Huckabee remained a backer of Trump, who was reelected to a second, nonconsecutive term in 2024. Shortly thereafter Trump announced that he was nominating Huckabee to serve as U.S. ambassador to Israel; the post requires Senate confirmation. Huckabee is a staunch supporter of Israel, especially in the [country's war with Hamas](#).

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EPA Administrator – Lee Zeldin

Zeldin, a former House Republican from New York, had a notably strong, but unsuccessful, showing in the race for governor against Kathy Hochul in 2022. During that race, he called for New York to lift its ban on fracking. He also lost his House race for re-election in 2022 but has maintained ties with the Trump team.



Lee Zeldin will lead the EPA will lead the EPA. Middle East Envoy – Steven Witkoff

Lee Zeldin was elected to the State Senate in 2010. After graduating from William Floyd High School in Suffolk County, Lee earned not only his bachelor's degree, cum laude, in Political Science, from the State University of New York at Albany, but also his Juris Doctorate from Albany Law School.

Lee passed the New York State bar exam; and was sworn in to the New York State Bar, at just 23 years old, in January 2004 -- the youngest attorney in New York State, at that time. Lee spent four years on Active Duty with the US Army and served in different capacities including as a Military Intelligence Officer, Federal Prosecutor and Military Magistrate.

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In the summer of 2006, while assigned to the Army's elite 82nd Airborne Division, Lee deployed to Iraq with an infantry battalion of fellow paratroopers in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2007, Lee returned to Suffolk County with his family.

It was at this time, he transitioned from Active Duty to the Army Reserves, where he currently serves with the rank of Major. He established a successful law practice in 2008, and became involved in local community affairs and veterans organizations. Senator Zeldin, an outspoken voice for protecting taxpayers, has spent his time in Albany keeping his commitments.

He successfully repealed the Saltwater Fishing License Fee, spearheaded the successful effort to start the repeal of the MTA Payroll Tax and wrote the law that protects our fallen veterans and their families from protests at military burials. In the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 State Budgets, Senator Zeldin successfully secured funding for the PFC Joseph Dwyer Program, a statewide program to help our returning veterans cope with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

Towards the end of his freshman term, Senator Zeldin secured an agreement with the Assembly and Governor Cuomo that will enable New York Brewers, large and small, from Blue Point Brewery in his district to Matt's Brewery in Utica, to continue to expand and grow, create jobs and keep the price of New York's craft beer competitive. For the 2013-14 Session, Senator Zeldin serves as Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Consumer Protection. He also serves on the following committees: Veterans, Military Affairs and Homeland Security, Higher Education, Transportation, Judiciary, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, Investigations and Government Operations, and Aging. Lee resides in Shirley, with his wife, Diana, and their identical twin daughters, Mikayla and Arianna.

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Trump Selects Steve Cheung to be Assistant to the President/Director of Communications:



President-elect Donald Trump named Steven Cheung to be the White House communications director in his second term, elevating the longtime press aide after Cheung has reliably adopted the president-elect's combative tone in public statements and denounced Trump's political rivals.

Trump announced Cheung's appointment Friday, with the president-elect describing Cheung and fellow nominee Sergio Gor—tapped to lead the Presidential Personnel Office—in a statement as “trusted Advisors since my first Presidential Campaign in 2016” who “have continued to champion America First principles.”

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Cheung first joined Trump during his 2016 campaign and then became director of rapid response during Trump's first presidency, leaving the White House in 2018 and creating a private firm that worked with Trump on his 2020 campaign.

Cheung served as director of communications in Trump's latest presidential campaign, issuing many statements on behalf of the campaign and attacking Trump's enemies in the same fiery tone the president-elect is known for, decrying Trump's criminal cases as "witch hunts" and once saying in a statement to Forbes of President Joe Biden, "He can barely put two coherent sentences together and slowly shuffles around like he has a full diaper in his pants, often falling on his ass in front of the world."

Prior to joining Trump's 2016 campaign, Cheung led communications for the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC), and between Trump's 2020 and 2024 campaigns worked with other Republicans, including Caitlyn Jenner as she unsuccessfully ran for California governor, according to The New Yorker.

While he's publicly known for his extreme rhetoric, The New Yorker notes Cheung is largely respected among press who have dealt with him and is regarded privately as a "pretty nice guy," with Trump reportedly referring to him as "my sumo wrestler."

Crucial Quote

Cheung will "do whatever Trump says," an unnamed campaign reporter told The New Yorker in March. "There are lines that are crossed that delight Trump but wouldn't get you a job elsewhere. Cheung isn't thinking beyond Trump."

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Cheung's role is not subject to Senate confirmation, so Cheung will be able to immediately start serving when Trump takes office on Jan. 20. The main public-facing speaker of the administration, the White House press secretary, is a separate role and Trump's choice has not yet been announced.

Cheung is one of several key Trump allies who have ties to UFC, as the president-elect is also a fan of the fighting organization and professional wrestling. UFC President Dana White is a longtime Trump ally whom the president-elect even asked to take the microphone and speak right after the election was called for Trump last week.



"No one deserves this more," White said. Podcaster and UFC commentator Joe Rogan also endorsed Trump in the late days of the election, after Trump appeared on his podcast.

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Key Background Cheung is one of several aides involved with Trump's third campaign who have been elevated to administration roles, with Trump also naming campaign manager Susie Wiles as his White House chief of staff, and the president-elect has also tapped other well-known—and controversial— allies like naming Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as health secretary, Fox News host Pete Hegseth as defense secretary and Pam Bondi as attorney general.

Cheung will take up the communications post after Trump went through several communications directors and four press secretaries during his first term—Sean Spicer, Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Stephanie Grisham and Kayleigh McEnany.

And as the incoming president and his allies have continued to attack the mainstream press.

Some of Trump's allies have suggested the incoming Trump administration could retaliate against the press for its critical coverage of Trump, with former Trump aide [Kash Patel](#)—a rumored pick for FBI director—saying ahead of the election that a second Trump administration would go after people “not just in government but in the media.”

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Trump Selects Steve Witkoff to be His Middle East Envoy:

Witkoff, a real estate investor, landlord, and the founder of the Witkoff Group, was tapped as Trump's Middle East envoy. He campaign with Trump during the campaign.

In his announcement, Trump said that Witkoff would be an "unrelenting Voice for PEACE" in the highly-contentious region.



Steve Witkoff, founder and chief executive officer of Witkoff Group LLC, speaks during a campaign event with former US President Donald Trump.

Witkoff, 67, is a real estate investor and the founder of the Witkoff Group. He has been a part of Trump's campaign since his speech about his "close friend" at the [Republican](#) National Convention (RNC) in July.

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Witkoff was also playing golf with Trump in West Palm Beach on September 15 when a suspected assassination was attempted against the former president.

"Steve is a Highly Respected Leader in Business and Philanthropy, who has made every project and community he has been involved with stronger and more prosperous," Trump wrote in a statement Tuesday. "Steve will be an unrelenting Voice for PEACE, and make us all proud."



US investor Steve Witkoff attends the last day of the 2024 Republican National Convention at the Fiserv Forum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on July 18, 2024. President-elect Donald Trump announced businessman Steven Witkoff will serve as... More AFP/Getty Images

At the RNC, after being introduced by his son Zach, Witkoff shared about the "hard work, unwavering loyalty and perseverance" he sees in Trump.

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Witkoff told the Milwaukee crowd how Trump was there for him after his son, Andrew, died from an opioid overdose, relating it to Elvis Presley's song "An American Trilogy."

"I thought of that song after my dear friend was shot a few days ago, I gave him a call. I expected to leave him a voicemail, so it surprised me when he answered the phone. "But he picked up the phone and said, 'Hi, Steve, I'm really glad you called how are you how are you kids?' It surprised me, but it shouldn't have. I know this man very well. President Trump is as kind and compassionate a man as I've ever met my lifetime."

[Witkoff previously told *Newsweek*](#) that Trump's plans to help lower corporate taxes in 2017 would help grow businesses like his.

"I think you've got to create all those conditions that get the private sector to want to invest," Witkoff told *Newsweek*. "The president's game plan is more growth. Let's add several trillion more dollars of GDP, expand the tax net, lower the amount that you pay, but expand it."

"More tax revenue means we're going to pay down the deficit."

Witkoff, who lives in the Upper East Side in Manhattan, now has a net worth estimated over \$500 million, according to reporting by the *Palm Beach Post*.

Witkoff became friends with Trump in the 1990s when he was building up his billion-dollar real estate empire and Trump was buying up properties in Manhattan. Two decades later, Witkoff [owns](#) 51 properties—including large buildings in London, Miami, and New York—and has a home in Miami Beach where he lives four months of the year.

In 1985, Witkoff partnered with Dreyer & Traub attorney Laurence Gluck to found Stellar Management. The company expanded to lower Manhattan, and later secured financing to purchase 33 Maiden Lane.

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Trump White House Counsel – William (Bill) McGinley

McGinley, who served in Trump's first presidential term as White House cabinet secretary, returns to the White House for Trump's second term. The White House Counsel conducts key behind-the-scene research into potential Supreme Court nominees.



William J. McGinley recently speaks at an event hosted by BNA on new lobbying laws.

William "Bill" McGinley, Chair of the Steering Committee for the Political Law Studies Initiative (PLSI), credits his success to his education at The George Washington University Law School, saying "GW Law is a great institution, a leader in the field, and one of the leading voices in law."

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As a nationally recognized law school, GW Law provided him with opportunities that he would not have gotten elsewhere. For instance, the campus' proximity to the power centers in Washington enabled Bill to clerk for the Republican National Committee (RNC) during his 1L summer and continue his involvement throughout law school. Throughout his time with the RNC, he caught the "political bug," as he covered the 1996 presidential election, learned the nuts and bolts of democracy, and further developed the skills he was learning in his law school classes.

Bill always appreciated the quality of GW Law faculty and the classes that were offered, especially Constitutional Law, Evidence, Criminal Procedure and Torts. Jonathan Turley taught his first law school class and soon became one of his favorite professors.

After graduation, Bill first served as Deputy General Counsel to the RNC, where he instructed state and local political parties and candidates on campaign finance and ballot access. He also held the role of counsel to the RNC Standing Committee on Rules, a group that suggests rules for both the Republican Party and a selection of national convention delegates.

Afterwards, Bill became General Counsel to the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC), where he assisted on similar election law issues.

Afterwards, he joined Patton Boggs, counseling federal and state candidates, political action committees, donors, political vendors, and advocacy organizations on matters of political law. Bill recently became partner at Jones Day, representing members of Congress, candidates, and corporations in investigations before the Office of Congressional Ethics and the House and Senate Ethics Committees.

He also advises corporations regarding the design and implementation of political law compliance programs and candidates, political party committees, and outside groups regarding election law issues.

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Bill's interests lie in the evolving nature of the political law field. Actively participating in alumni development activities, he was eager to join the PLSI Steering Committee as its chairman. In addition to events and outreach, PLSI also seeks to facilitate dialogue among policymakers, practitioners, and academics to discuss ideas, develop the political law field, and create bipartisan professional networks.



Bill enjoys connecting with students and credits his rewarding career to GW Law's influential faculty and prominence in Washington, DC.

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Trump Selects John Ratcliffe - CIA Director

Ratcliffe previously served under Trump during his first term as Director of National Intelligence (DNI). He will head the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

In 2020, he was awarded the National Security Medal, the nation's highest honor for distinguished achievement in the field of intelligence and national security.



John Ratcliffe is President-elect Trump's pick to lead the CIA.

John Ratcliffe grew up in Mount Prospect, Illinois, and serves as a co-Chair of the Center for American Security. Most recently, he served as the sixth Director of National Intelligence (DNI) under President Donald Trump.

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In that role, Ratcliffe served as the leader of the U.S. intelligence community and principal intelligence advisor to President Trump. As “America’s Top Spy,”

Ratcliffe successfully deployed covert and clandestine intelligence assets to remove numerous designated terrorist leaders from the battlefield, led a shift in the U.S. intelligence community priorities to better position the U.S. for success in the great power competition with China, and designated space as a priority intelligence domain by adding the U.S. Space Force as the 18th member of the intelligence community.

In recognition of his national security achievements, President Trump awarded Ratcliffe the National Security Medal, the nation’s highest honor for distinguished achievement in the field of intelligence and national security.

Prior to his nomination and confirmation as DNI, Ratcliffe served in Congress for over five years as the U.S. Representative for the 4th Congressional District of Texas.

As a Congressman, he was a leading policymaker on national security issues as a member of the House Intelligence and Judiciary Committees and as Cybersecurity Chairman on the Homeland Security Committee.

The son of two schoolteachers and the youngest of six, John was born in Illinois but “got to Texas as fast as I could.” He and his family reside in Heath, Texas, where John previously served as mayor for eight years.

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U.S. Secretary of Defense – Pete Hegseth

Trump nominated Pet Hegseth to lead the Department of Defense. He would need to be confirmed by the Senate to assume the position. Hegseth has long championed a strong military and veterans causes.

He served in Iraq and Afghanistan as an Army infantry officer, being awarded two Bronze Stars and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

"Nobody fights harder for the Troops, and Pete will be a courageous and patriotic champion of our 'Peace through Strength' policy," Trump said.



Pete Hegseth has been tapped by Trump to be his Secretary of Defense

Pete Hegseth (born June 6, 1980, [Minneapolis, Minnesota](#), U.S.) is an American TV personality and former [U.S. Army National Guard](#) officer who was a cohost of *Fox & Friends Weekend* from 2017 to 2024, and while on the show he became known for his [conservative](#) views. He is a supporter of [Donald Trump](#), and after Trump was elected to a second term as [president in 2024](#), he named Hegseth as his nominee for secretary of the [U.S. Department of Defense](#).

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Education and National Guard

Hegseth grew up in Minnesota, and in 1999 he enrolled at [Princeton University](#). There he played basketball, studied politics, and became a frequent contributor to *The Princeton Tory*, the school's conservative newspaper. For a time he served as publisher, and he was responsible for articles that, as [he wrote](#), “strive to defend the pillars of Western civilization against the distractions of diversity.” Among these pieces, which stirred controversy at Princeton, was [an editorial he cowrote](#) that declared that “the homosexual lifestyle is abnormal and immoral.”

In 2003 Hegseth graduated from Princeton and the school's Army ROTC program. He then became a member of the Minnesota National Guard and later joined the Army National Guard, rising to the rank of major. Hegseth was [deployed](#) three times. After serving at [Guantánamo Bay](#), he was a platoon leader in [Iraq](#) and later taught counterinsurgency tactics in [Afghanistan](#). His various military honors include two Bronze Stars.

Senate run and *Fox & Friends Weekend*

In 2012 Hegseth ran to represent Minnesota in the [U.S. Senate](#) as a [Republican](#), but he dropped out before the party's primary. Two years later he became a contributor to [Fox News](#), and in 2017 he became cohost of *Fox & Friends Weekend*. In that post Hegseth frequently spoke of his support for President Trump. After Trump lost the [2020 presidential election](#), Hegseth promoted Trump's unfounded claim of widespread voter fraud. In 2021 Hegseth was removed from the National Guard group that was to provide security for [Joe Biden](#)'s presidential inauguration. The reported issue was his Jerusalem cross tattoo, which he said was simply a Christian symbol, but officials noted that it is also used by [Christian nationalists](#).

His other tattoos include the words *Deus Vult* (Latin: “God wills it”), which was a battle cry during the [Crusades](#) and later appropriated by [white supremacists](#). Hegseth left the National Guard later in 2021.

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Defense secretary nomination

In 2024 Trump won a second presidential term, and he selected Hegseth as his nominee for defense secretary; the post requires Senate confirmation. The selection proved controversial, many citing Hegseth's lack of experience managing large, complex organizations. The Department of Defense has some three million employees and has been called the biggest government [bureaucracy](#) in the world.

Political views

Hegseth has been especially critical of the military. He has accused generals and other leaders of being “woke” and claimed that what he sees as their focus on [diversity](#) and [equity](#) has weakened the military. He also does not believe that women should serve in combat roles, and he has supported pardons for soldiers convicted of [war crimes](#). He has outlined his various views in a series of books, including *The War on Warriors: Behind the Betrayal of the Men Who Keep Us Free* (2024).

Personal life

In 2004 Hegseth married Meredith Schwarz; the couple divorced in 2009. The following year he wed Samantha Deering, and they later had three children. In 2017 Pete Hegseth had a child with Jennifer Rauchet, who also worked at Fox News. Later that year he and Deering divorced, and Hegseth married Rauchet in 2019. At the time he also became stepfather to Rauchet's three children from a previous marriage.

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Department of Homeland Security Secretary - Kristi Noem

Trump announced on Tuesday that South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem is his pick for secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. Noem would need to be approved by the Senate to assume the position.

DHS oversees U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. Secret Service and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"She was the first Governor to send National Guard Soldiers to help Texas fight the Biden Border Crisis, and they were sent a total of eight times," the Trump transition team said in a statement on Tuesday. "She will work closely with 'Border Czar' Tom Homan to secure the Border, and will guarantee that our American Homeland is secure from our adversaries."



Gov. Kristi Noem, R-N.D., speaking during the first day of the Republican National Convention, Monday, July 15, 2024, in Milwaukee.

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Secretary of State Marco Rubio

Sources tell Fox News Trump has settled on Rubio, another Iran and China hawk, to run the [State Department](#). Rubio, a Republican from Florida and top GOP member of the Senate Intelligence Committee, ran for president in 2016 when he and Trump traded barbs, with Trump calling him "little Marco."



Marco Rubio to become Secretary of State - *November 14th 2024*

Marco Rubio is the son of two hardworking immigrants from Cuba. His father worked primarily as a banquet bartender, and his mother balanced caring for the family at home while working as a hotel maid and briefly in a local factory. Rubio saw firsthand how hard work, faith, and community helped his parents achieve the American Dream.

Born in Miami, Rubio was drawn to public service in large part because of his grandfather, who saw his homeland destroyed by communism. Before being elected to the U.S. Senate in 2010, Rubio served as a city commissioner in West Miami and as speaker of the Florida House of Representatives.

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U.S. Senate

Now in his third term, Senator Rubio remains committed to serving the people of Florida and ensuring America remains a strong, resilient nation for generations to come. For Rubio, this is not a partisan issue, which is why he's developed a reputation for working across the aisle to pass common-sense reforms that strengthen our economy, communities, and families.

It's why the Center for Effective Lawmaking ranked Rubio as the most effective Republican and the Lugar Center ranked him as one of the most bipartisan senators.

Whether it's expanding the child tax credit for working families, reforming the VA system, saving small businesses from pandemic-era lockdowns, rewriting U.S. policy towards China, or advancing our national security interest in our region, Rubio is making a lasting impact.

FAMILY

Rubio often says there is no more important job than being a father. He lost his own father just two months before being elected to the U.S. Senate, but his example of hard work, responsible living, and dedication to family remains a guiding influence to this day.

Rubio met his wife Jeanette, who was also born and raised in Miami, through mutual friends. They were married in 1998. Together, they've raised four children: Amanda, Daniella, Anthony, and Dominick.

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Trump picks Tulsi Gabbard to be director of National Intelligence

President-elect Trump on Wednesday announced that he is [appointing Tulsi Gabbard](#) to serve as director of national intelligence in his new Cabinet.

Gabbard served as a Democratic congresswoman from Hawaii from 2013 to 2021. In 2022, she became an independent, and joined the GOP last month.

The Republican is also a veteran who served in Iraq, as well as an Army reservist. She was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the [U.S. Army Reserve](#) three years ago.

In a statement on Wednesday, Trump said that the former congresswoman "has fought for our Country and the Freedoms of all Americans."



[GOV KRISTI NOEM REFLECTS ON TRUMP WIN, SAYS DEMOCRATS 'TRY TO PUT WOMEN IN A BOX'](#)

Tulsi Gabbard attends a live taping of "Hannity" on Fox News Channel in New York City on Sept. 13.

"As a former Candidate for the Democrat Presidential Nomination, she has broad support in both Parties - She is now a proud Republican!" Trump's statement said.

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"I know Tulsi will bring the fearless spirit that has defined her illustrious career to our Intelligence Community, championing our Constitutional Rights, and securing Peace through Strength. Tulsi will make us all proud!"



The director of national intelligence leads the U.S. intelligence community, which includes overseeing the National Intelligence Program and advising the president on security matters. The current national intelligence director is Avril Haines.

Once confirmed to the position, Gabbard will advise Trump, the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council on national security matters.

Fox News Digital confirmed earlier on Wednesday that Gabbard was on a shortlist of candidates for the position. In September, the former Democrat told Fox News Digital she would be "honored" to [join the Trump administration](#).

"I feel I can make the most impact in these areas of national security and foreign policy, and work to bring about the changes that President Trump talks about," Gabbard said at the time.

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Trump selects Stephen Miller to be White House Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Homeland Security Adviser.



President-elect Donald Trump has announced Stephen Miller will be White House deputy chief of staff for policy. He will also be the president's homeland security advisor.

The role puts Miller back at the White House where he is expected to take on a leading role writing and implementing Trump's immigration agenda, which includes plans for mass deportations of undocumented immigrants.

Miller's appointment — which does not require Senate confirmation — was announced with a slate of other White House deputy chiefs of staff including Dan Scavino, James Blair and Taylor Budowich.

"Dan, Stephen, James, and Taylor were 'best in class' advisors on my winning campaign, and I know they will honorably serve the American people in the White House," Trump said in a statement.

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"This is another fantastic pick by the president," Vice President-elect JD Vance posted on x.com Monday, an apparent confirmation of Miller's rumored appointment, prior to Trump's statement on Wednesday.

Miller is one of Trump's longest-serving and most trusted advisers. He worked with Trump on his 2016 presidential campaign before joining him at the White House as a senior adviser.

He's known best for his role as a lead author of some of the Trump administration's strongest immigration plans in his first administration, including the highly controversial zero tolerance policies that led to children being separated from their parents.

Once Trump left office, Miller went on to start America First Legal, a non profit that was supposed to be the conservative version of the ACLU. It worked with conservative lawyers who filed hundreds of lawsuits and legal demands, on behalf of conservative causes and against Democrats.

Miller is likely to be one of the most controversial picks in a new Trump administration. But because the deputy job is not a cabinet position, he will not need to seek confirmation by the Senate.

In the final stretch of Trump's 2024 campaign, Miller reprised his warm-up role at some rallies.

"You can have your country back, you can have your future back, you can have your state back," Miller said during one of Trump's final rallies in Salem, Va.

"You can look your children in the eye and say, 'We did it, we saved America, we saved this republic. We didn't let it get stolen from us.'"

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President Trump announced that he's nominating former attorney general of Florida Pam Bondi as the next Attorney General of the United States.



Trump's latest Cabinet pick replaces Matt Gaetz, the former Florida representative and nominee for attorney general, who on Thursday withdrew as Trump's pick for the top prosecutor after the "distraction" his nomination had caused due to a swirl of allegations about paying underage women for sex.

"Pam was a prosecutor for nearly 20 years, where she was very tough on Violent Criminals, and made the streets safe for Florida Families," Trump wrote in his announcement.

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"Then, as Florida's first female Attorney General, she worked to stop the trafficking of deadly drugs, and reduce the tragedy of Fentanyl Overdose Deaths, which have destroyed many families across our Country. She did such an incredible job, that I asked her to serve on our Opioid and Drug Abuse Commission during my first Term — We saved many lives!

"For too long, the partisan Department of Justice has been weaponized against me and other Republicans - Not anymore. Pam will refocus the DOJ to its intended purpose of fighting Crime, and Making America Safe Again," he continued. "I have known Pam for many years — She is smart and tough, and is an AMERICA FIRST Fighter, who will do a terrific job as Attorney General!"

Shortly after the announcement, Gaetz posted on X that Bondi is "a stellar selection" for attorney general by Trump.

"Pam and I worked closely together when she was Florida's Attorney General and I chaired Criminal Justice in the state house," Gaetz posted. "She's a proven litigator, an inspiring leader and a champion for all Americans. She will bring the needed reforms to DOJ."

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Dan Scavino, a senior adviser for Trump's campaign, will return to the White House as an Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of White House Staff.



President-elect Donald Trump announced that SUNY Plattsburgh alumnus Dan Scavino will return to the White House to serve as assistant to the president and deputy chief of staff in a press release Wednesday. Trump will be inaugurated Jan. 20, 2025.

Scavino '98 was Trump's director of social media from 2017 to 2021 and deputy chief of staff for communications from 2020 to 2021. He was also a senior advisor to Trump's 2024 campaign.

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“I know they will honorably serve the American people in the White House. They will continue to work hard to Make America Great Again in their respective new roles,” the release quotes Trump.

The release mentions that Scavino is one of Trump’s “longest serving” and “most trusted” advisers.

While working a high school job, Scavino was selected to be Trump’s golf caddie at the Briar Hall Country Club in Briarcliff Manor, New York, which Trump later purchased in 1996.

Scavino studied communications at SUNY Plattsburgh and was selected for the Communications Department Advisory Board by professor emeritus Peter Ensel.

Scavino’s former adviser, Shakuntala Rao, told the Press-Republican in 2016 that he was one of the “best students” in the department and was “focused, ambitious and had excellent work ethics.”

Scavino worked for Coca-Cola and Swiss pharmaceutical company Galderma after graduation.

In 2004, Trump hired Scavino as assistant manager of the renamed Trump National Golf Club Westchester, where they originally met. Scavino eventually earned the rank of general manager and executive vice president.

Scavino joined the initial Trump presidential campaign in 2015, where he helped the businessman become the first commander-in-chief with no formal political background.

The Plattsburgh graduate is Trump’s longest-serving aide, and a 2019 Politico report called Scavino “indispensable” to Trump.

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James Blair will serve as Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislative, Political and Public Affairs.



Blair was the campaign and Republican National Committee political director, and Budowich served in a senior role in Trump's Leadership PAC, Save America, and as CEO of the pro-Trump Super PAC, MAGA Inc.

James Blair comments on the Martha MacCallum show.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JTmQdOAv3sc>

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James Blair is the Founder & President of Rapid Loop Consulting, a full-service political consulting and public affairs firm based in Tampa, Florida.

During the 2022 election cycle, he led major campaigns and Super PAC efforts for Governor, U.S. Senate, and Congressional races across the country, including in battleground states Arizona, Florida, Michigan, and Ohio. Blair also advises state legislative candidates in his home state of Florida.

He is a former Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Ron DeSantis, served as a Senior Advisor to the 2018 DeSantis campaign, and is a veteran of the Trump 2020 campaign in Florida.

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Taylor Budowich will serve as Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Personnel.



Taylor Budowich was director of communications for Trump’s first post-2020 election money maker, the [Save America PAC](#) (which donated large sums to the [Conservative Partnership Institute](#) and the [America First Policy Institute](#)), and since September 2022, has been in charge of the newer pro-Trump super PAC, MAGA Inc.

In October 2022, as the Justice Department continued its investigation into the thousands of government documents Trump had illegally taken to his residence at Mar-a-Lago, Budowich [angrily defended](#) the former president. In a statement released to NBC News, he made factually inaccurate claims in saying: “The Biden administration has weaponized law enforcement and fabricated a Document Hoax in a desperate attempt to retain political power.

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Every other President has been given time and deference regarding the administration of documents, as the President has the ultimate authority to categorize records, and what materials should be classified.”

On June 7, 2023, after [testifying](#) before a Florida grand jury in the DOJ probe of the documents case, Budowich tweeted that the the case is a “bogus and deeply troubling effort to use the power of government to get Trump.”

Prior to becoming the former president’s spokesperson, Budowich worked for his son, [Donald Trump, Jr.](#) He initially got involved in politics when he was in his 20s and served as a very young executive director of the Tea Party Express PAC during the Obama presidency. In that role, he proved adept at capitalizing on financial opportunities while avoiding risk. He is also [president](#) of Conservative Strategies, a [company he incorporated](#) in California on Jan. 6, 2021, possibly to shield funds being raised under false premises after Trump lost the election.

January 6, 2021

- Budowich incorporated [Conservative Strategies](#), a for-profit company with a perhaps purposely unclear mission, in California on the same day as the insurrection at the Capitol.
- In November 2021, the House Select Committee investigating the attack on the Capitol [subpoenaed Budowich](#) to find out more about the approximately \$200,000 he paid to an unnamed 501(c)4 organization to conduct a radio and social media campaign to encourage as many people as possible to protest in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 6.
- In late December 2021, Budowich sat for four hours of testimony with the House Select Committee and sent hundreds of pages of bank documents, which [he then sued](#) to try to have destroyed or returned.

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The Big Lie

- In June 2022, as the House Select Committee began holding public hearings to share its findings with the American people, Budowich [told Insider](#): “The entire MAGA movement is united against this illegitimate committee and will work to ensure President Trump is defended against yet another Democrat show trial.”
- In July 2022, when House Select Committee Co-chair Liz Cheney (R-Wyo.) announced that Trump had attempted to contact an unnamed witness testifying before the committee, Budowich [shot back](#), [tweeting](#): “The media has become pawns of the Unselect Committee. Liz Cheney continues to traffic in innuendos and lies that go unchallenged, unconfirmed, but repeated as fact because the narrative is more important than the truth.”
- In January 2023, Budowich was still pushing lies for Trump, [telling Fox News](#) that as the 2024 presidential race begins to take shape: ““President Trump will not only dominate the Republican primary, but he will unite the nation around his America First agenda that produced generational economic prosperity, global peace and safe communities. MAGA Inc. will ensure any RINOs or self-serving politicians who decide to challenge President Trump are exposed and their political futures are extinguished for good.”

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Robert F. Kennedy Jr to Lead the Department of Health and Human Resources (HHS), Not Just Provide Advise.



President-elect Donald Trump has selected Robert F. Kennedy Jr, an environmental activist who has voiced skepticism on vaccines, to lead the Department of Health and Human Services, the country's top health agency, Donald Trump Jr. announced on Thursday.

Kennedy ran for president in this year's election as an independent before dropping out in August and endorsing Trump in exchange for a role in the Republican's administration.

"He's going to help make America healthy again," Trump said in his victory speech on Nov. 6. "He wants to do some things, and we're going to let him get to it," he said.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

[Special: 5 Signs You'll Get Cancer – and How to Stop It... More Here!](#)

The Department of Health and Human Services oversees the Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health and the massive Medicare and Medicaid Services programs, which provide health coverage for the poor, those ages 65 and older, and the disabled.

Medicaid and Medicare's tens of millions of enrollees mean HHS had a \$3.09 trillion budget for fiscal year 2024, representing 22.8% of the U.S. federal budget.

KENNEDY'S HEALTH PRIORITIES

Kennedy, the son and nephew of two titans of Democratic politics, has been a part of Trump's transition team and has been reviewing candidate resumes for the top jobs at U.S. health agencies.

Over posts on social media platform X and interviews in recent weeks, Kennedy has indicated his priorities include addressing what he calls the "chronic disease epidemic" of conditions including obesity, diabetes and autism, and reducing chemicals in food.

Despite high levels of spending on health care and pharmaceuticals, Americans are unhealthier than their peers in wealthy countries around world, according to a report from the Commonwealth Fund in 2023.

Kennedy also suggested he would gut the 18,000-employee Food and Drug Administration - which ensures the safety of food, drugs and medical devices - and replace hundreds of employees at the National Institutes of Health.

"FDA's war on public health is about to end," he wrote on X in late October, adding that includes its "aggressive suppression" of psychedelics, peptides, stem cells, raw milk, sunshine, and other items.

[Special: Cancer Rates Are Soaring; Are You at Risk? Learn More!](#)

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"If you work for the FDA and are part of this corrupt system, I have two messages for you: 1. Preserve your records, and 2. Pack your bags," he wrote.

In early November, he said he would recommend fluoride be removed from public water supplies, claiming on X that the chemical is associated with bone fractures and cancer. The American Dental Association says the decades-old intervention reduces tooth decay by more than 25% in adults and children.

Kennedy criticized in September a New York Times opinion article about the weight loss drug Ozempic, saying, "Instead of fixing our food system and addressing the obesity crisis at its root, the author focuses on a drug that may palliate the symptom – and gladden the wallets of distant Big Pharma execs."

KENNEDY AND VACCINES

Kennedy, who has questioned vaccines' efficacy and suggested they may be linked to other health problems, opposed state and federal restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic and was accused of spreading misinformation about the virus.

He disputes the anti-vaccine tag, saying he wants more rigorous testing of vaccines instead. However, he chaired the Children's Health Defense, a nonprofit organization that focuses on anti-vaccine messaging.

In an interview in March, when he was still running for president, Kennedy said Americans who wants a vaccine for themselves or their children would continue to have access to them if he were to be elected. But he said he doubted the efficacy of measles vaccines.

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President-elect Trump made a "big" announcement Thursday night, sharing that North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum will lead the Department of the Interior.



"He's going to be announced [Friday]...I look forward to doing the formal announcement, although this is a pretty big announcement right now, actually," Trump said during his speech at the [Americans For Prosperity Gala](#) at Mar-a-Lago on Thursday. "He's going to head the Department of Interior, and he's going to be fantastic."

"We're going to reduce regulation waste, fraud and inefficiency," Trump said. "We're going to clean out the corrupt, broken and failing bureaucracies. And we're going to stop child sexual mutilation. We're going to stop it because it's time."

Gov. Doug Burgum, a multi-millionaire former software company CEO turned two-term [governor](#), launched a White House bid in June 2023.

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Bergum made energy and natural resources a key part of his campaign for the GOP nomination.

After making the stage at the first two GOP presidential debates, Burgum failed to qualify for the third showdown, in autumn of last year, and he dropped out of the White House race last December. A month later, he appeared in Iowa with Trump and endorsed the former president for the GOP nomination, days ahead of the first-in-the-nation caucuses.

Former President Trump, left, listens as North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum speaks during a Nevada Republican caucus night watch party in Las Vegas, Feb. 8.

Burgum became a high profile surrogate for the former president, appearing on the campaign trail and in media hits on Trump's behalf.



He was in consideration as Trump's running mate this past summer before [Sen. JD Vance](#) of Ohio was picked as the Republican Party's vice presidential nominee.

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Burgum, in an interview with "Fox and Friends" last week, said Trump's election victory was "game changing" and that "we've got a new sheriff in town."

The governor added that a Trump victory also "means that America is going to be dominant in energy."



"America is going to be dominant in energy which is key to all the diplomacy we do all over the world," he said.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Donald Trump said on Thursday he intends to nominate former Representative Doug Collins for secretary of veterans affairs.



Thursday, 14 November 2024 08:31 PM EST

"We must take care of our brave men and women in uniform, and Doug will be a great advocate for our Active Duty Service members, Veterans, and Military Families to ensure they have the support they need," Trump said in a statement.

President-elect Donald Trump has nominated an [Air Force](#) Reserve chaplain and former congressman to be the next secretary of the [Department of Veterans Affairs](#).

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Former Rep. Doug Collins, 58, a Georgia Republican who last ran for office in 2020 when he vied for a U.S. Senate seat, served two years as a [Navy](#) chaplain before joining the Air Force as a chaplain after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

In his announcement Thursday, Trump said Collins, who campaigned heavily for the president-elect, would be a "great advocate for active-duty service members, veterans and military families to ensure they have the support they need."

"We must take care of our brave men and women in uniform," Trump said. "Thank you, Doug, for your willingness to serve our country in this important role."

Collins is a colonel in the Air Force Reserve. He deployed to Balad Air Base in Iraq in 2008 with the 94th Airlift Wing, based in Dobbins, Georgia, according to media reports. His most recent duty station was [Robins Air Force Base](#), Georgia, where he served as an individual mobile augmentee to the command chaplain, according to the service.

The Air Force Reserve was asked to provide additional releasable information from Collins' service record but did not do so by publication.

On the social media platform X, Collins [said Thursday](#) that he was honored to accept the nomination, adding that veterans deserve "the best care and support."

"We'll fight tirelessly to streamline and cut regulations in the VA, root out corruption, and ensure every veteran receives the benefits they've earned," Collins wrote. "Together, we'll make the VA work for those who fought for us. Time to deliver for our veterans and give them the world-class care they deserve."

The VA provides disability compensation and pensions to 6.7 million veterans and family members, and roughly 9 million veterans are enrolled in VA health care, the country's largest integrated medical system.

Collins had previously posted on [Veterans Day](#) that he believes the VA's medical system "is broken and our veterans pay the price."

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"Why does a veteran have to drive 80 miles to see a doctor when they already have trouble seeing to start with? [@realDonaldTrump](#) will drain the swamp and make America WIN again," Collins wrote.

Collins served in Congress from 2013 to 2021 but did not play a prominent role on veterans issues during that time and never served on the House Veterans Affairs Committee. Rather, he made a name for himself as a reliably conservative lawmaker and, in the last few years of his tenure, a staunch ally of Trump's.

His voting record in Congress got consistently high marks from conservative advocacy groups, including anti-abortion group Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America giving him an A+ rating for his opposition to abortion as the top Republican on the House Judiciary Committee.

"Contending an unborn child has no life to lose becomes impossible when we reflect -- even momentarily -- on what an abortion entails," he said in 2019 at a committee hearing on reproductive health care rights. "One person's reproductive right cannot outweigh another person's right to live."

He also regularly argued against LGBTQ+ rights efforts, including contending a bill to add sexual orientation and gender identity to equal rights protections would "destroy female sports, endanger vulnerable women and promote sterilization of children in a misguided bid to privilege the rights of a few over those of the vast majority of Americans."

And after the Supreme Court ruled in 2015 in favor of marriage rights for same-sex couples, Collins said he would "strongly support a constitutional amendment defining marriage between one man and one woman."

While Collins' focus in Congress was not veterans issues, he voted in favor of major veterans bills on the House floor, including the 2014 Choice Act, the 2018 Mission Act, and the 2017 VA Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act.

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A vocal proponent of gun rights, he also voted in support of a bill that wouldn't become law until after he left Congress that made it easier for some veterans to access guns.

As the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, Collins became one of the faces of Trump's defense team during Trump's first impeachment over his efforts to pressure Ukraine to dig up dirt on now-President Joe Biden. In that capacity, Collins argued Democrats used impeachment as a political weapon to hurt Trump's chances in the 2020 election.

In addition to his top post on the Judiciary Committee, Collins served as vice chair of the House Republican Conference, the fifth-highest position in GOP leadership.

In 2020, Collins opted to run for the Senate rather than reelection to the House. During that campaign -- which he lost in an open primary against Republican Kelly Loeffler and Democrat, now senator, Raphael Warnock -- he was [warned by the Air Force against using campaign ads](#) that pictured him in uniform but did not include a required disclaimer.

Sen. Jerry Moran, R-Kan., who is poised to be chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee next year and so will lead Collins' confirmation process, congratulated Collins in a post on social media and said he has "a strong understanding of the policies that impact veterans."

"President Trump nominated a candidate who has demonstrated his dedication to public service and a willingness to support veterans and their families," Moran wrote. "I look forward to Congressman Collins' testimony before the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee."

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Trump confirmed that Sergio Gor will in the White House as director of the presidential personnel office. Gor, an ally and business partner of Donald Trump Jr.'s, was in charge of the pro-Trump political action committee Right for America and previously worked in Republican Sen. Rand Paul's office.



"Steven Cheung and Sergio Gor have been trusted Advisors since my first Presidential Campaign in 2016, and have continued to champion America First principles throughout my First Term, all the way to our Historic Victory in 2024," Trump said in a statement. "I am thrilled to have them join my White House, as we Make America Great Again!"

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President Trump selected Mike Waltz, Republican representative and former Army Green Beret to be his National Security Adviser. He's decidedly a hawk on China and Iran.

"Mike retired as a Colonel, and is a nationally recognized leader in National Security, a bestselling author, and an expert on the threats posed by China, Russia, Iran, and global terrorism," Trump said in a statement.

"Mike has been a strong champion of my America First Foreign Policy agenda, and will be a tremendous champion of our pursuit of Peace through Strength!"



On Tuesday, Trump announced Rep. Michael Waltz, a Florida Republican and former Army Green Beret, would be his national security adviser. He's decidedly a hawk on China and Iran.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Congressman Mike Waltz is a Colonel (Ret.) in the National Guard, a combat-decorated Green Beret, former White House and Pentagon policy advisor, a small business owner, an author, and a proud father. He is the first Green Beret to be elected to Congress.

Mike was born in Boynton Beach, Florida and grew up in Jacksonville, Florida. He was raised by a hard-working single mother and is the son and grandson of Navy Chiefs.

Mike has served his country his entire life. He graduated from the Virginia Military Institute with Honors and served 27 years in the U.S. Army and National Guard, retiring during his second term in Congress. After being commissioned as an Army lieutenant, Mike graduated Ranger School and was selected for the elite Green Berets, serving worldwide as a Special Forces officer with multiple combat tours in Afghanistan, the Middle East and Africa. For his actions in combat, Mike was awarded four Bronze Stars, including two for Valor.

During his time in Afghanistan, Mike led the teams searching for deserter Pvt. Bowe Berghdal. Mike was one of the first to publicly call into question then-President Obama's labeling of Berghdal as a hero and has continued to lead the call for justice on behalf of all the service-members Berghdal's desertion put in harm's way.

Mike's servant leadership continued in the White House, as well as the Pentagon, as a defense policy director for Secretaries of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and Robert Gates. He also advised the Bush Administration on policy he then carried out in the military.

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His experiences as a soldier and a policy advisor inspired him to write the book, “Warrior Diplomat: A Green Beret’s Battles from Washington to Afghanistan,” the proceeds of which continue to benefit the Green Beret and Matthew Pucino Foundations.

He also wrote a children’s book, “Dawn of the Brave,” a Christian children's book that teaches children the importance of service.



Following his time in the White House, Mike built a small business to over 400 employees, which was repeatedly listed in the Inc. 500 index as one of the fastest-growing private companies in America.

A former Fox News Channel contributor, Mike, provides expert commentary on foreign policy, defense, and business issues to viewers around the world. Mike is determined to be part of the new generation of leadership in Congress: Servant leaders who lead by example with their values and deliver results.

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As the Chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and member of the House Oversight and Accountability Committee and House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Mike has championed legislation to restore our military back to be merit-based and mission-focused.

Mike serves on the House China Task Force with 15 Republican lawmakers representing 14 committees of jurisdiction to coordinate policy on China. Mike sponsored legislation to reduce American reliance on Chinese critical minerals and pioneered legislation to secure American universities and academies from Chinese espionage.

As a Floridian, Mike has fought to help maintain Florida's way of life, introducing legislation to help prevent harmful algae blooms and keep Florida's water clean, and protect Florida's farmers and growers. He is a strong advocate for school choice and a return to civics in education. He has also championed the growing space industry on Florida's Space Coast and the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs at Florida's universities.

His commitment in Washington, D.C. is the same now as it was in combat: To serve with everything he has, without regard for his own self and with a sense of duty.

Mike has a daughter in college and a baby boy. He is married to Dr. Julia Nesheiwat, a combat veteran who served in multiple presidential administrations, as well as most recently as Homeland Security Advisor to President Trump. They live in St. Johns County, Florida.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Trump Picks Karoline Leavitt as WH Press Secretary



White House press secretary, when he returns to the White House in January.

President-elect Donald Trump announced his pick of campaign spokesperson [Karoline Leavitt](#) to serve as press secretary for his upcoming administration.

"Karoline Leavitt did a phenomenal job as the National Press Secretary on my Historic Campaign, and I am pleased to announce she will serve as White House Press Secretary," Trump said in a statement Friday evening.

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"Karoline is smart, tough, and has proven to be a highly effective communicator. I have the utmost confidence she will excel at the podium, and help deliver our message to the American People as we, Make America Great Again."

Leavitt, 27, will be the youngest White House press secretary in U.S. history, unseating Nixon administration press secretary Ron Ziegler, who was 29 when he served in the role from 1969-1974.

**TRUMP'S SPEEDY CABINET PICKS SHOW HIS 'PRIORITY TO PUT AMERICA FIRST,'
TRANSITION TEAM SAYS**



Karoline Leavitt is seen leaving Trump Tower in New York, New York, April 25.

"Thank you, President Trump, for believing in me. I am humbled and honored. Let's MAGA!" Leavitt wrote in a post on X on Friday night.

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Leavitt served as the campaign's national press secretary, rallying support for Trump while also working as his fierce defender amid political attacks from the Harris campaign and Democrats.

"They forced him to take a mug shot. They tried to remove his name off of the ballot. They forced him to sit in a dirty courthouse for six weeks. Two people tried to kill him, for goodness sake," Leavitt said last week on "Fox & Friends" following the election. "And the American people see, in Donald Trump, is clear a leader who even in the darkest of times is going to lift his fist in the air and say, 'fight, fight, fight' for this country."

[TRUMP'S PICKS SO FAR: HERE'S WHO WILL BE ADVISING THE NEW PRESIDENT](#)

"Democracy appeared to be the number one issue for voters. It's clear that the American people believe President Trump is the best candidate to preserve our democracy. And it shows the Democrats' message in these final weeks of the campaign that he's this alleged threat to democracy just didn't work in the eyes of the American people," she added.



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Trump campaign press secretary Karoline Leavitt in New York City, May 29.

Leavitt previously served in Trump's first administration as assistant press secretary during Kayleigh McEnany's tenure. In 2022, the New Hampshire native launched a congressional campaign to represent the state's 1st Congressional District, winning the primary but not the general election.

'ALL THE OPTIONS' ARE ON THE TABLE TO GET TRUMP'S CABINET PICKS THROUGH CONFIRMATION, SAYS SEN. JOHN THUNE

Speculation had mounted that Trump would likely name Leavitt for the role, while other names were also floated, such as Trump's legal spokeswoman and adviser Alina Habba, President George W. Bush aide and CNN contributor Scott Jennings, longtime Trump adviser and ally Jason Miller, or campaign spokesman and adviser Steven Cheung.

Trump named Cheung communications director earlier Friday. Other names floated as potential contenders included former ESPN host Sage Steele, RNC spokeswoman Elizabeth Pipko and former Trump administration official Monica Crowley.

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President-elect Trump announced Thursday that he is nominating Jay Clayton to serve as U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York.



"I am pleased to announce that Jay Clayton, of New York, the Chairman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission during my first term, where he did an incredible job, is hereby nominated to be the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York," Trump wrote in a post on Truth Social. "Jay is a highly respected business leader, counsel, and public servant."

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President-elect Donald J. Trump said on Thursday that he would name Todd Blanche, a lawyer who oversaw his defense against multiple indictments, to become the No. 2 official at the Justice Department.



The selection of Mr. Blanche, a former prosecutor in Manhattan, as the deputy attorney general serves as an extraordinary rebuke to the criminal cases against Mr. Trump. A day earlier, the president-elect chose Matt Gaetz, a Florida Republican and a caustic critic of the F.B.I. and the Justice Department, to become attorney general.

If confirmed as deputy attorney general, Mr. Blanche would be responsible for supervising the day-to-day operations of a department that Mr. Trump has repeatedly assailed.

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Others on Mr. Trump's legal team are also in line to receive top assignments: Emil Bove as principal associate deputy attorney general, and D. John Sauer, who represented Mr. Trump before the Supreme Court in arguing that the former president was entitled to broad immunity, as solicitor general.

In announcing his selection of Mr. Blanche, Mr. Trump pointed to his years as a supervising federal prosecutor at the U.S. attorney's office for the Southern District of New York and his past clerkships.

"Todd is an excellent attorney who will be a crucial leader in the Justice Department, fixing what has been a broken System of Justice for far too long," he wrote.

The choice underscores Mr. Blanche's swift transformation and the big gamble he made in taking on Mr. Trump as a client: More than a year ago, he was a registered Democrat in New York and a partner at a prestigious law firm on Wall Street.

Mr. Blanche defended Mr. Trump in three of the criminal cases against him, including in Florida, over his handling of classified documents in Florida; in Washington, regarding his efforts to subvert the 2020 election; and in Manhattan, for a hush money payment to a porn actress.

The case in New York ended in Mr. Trump's conviction on all 34 counts of falsifying business records to cover up a sex scandal, making him the first former president to be branded a felon.

As Mr. Trump's lead lawyer at that trial, Mr. Blanche forged a unique connection to the president-elect. For weeks inside a criminal courthouse, Mr. Trump and Mr. Blanche sat inches apart, often whispering to each other during long days of legal arguments and testimony.

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In defending Mr. Trump, Mr. Blanche assembled a legal team that had to fight simultaneously on multiple fronts, all in the thick of a heated presidential campaign.

The defense strategy for all of the indictments against Mr. Trump could be boiled down to one word: delay. And in most of the cases it worked, if not exactly how he and his team initially envisioned.

In July, the federal judge overseeing the documents case, Judge Aileen M. Cannon, dismissed all of the charges, ruling that the special counsel, Jack Smith, had been improperly appointed.



The election case sputtered after the Supreme Court ruled in July that presidents were entitled to substantial immunity from prosecution. Now that Mr. Trump is returning to the White House, Mr. Smith plans to wind down his two federal cases before Mr. Trump takes office in January, people familiar with his plans have said.

Along the way, Mr. Blanche often faced blistering criticism from judges who disliked Mr. Trump's legal arguments, or the candidate's bombast outside the courtroom.

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Mr. Blanche first joined the Southern District as a paralegal in 1999, attending Brooklyn Law School at night. He returned a few years later, this time as a prosecutor, where he largely handled violent crimes cases in Manhattan and eventually ascended to supervise that work. After leaving the prosecutor's office, he became a defense lawyer in private practice.

Mr. Blanche has represented other members of Mr. Trump's circle, including Paul Manafort, his onetime campaign chairman, and Boris Epshteyn, an adviser.

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Emil Bove, is an Assistant United States Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

[U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York](#)



Before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, he was an associate at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP.

He also completed clerkships with the Hon. Richard J. Sullivan, U.S. District Court, S.D.N.Y., and the Honorable Richard C. Wesley, '71, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Mr. Bove received his Juris Doctorate degree from the Georgetown University Law Center in 2008 and completed a double major in public policy and economics with a 4.0 GPA at the University at Albany.

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While at UAlbany, he received the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, two President's undergraduate leadership awards, and was named [the America East Conference](#) Male Scholar-Athlete in 2003. Mr. Bove also served as captain of the UAlbany's [men's lacrosse team](#), and was named a second team Academic All-American.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Trump taps oil executive Chris Wright as Energy Secretary.

The oil executive and GOP fundraiser disputes the need to fight against climate change.



Chris Wright would be one of the loudest voices in the administration against the confirmed science that greenhouse gas emissions are raising the planet's temperature and causing an upsurge in extreme weather. | Gage Skidmore via Wikimedia Commons.

President-elect Donald Trump named Chris Wright, head of a Denver-based oil service company and a vocal opponent of government action to fight climate change, as his nominee to lead the Energy Department.

Wright, if confirmed by the Senate, would be one of the loudest voices in the administration against the established science that greenhouse gas emissions are raising the planet's temperature and causing an upsurge in extreme weather.

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He will be charged with fulfilling Trump's campaign promise to claw back billions of dollars in funding supporting the Biden administration's climate and energy agenda.

Wright would lead a department tasked with maintaining the country's nuclear weapons fleet and developing the latest generation of energy-producing technologies.

"As Secretary of Energy, Chris will be a key leader, driving innovation, cutting red tape, and ushering in a new 'Golden Age of American Prosperity and Global Peace,'" Trump said in his announcement.

Wright will also join Interior Secretary nominee Doug Burgum on the new National Energy Council, which Trump said "will oversee the path to U.S. ENERGY DOMINANCE by cutting red tape, enhancing private sector investments across all sectors of the Economy, and by focusing on INNOVATION over longstanding, but totally unnecessary, regulation."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

[President-elect Trump](#) on Saturday announced he was appointing Will Scharf, one of his personal attorneys, as White House Staff Secretary in his incoming administration.



Scharf represented Trump as one of [his lawyers](#) during a hearing on presidential immunity before the Supreme Court and was a regular on television defending Trump amid his hush money trial in Manhattan.

Staff secretary is a lower-profile position that carries significant importance within the White House.

The staff secretary manages paper flow to the president and typically is in close proximity to the commander-in-chief. Rob Porter and Derek Lyons held the role during Trump's first term.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

“Will is a highly skilled attorney who will be a crucial part of my White House team,” Trump said in a statement. “He has played a key role in defeating the Election Interference and Lawfare waged against me, including by winning the Historic Immunity Decision in the Supreme Court.”

Scharf made an unsuccessful run for Missouri attorney general earlier this year, [losing in a primary](#) to incumbent Andrew Bailey. Trump endorsed both men in the primary.

Scharf is the latest Trump attorney to get rewarded with an administration job. Trump earlier this week announced Todd Blanche, Emil Bove and John Sauer, all of whom represented him in the past year, [were being tapped](#) for senior roles in the Justice Department.

A former federal prosecutor, Scharf has worked alongside Sauer at James Otis Law Firm, representing Trump in both his presidential immunity fight as well as an appeal of his gag order imposed in his federal election interference criminal case.

Scharf declined to comment on his appointment.

He previously was employed at CRC Advisors, a public relations firm founded by conservative judicial activist Leonard Leo, who played a central role in moving the Supreme Court to the right and choosing Trump’s nominees.

Scharf himself worked on the confirmations of Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett, Trump’s two most recent Supreme Court picks.

A graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School, Scharf also previously worked in the office of then-Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens (R) as policy director.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Trump selects Dean John Sauer to be Selects U.S. Solicitor General:



"The American people re-elected President Trump by a resounding margin, giving him a mandate to implement the promises he made on the campaign trail — and his Cabinet picks reflect his priority to put America First.

President Trump will continue to appoint highly qualified men and women who have the talent, experience and necessary skill sets to Make America Great Again," Leavitt told Fox News Digital when asked about Trump's speedy roll-out of Cabinet picks earlier this week.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission – Brendan Carr.



President-elect Trump [announced on Sunday](#) that he has picked Brendan Carr to serve as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) starting in January.

"Commissioner Carr currently serves as the senior Republican on the FCC. Before that, he was the FCC's General Counsel," Trump's statement read. "I first nominated Commissioner Carr to the FCC in 2017, and he has been confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate three times."

As a current member of the FCC, Carr recently called out "Saturday Night Live" for platforming Kamala Harris without inviting Trump, which violates FCC rules.

"NBC has structured this in a way that's plainly designed to evade the FCC's rules," Carr said to Fox News Digital. "We're talking 50 hours before Election Day starts, without any notice to other candidates, as far as I can tell."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Trump announced that he is nominating former Congressman Sean Duffy of Wisconsin to serve as the U.S. Secretary of Transportation.



Sean has been a tremendous and well-liked public servant, starting his career as a District Attorney for Ashland, Wisconsin, and later elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District," Trump said in his announcement on Monday.

"Sean will use his experience and the relationships he has built over many years in Congress to maintain and rebuild our Nation's Infrastructure, and fulfill our Mission of ushering in The [Golden Age of Travel](#), focusing on Safety, Efficiency, and Innovation. Importantly, he will greatly elevate the Travel Experience for all Americans!

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Donald Trump picked Howard Lutnick, a billionaire investor and veteran Wall Street CEO, as his next Commerce Secretary.



Trump, in a statement on Tuesday, also said Lutnick would "lead our Tariff and Trade agenda, with additional direct responsibility for the Office of the United States Trade Representative."

At Commerce, he will be responsible for enforcing the sweeping tariffs that Trump campaigned on — and for which Lutnick has expressed fervent, public support.

Lutnick, [who rebuilt](#) the investment bank Cantor Fitzgerald after the Sept. 11 attacks that killed almost 700 employees, had been little known outside of Wall Street. But he rocketed to prominence — and power — this fall, after Trump named him co-chair of his transition team in August.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

In recent days, Lutnick had been seen as a top contender to run Trump's Treasury Department, in what has turned into a [messy and public battle](#) for the critical role.

As a leader of Trump's transition Lutnick is responsible for hiring thousands of federal employees. But he's now joining a Cabinet that is committed to firing many more, as Trump's incoming administration promises to slash federal agencies and spending. (Trump has already [appointed](#) Tesla CEO Elon Musk to co-lead what he's calling a "Department of Government Efficiency.")

And Lutnick seems enthusiastic about the cost-cutting possibilities.

"How much do you think we can rip out of this wasted, \$6.5 trillion Harris-Biden budget?" Lutnick [asked Musk](#), his fellow billionaire Trump [super-supporter](#), on stage at a rally in Madison Square Garden last month.

When Musk replied with an estimate of "at least \$2 trillion," Lutnick raised his arm and let out a guttural whoop: "Yeeahhh!"

Lutnick was marked by 9/11

Lutnick first rose to national prominence during tragedy: In 2001, Cantor Fitzgerald was headquartered near the top of the north tower of the World Trade Center.

When terrorists flew a passenger jet into the building on Sept. 11, all 658 Cantor employees who were already at their desks had no way to escape before the tower collapsed. Lutnick's brother, Gary, was among them.

"If we are going to go to work, we're going to do it to take care of our friends' families," Lutnick told his remaining employees that evening, he [recounted to NPR](#) in 2016. "We went from being a great company that was making a million dollars a day to a company that was losing a million dollars a day."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Today, Cantor has several businesses, including a [cryptocurrency operation](#). Lutnick has continued to oversee them while co-chairing Trump's transition team – an arrangement that [has drawn questions](#) about how he is navigating federal conflict-of-interest guidelines.

Lutnick has denied commingling his roles. He splits his time between his CEO responsibilities – which he performs from 6:30 am to 9 am, and then from 4 pm to 10:30 pm – and volunteering for the Trump team, [The Wall Street Journal reported](#) in October.

In line with Trump's economic policies

Lutnick has previously donated to politicians of both parties, including Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign, according to OpenSecrets.org. But in recent years he has evolved into a major Republican donor, who donated millions to Trump's campaign and [hosted a \\$15 million fundraiser](#) at his home in the Hamptons this summer.

He has promised to stack the next Trump administration with loyalists. And he has loudly echoed many of Trump's financial policy proposals, including his support for tariffs, tax cuts, [and cryptocurrency](#) (where, [like Trump](#), Lutnick also has business interests).

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Trump announced on Tuesday that he will nominate [Dr. Mehmet Oz](#) to serve as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator.



America is facing a Healthcare Crisis, and there may be no Physician more qualified and capable than Dr. Oz to Make America Healthy Again," Trump said in a statement posted on Truth Social. "He is an eminent Physician, Heart Surgeon, Inventor, and World-Class Communicator, who has been at the forefront of healthy living for decades."

Trump wrote that he plans for Dr. Oz to "work closely" with [Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.](#), who the president-elect appointed to run the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

The CMS operates within the HHS, with the CMS controlling Medicare and Medicaid, among other programs. The agency's website notes that it "works in partnership with the entire health care community to improve quality, equity and outcomes in the health care system."

[TRUMP APPOINTS TULSI GABBARD AS DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE: 'FEARLESS SPIRIT'](#)

Former US President Donald Trump, stands behind Mehmet Oz, US Republican Senate candidate for Pennsylvania, during a rally in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, US, on Saturday, Sept. 3, 2022. (Michelle Gustafson/Bloomberg via Getty Images)

Trump wrote that Oz and Kennedy will "take on the illness industrial complex, and all the horrible chronic diseases left in its wake."

"Our broken Healthcare System harms everyday Americans, and crushes our Country's budget," the statement read. "Dr. Oz will be a leader in incentivizing Disease Prevention, so we get the best results in the World for every dollar we spend on Healthcare in our Great Country."

The Republican also wrote that Oz "will also cut waste and fraud within our Country's most expensive Government Agency, which is a third of our Nation's Healthcare spend[ing], and a quarter of our entire National Budget."

[TRUMP TAPS FCC MEMBER BRENDAN CARR TO LEAD AGENCY: 'WARRIOR FOR FREE SPEECH'](#)

Celestial Grace Ministry News Center

Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Pennsylvania GOP Senate candidate and former TV personality Dr. Mehmet Oz speaks before an appearance by former president Donald Trump to endorse local candidates at the Mohegan Sun Arena on September 03, 2022 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.



Oz, who regularly appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" before hosting "The Dr. Oz Show" from 2009 to 2022, holds an MD from the University of Pennsylvania. Oz [ran for the U.S. Senate](#) in Pennsylvania in 2022, and lost to now-Senator John Fetterman.

Trump wrote that Oz "taught millions of Americans how to make healthier lifestyle choices, and gave a strong voice to the key pillars of the MAHA [Make America Healthy Again] Movement."

"I have known Dr. Oz for many years, and I am confident he will fight to ensure everyone in America receives the best possible Healthcare, so our Country can be Great and Healthy Again!" the statement concluded.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government



Pennsylvania GOP Senate candidate and former TV personality Dr. Mehmet Oz is greeted by former president Donald Trump at a rally to support local candidates at the Mohegan Sun Arena on September 03, 2022 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

The current CMS Administrator is Chiquita Brooks-LaSure. The agency's website notes that the Administrator "directs the planning, coordination, and implementation of the programs under Titles XI, XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act and related statutes," as well as "directs the development of effective relationships between these programs and private and federally supported health-related programs."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Trump announced on Tuesday night that he intends to appoint Linda McMahon, former CEO of World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE), to lead the Department of Education.



His announcement, which was posted on Truth Social, came hours after two sources told Fox News that McMahon was likely to be picked.

"It is my great honor to announce that Linda McMahon, former Administrator of the Small Business Administration, will be the United States Secretary of Education," Trump's statement read.

"As Secretary of Education, Linda will fight tirelessly to expand 'Choice' to every State in America, and empower parents to make the best Education decisions for their families," the press release added. "Linda served for two years on the Connecticut Board of Education, where she was one of fifteen members overseeing all Public Education in the State, including its Technical High School system."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

McMahon, who served as administrator of the Small Business Administration in the first Trump administration, is the wife of Vince McMahon. The couple both co-founded WWE in 1980.

"Linda will use her decades of Leadership experience, and deep understanding of both Education and Business, to empower the next Generation of American Students and Workers, and make America Number One in Education in the World," Trump's statement concluded. "We will send Education BACK TO THE STATES, and Linda will spearhead that effort."

McMahon served in the Trump administration from 2017 to 2019. When she resigned, she wrote that the role had been "immensely rewarding."

FORMER TRUMP EDUCATION SECRETARY LAYS OUT 'UNFINISHED BUSINESS' FOR NEW ADMIN ON SCHOOL REFORMS



President Trump shakes hands with Linda McMahon, the outgoing administrator of the Small Business Administration, in Palm Beach, Fla., March 29, 2019.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

"While it has truly been the honor of a lifetime to serve our country in this Administration, it is time for me to step down and return to the private sector," McMahon wrote in 2019. "I wish to thank the President and I will continue to be a strong advocate for him and his policies."

Trump has previously floated the idea of disbanding the Department of Education, which began operating in 1980. The agency's website says that its mission is to "promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access for students of all ages."

Former Education Secretary [Betsy DeVos](#) told Fox News host Martha MacCallum last week that the Department of Education "doesn't really add any value anywhere. DeVos advised that the opportunity for Trump to [radically change the department](#) is "wide open."

[CLICK HERE TO GET THE FOX NEWS APP](#)



Linda McMahon, former administrator of Small Business Administration, speaks at the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, July 18

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

"Take the power away from the Department of Education, block-grant those funds, continue to invest in education, but get it down to a much more local level where better decisions are made on behalf of students," DeVos said. "The bureaucrats at the Department of Education aren't doing the job. They haven't done the job for more than four decades to close the achievement gaps — they've only widened."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President Trump Selects Matthew Witaker for NATO Ambassador.



)

Wednesday, 20 November 2024 10:45 AM EST

President-elect Donald Trump said on Wednesday he has chosen former Acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker to be the U.S. ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Trump announced Whitaker's nomination with this statement:

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

I am pleased to announce that former Acting Attorney General, Matthew G. Whitaker, from the Great State of Iowa, will be the United States Ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Matt is a strong warrior and loyal Patriot, who will ensure the United States' interests are advanced and defended. Matt will strengthen relationships with our NATO Allies, and stand firm in the face of threats to Peace and Stability - He will put AMERICA FIRST.

I have full confidence in Matt's ability to represent the United States with Strength, Integrity, and unwavering Dedication. I look forward to working closely with him as we continue to promote PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH, Freedom, and Prosperity around the World.

Matt is also the former U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa, and is a graduate of the University of Iowa with a B.A., MBA and J.D., where he played football, and received the Big Ten Medal of Honor.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Marjorie Taylor Greene Selected To Head House Oversight DOGE Subcommittee To Cut Government Costs.



House Oversight Committee Chair James Comer is expected to establish a subcommittee that will work with the newly formed Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) led by [Elon Musk](#) and Vivek Ramaswamy to eliminate government waste, Fox News Digital has learned.

A source familiar told Fox News Digital that Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., will chair the Delivering on [Government Efficiency](#) Subcommittee, which will focus on rooting out waste, fraud and abuse in the federal government.

The subcommittee is expected to investigate wasteful spending, examine ways to reorganize federal agencies to improve efficiency and identify solutions to eliminate bureaucratic red tape.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

A source familiar told Fox News Digital that Comer had a meeting with Ramaswamy and his incoming DOGE team.

And Ramaswamy confirmed the meeting with Comer and Greene to Fox News Digital.

"A key step to driving greater efficiency in government is exposing the problem to the public—we are grateful that the House Oversight Committee has created a subcommittee to focus on this work," a spokesperson for Ramaswamy told Fox News Digital. "We look forward to working together."

[UFC STAR HOPES DOGE WILL 'CLEAN THINGS UP AT THE STATE LEVEL,' WANTS JUSTICE FOR PEANUT THE SQUIRREL](#)

Trump announced that Elon Musk, left, and Vivek Ramaswamy would lead the Department of Government Efficiency. (Getty Images/File)

The source said Ramaswamy is "supportive of the Oversight Committee's endeavor and are already working together."

Comer told Fox News Digital that President Trump's "landslide victory reflects a clear mandate to address inflationary spending that's driving up the cost of living for hardworking Americans."

[ELON MUSK AND VIVEK RAMASWAMY APPROVE THE 'VERY REASONABLE PROPOSAL' TO ABOLISH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION](#)

"Wasteful government spending must end, and taxpayers deserve to see their money used effectively and efficiently," he said.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Comer told Fox News Digital that the new Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency "will align with the Trump administration's priorities to eliminate government waste, streamline the federal government's operations and cut red tape that's stifling jobs and increasing costs for the American people."



Rep. James Comer, R-Ky

"I look forward to working with Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy to deliver on these goals to Make America Great Again," Comer said.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga

Greene told Fox News Digital that the House Oversight Committee "is the perfect place to support the DOGE mission."



"I'm excited to chair this new subcommittee designed to work hand in hand with President Trump, Elon Musk, Vivek Ramaswamy and the entire DOGE team," Greene said. "We will identify and investigate the waste, corruption and absolutely useless parts of our federal government."

Greene said the subcommittee will provide "transparency and truth to the American people through hearings."

[ELON MUSK SAYS 'ALL ACTIONS' TAKEN BY DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY WILL BE ONLINE: 'TRANSPARENCY'](#)

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

"No topic will be off the table," she said. "The goal of DOGE is to bring accountability and GUT useless government agencies."

Greene said she expects the subcommittee's work "will expose people who need to be fired."

"The bureaucrats who don't do their job, fail audits like in the Pentagon and don't know where billions of dollars are going, will be getting a pink slip," Greene said. "Chairman Comer and I are focused on delivering the mandate voters sent on Nov. 5th, and I can't wait to get to work."



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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Trump will nominate [Scott Bessent](#) to serve as Treasury Department secretary once he returns to the White House in January.



Bessent, the founder and CEO of global macro investment firm Key Square Group, was a key economic policy adviser and fundraiser for the [Trump campaign](#).

He has been an advocate for economic policies like lower taxes, spending restraint and deregulation that have long made up the core of the Republican Party's platform, and has also been supportive of Trump's use of tariffs in trade negotiations.

At an event hosted by the Manhattan Institute earlier this year, Bessent suggested that Trump should pursue a three-point plan of targeting 3% economic growth, reducing the deficit to 3% of U.S. gross domestic product and to boost domestic energy production by 3 million barrels of oil a day.

[HOW TRUMP'S SECOND WHITE HOUSE TERM COULD IMPACT THE ECONOMY](#)

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Scott Bessent, founder and CEO of Key Square Group, has been nominated by President-elect Trump as treasury secretary. (Vincent Alban/Bloomberg via Getty Images / Getty Images)

He has also been supportive of Trump's plan to reduce [regulations on cryptocurrencies](#) and digital assets. Bessent has also argued that mass deportations of illegal immigrants would be less costly than the status quo given the cost of crime and fentanyl deaths.

Bessent previously taught at Yale University. He worked at Soros Fund Management (SFM) from 1991 to 2005, starting as a partner and eventually leading the firm's London office. After starting his own venture and working at another firm, he returned to SFM from 2011 to 2015 as chief investment officer, before he left to found his [investment firm](#), Key Square Group.

Key Square is focused on macro investing, which is a strategy that leverages geopolitical and macroeconomic information to guide its approach to investing in various markets.

[CATHIE WOOD PREDICTS TRUMP POLICIES WILL 'TURBOCHARGE' US ECONOMY MORE THAN REAGAN REVOLUTION](#)

Celestial Grace Ministry News Center

Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Trump is making nominations to fill out Cabinet positions in his incoming administration. (The role of treasury secretary carries a great deal of significance for conducting the president's economic agenda.



Treasury Secretaries often lead negotiations with Congress over tax and spending matters and play a role in dealing with foreign governments and financial institutions, as well as handling the operations of the Treasury Department and sub-agencies like the [Internal Revenue Service \(IRS\)](#).

During Trump's first term as president, Steven Mnuchin served as treasury secretary for the duration of the four-year term after he was confirmed by the Senate on a 53-47 vote a few weeks after Inauguration Day.

[US STOCKS SAW BIGGEST INFLOW SINCE JUNE ON DAY OF TRUMP'S ELECTION WIN: BANK OF AMERICA](#)

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Bessent previously taught at Yale University and worked at Soros Fund Management before he founded Key Square Group.



Bessent will also have to go through the [Senate confirmation process](#), which will be made easier by a 53-seat Republican majority after GOP candidates flipped four seats in this election.

The Senate Finance Committee will be responsible for holding a confirmation hearing on Bessent's nomination and advancing it to the floor for a confirmation vote.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

[President-elect Trump](#) announced he is nominating Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer for U.S. Secretary of Labor.



"I am proud to hereby nominate Congresswoman Lori Chavez-DeRemer, from the Great State of Oregon, as United States Secretary of Labor," Trump wrote in an official statement. "Lori has worked tirelessly with both Business and Labor to build America's workforce, and support the hardworking men and women of America.

I look forward to working with her to create tremendous opportunity for American Workers, to expand Training and Apprenticeships, to grow wages and improve working conditions, to bring back our Manufacturing jobs. Together, we will achieve historic cooperation between Business and Labor that will restore the American Dream for Working Families."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

He added, "Lori's strong support from both the Business and Labor communities will ensure that the Labor Department can unite Americans of all backgrounds behind our Agenda for unprecedented National Success - Making America Richer, Wealthier, Stronger and more Prosperous than ever before!"

Chavez-DeRemer was first elected to Congress in 2022 and lost re-election in a close race against Democrat Janelle Bynum earlier this month. (Ben Lee/Handout via REUTERS)

Chavez-DeRemer was first elected to Congress in 2022, and [lost re-election](#) in a close race against Democrat Janelle Bynum earlier this month.

Chavez-DeRemer's candidacy was backed by the Teamsters union, who Trump allies had been trying to court earlier this year in their bid to broaden the Republican base ahead of the 2024 election.

"Thank you @realDonaldTrump for putting American workers first by nominating Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer for US Labor Secretary," Sean O'Brien, General president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, wrote on X after the announcement.

"Nearly a year ago, you joined us for a @Teamsters roundtable and pledged to listen to workers and find common ground to protect and respect labor in America. You put words into action.

Now let's grow wages and improve working conditions nationwide. Congratulations to @LChavezDeRemer on your nomination! North America's strongest union is ready to work with you every step of the way to expand good union jobs and rebuild our nation's middle class. Let's get to work! #TeamsterStrong."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Chavez-DeRemer is the fourth current House Republican selected for the new Trump administration.

She previously shared a statement after the Teamsters endorsed her for the role.



"I'd be honored to have the opportunity to support President Trump's mission to empower and grow our nation's workforce," she said. "Hardworking Americans finally have a lifeline with the president, and I'd work tirelessly to support his impressive efforts to remake the Republican Party into the Party of the American worker," she said.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Donald Trump Friday picked former NFL player Scott Turner, who held a key role in his first administration, to lead the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.



“Scott is an NFL Veteran, who, during my First Term, served as the First Executive Director of the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council (WHORC), helping to lead an Unprecedented Effort that Transformed our Country’s most distressed communities,” Trump said in his [announcement](#).

The efforts, combined with then-HUD Secretary Ben Carson, were maximized through Scott's guidance while overseeing 16 federal agencies, said Trump.

The agencies implemented more than 200 policy actions that furthered the nation's economic development, the president-elect added.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

If Turner, 52, is confirmed, he will lead an agency that is tasked with enforcing housing laws, managing programs addressing housing needs, administering rental subsidies for lower-income families, and handling cases of housing discrimination, reports [The New York Post.](#)

Turner, if confirmed, is expected to carry out several of Trump's campaign promises, including reversing President Joe Biden's fair housing policies and overhauling national homelessness programs.

Trump's first-administration WHORC initiative was created in 2018 to "encourage public and private investment" in low-income census tracts that had been designated "opportunity zones" by his 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

Turner became the chairman of the Center for Education Opportunity at America First Policy Institute after Trump lost to Biden in 2020.

He served in the Texas House of Representatives from 2013 to 2017, and before he turned to politics played for nine seasons in the NFL for the then-Washington Redskins (now Commanders), the San Diego Chargers, and the Denver Broncos.

He is a graduate of the University of Illinois and is the founder and CEO of his family's Foundation, Community Engagement and Opportunity Council (CEOC) which works to revitalize U.S. communities through economic opportunity, sports, and mentorship, Trump said in his announcement.

Turner also serves on the board of the American Cornerstone Institute and is an associate pastor of the Prestonwood Baptist Church in Texas. He and his wife Robin are the parents of a son.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President Trump has nominated former Rep. Dave Weldon, R-Fla., to serve as the director for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention during his incoming administration.



"I am thrilled to announce that former Congressman, Dr. Dave Weldon, is nominated to serve as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)," Trump [posted](#) on his Truth Social platform Friday.

Weldon served in Congress from 1995 to 2009 representing Florida's 15th Congressional District.

An Army veteran and medical doctor, Weldon served on several committees, including Appropriations, Health and Human Services, Education and Labor, and Science.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

He returned to private practice following his career in politics and has questioned the safety of some vaccines, a stance that likely won favors with the new administration looking to reset the public perception of the agency.

"Americans have lost trust in the CDC and in our Federal Health Authorities, who have engaged in censorship, data manipulation, and misinformation," Trump [said](#) in a previous statement. "Given the current Chronic Health Crisis in our Country, the CDC must step up and correct past errors to focus on the Prevention of Disease.

"The current Health of America is critical, and CDC will play a big role in helping to ensure Americans have the tools and resources they need to understand the underlying causes of disease, and the solutions to cure these diseases," Trump added.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President Trump has selected Russell Vought to be the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.



Russell Vought has been selected to lead the Office of Management and Budget, a post he held during Trump's first term.

Vought previously served as the director of the agency, which helps craft the president's budget, acts as the central regulatory gatekeeper and executes the president's agenda across the government.

He also authored a key chapter in [Project 2025](#), a 900-page conservative wish-list that sought to expand presidential power and impose an ultra-conservative social vision.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Vought served as the Republican National Committee's 2024 platform policy director.

"He did an excellent job serving in this role in my First Term," Trump said in announcing Vought. "We cut four Regulations for every new Regulation, and it was a Great Success!"

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Donald Trump on Friday tapped Dr. Janette Nesheiwat, an emergency physician and disaster relief specialist, to serve as the next U.S. Surgeon General.



Nesheiwat, the medical director for CityMD urgent care clinics and a frequent Fox News medical contributor has been recognized for her leadership during major healthcare crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

Trump praised her as a "fierce advocate" for preventive medicine and affordable healthcare, citing her unwavering commitment to saving and treating thousands of American lives.

Nesheiwat has a history of service during emergencies, including providing on-the-ground care after Hurricane Katrina and the Joplin, Missouri, tornado. As a member of the Samaritan's Purse Disaster Assistance Relief Team, she has offered medical aid in some of the world's most challenging environments.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Trump recognized her ability to lead during difficult times, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the early months of the outbreak, she worked on the front lines in one of the hardest-hit areas.

Her work extends beyond disaster response. She has consistently advocated for public health measures, emphasizing the importance of preventive care and healthy living.

Trump expressed confidence that Nesheiwat would be instrumental in advancing his vision of "making America healthy again."

If confirmed, Nesheiwat will succeed Dr. Vivek Murthy and will be tasked with addressing ongoing public health challenges, including chronic disease prevention, access to affordable care, and preparing the country for future health emergencies.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President Trump has tapped Johns Hopkins surgeon Martin Marty Makary, who has made a name for himself by challenging status quo ideas in the medical establishment, to serve as the next Commissioner of the Federal Food and Drug Administration.



Trump announced the pick on [Truth Social](#), where he said Makary would guide the agency to address “harmful” chemicals and pharmaceuticals to combat childhood chronic illnesses.

Makary will “restore FDA to the Gold Standard of Scientific Research, and cut the bureaucratic red tape at the Agency to make sure Americans get the Medical Cures and Treatments they deserve,” Trump said in a statement.

Makary is a close ally of Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Trump’s pick for Health and Human Services secretary. Both positions require Senate confirmation. Makary and RFK Jr. are proponents of the [“Make America Healthy Again”](#) movement, which aims to end chronic disease by improving the nation’s food supply and rooting out corruption in health care.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

As leader of the FDA, Makary would be in charge of regulating food, drugs, medical devices, and tobacco products. He would answer to RFK Jr., whose FDA agenda, based on his public statements, might include loosening regulation of raw milk, applying extra scrutiny to vaccine safety data, and pushing to eliminate drug and device company user fees that help fund the agency. Those user fees are set by Congress.

Related Story



['We dodged a bullet': Biotech and pharma react to selection of Marty Makary for FDA commissioner](#)

RFK Jr. has a long history of [anti-vaccine advocacy](#), including through a nonprofit he founded called [Children's Health Defense](#). He and other MAHA members backed off more inflammatory anti-vaccine rhetoric recently, instead emphasizing their desire for more transparency and data around the products. It's unclear exactly what data they are seeking.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

“What is scary and dangerous for health care is not RFK Jr.,” Makary told [Fox News](#) on Nov. 17. “It’s the food pyramid lie that’s been out there for 60 years. It’s the medical establishment that lied to us about opioids for 20 years saying that it was not addictive. It’s the vaccine mandates ignoring natural immunity.”

Makary, a pancreatic surgeon, has been a celebrity in the medical world for years. He rose to prominence in the early 2000s for [developing a simple pre-operation routine](#) to reduce surgical errors called “The Surgery Checklist.” Public health expert Atul Gawande popularized the approach in his 2009 book, “The Checklist Manifesto.”

In addition to his role at Johns Hopkins, he’s the chief medical officer of the [telehealth company Sesame](#) and serves on the board of the ophthalmology company Harrow Health.

Makary has criticized and researched various flaws in the U.S. health care system throughout his career, from investigating [deaths due to medical errors](#) to calling out drugmakers for [exploiting the FDA’s rare disease drug](#) program. He’s pushed for [hospital price transparency](#) and for many nonprofit hospitals to [pay taxes](#).

Makary became a more controversial figure with the arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic.

He aligned with traditional public health experts in some ways, supporting [universal masking](#) and the early doses of the [Covid-19 vaccines](#). [On the other hand](#), he called the practice of compulsory masking for children “[abusive](#),” opposed Covid vaccine mandates, and questioned whether the potential risks for young people of Covid-19 shots, including [myocarditis](#), outweighed mRNA vaccine benefits.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

[What letting RFK Jr. 'go wild' might mean for Trump's FDA](#)

In 2021, Makary [criticized FDA leadership](#) for not approving drugs quickly enough during the pandemic. Fellow MAHA advocates have more recently lambasted the agency for being too lenient on drug companies, with many pointing to the revolving door between FDA and industry as evidence of corruption.



It's unclear whether Makary will follow through on RFK Jr.'s [promise to intimidate FDA](#) career civil servants who he sees as "part of this corrupt system." It's also unclear how RFK Jr.'s vaccine skepticism would affect Makary's approach to these products.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President Trump has chosen Brooke Rollins, president of the America First Policy Institute, to be U.S. Agriculture Secretary.



"As our next Secretary of Agriculture, Brooke will spearhead the effort to protect American Farmers, who are truly the backbone of our Country," Trump said in a statement.

If confirmed by the Senate, Rollins would lead a 100,000-person agency with offices in every county in the country, whose remit includes farm and nutrition programs, forestry, home and farm lending, food safety, rural development, agricultural research, trade, and more. It had a budget of \$437.2 billion in 2024.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Trump's transition team did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The nominee's agenda would carry implications for American diets and wallets, both urban and rural. Department of Agriculture officials and staff negotiate trade deals, guide dietary recommendations, inspect meat, fight wildfires, and support rural broadband, among other activities.

The America First Policy Institute is a right-leaning think tank whose personnel have worked closely with Trump's campaign to help shape policy for his incoming administration. She chaired the Domestic Policy Council during Trump's first term.

If confirmed, Rollins would advise the administration on how and whether to implement clean fuel tax credits for biofuels at a time when the sector is hoping to grow through the production of sustainable aviation fuel.

The nominee would also guide next year's renegotiation of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade deal, in the shadow of disputes over Mexico's attempt to bar imports of genetically modified corn and Canada's dairy import quotas.

Trump has said he again plans to institute sweeping tariffs that are likely to affect the farm sector.

He was considering offering the role to former Sen. Kelly Loeffler, a staunch ally whom he chose to co-chair his inaugural committee, CNN reported on Friday.

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President-elect Donald Trump has named Sebastian Gorka as Senior Director for Counterterrorism, after he briefly served in Trump's first administration, though Gorka has also faced criticism for appearing to support a far-right Hungarian political.



Gorka served as an advisor in Trump's first administration, though he was reportedly forced out.

Gorka, 54, was born to Hungarian parents in London in 1970 and moved to Piliscsaba, Hungary, in the early 1990s before becoming a U.S. citizen in 2012, [allowing](#) Gorka to work for the federal government, [according](#) to NBC News.

Gorka [reportedly](#) ran a failed mayoral campaign in Piliscsaba in 2006, losing the local election by less than 40 votes, and then attempted to launch a political party tied to Hungary's ultranationalist movement.

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He was first associated with Trump's political career in 2015, when Trump's campaign paid Gorka \$8,000 for policy consulting, [according](#) to federal election commission filings, and he [wrote](#) in 2016 that he had discussed national security issues with the then-presidential candidate.

Trump then appointed Gorka as a deputy assistant and counterterrorism strategist in January 2017, during which Gorka advocated for Trump's travel ban for predominantly Muslim countries and refugees.

After exiting the White House in August 2017, Gorka worked as a commentator on Fox News, Newsmax and hosted his radio show, "America First with Sebastian Gorka."

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President Trump said that he has choosing former State Department official Alex Wong to serve as Deputy National Security Adviser.



Wong, who served as deputy special representative for North Korea during the first Trump administration, "helped negotiate my Summit with North Korean Leader, Kim Jong Un," Trump said in a statement.

Trump also chose Sebastian Gorka to serve as White House senior director for counterterrorism, saying he had more than 30 years of national security experience.

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Trump Taps Retired General Kellogg for Envoy to Ukraine, Russia

Wednesday, 27 November 2024 02:19 PM EST

Donald Trump has tapped Keith Kellogg, a retired lieutenant general who has presented him with a plan to end the war in Ukraine, to serve as a special envoy for the conflict, the president-elect wrote on Truth Social on Wednesday.



Kellogg, who was the chief of staff for the White House National Security Council during Trump's 2017-2021 term and national security adviser to then-Vice President Mike Pence, will likely play a central role in attempting to resolve the conflict in his new position.

While there is currently no special envoy for the war in Ukraine, Trump had privately expressed interest in creating the position.

Earlier on Wednesday, Reuters was first to report that Trump was eyeing Kellogg for the role.

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Quickly winding down the Ukraine war was one of Trump's central campaign promises, though he has avoided discussing how he would do so.

"Keith has led a distinguished Military and Business career, including serving in highly sensitive National Security roles in my first Administration," Trump said on social media.

Kellogg's plan for ending the war, which began when Russia invaded Ukrainian sovereign territory, involves freezing the battle lines at their prevailing locations and forcing both Kyiv and Moscow to the negotiating table, Reuters reported in June.

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President-elect Donald Trump said Tuesday he chose Jim O'Neill to serve as deputy secretary of Health and Human Services.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was previously selected to lead the department.



Trump wrote in a statement announcing the move:

"I am very pleased to nominate Jim O'Neill to serve as the Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services to work alongside Robert F. Kennedy Jr. He will oversee all operations and improve Management, Transparency, and Accountability to, Make America Healthy Again.

"Jim previously served as the Principal Associate Deputy Secretary of HHS. He led reforms at FDA to overhaul Food Safety Regulations, and implemented the FDA Amendments Act, which improved Drug and Medical Device Safety, and ensured greater protection for Public Health. He helped design and launch the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) to improve the Health response to Emergencies and Disasters. After serving at HHS, Jim became a Managing Director of Clarium Capital, a Global Macro Investment Fund.

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As CEO of the Thiel Foundation, Jim funded Innovative Nonprofits that promote Technology and Freedom.

"By co-founding the Thiel Fellowship, he helped launch the careers of young Entrepreneurs, who founded Science and Tech Companies worth Hundreds of Billions of Dollars. More recently, Jim served as CEO of SENS Research Foundation (SRF).

He led efforts to research and develop Regenerative Medicine Solutions for age-related diseases, such as Alzheimer's, Cancer, and Heart Disease. Under his leadership, SRF made progress toward rejuvenating the immune system, eliminating senescent cells, rejuvenating the neocortex, and obviating mitochondrial mutations.

"Jim and RFK Jr. will fight in unison to ensure every American, and especially our most precious resource, our children, will live long and healthy lives and, Make America Great and Healthy Again!"

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President-elect Donald Trump has nominated Michigan Republican Party Chairman Pete Hoekstra as the U.S. ambassador to Canada.



Hoekstra, who was [named chairman earlier this year](#), previously served as a U.S. House representative in Michigan's 2nd District and as the U.S. ambassador to the Netherlands during Trump's first term.

"He did an outstanding job as United States Ambassador to the Netherlands during our first four years, and I am confident that he will continue to represent our Country well in this new role," Trump said in a statement on Wednesday.

Hoekstra [posted on X](#) after the announcement, saying, "Honored for the opportunity to serve. Thank you, Mr. President."

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Hoekstra was recognized as Michigan GOP chairman after Kristina Karamo was voted out in January. He was endorsed by Trump for the role and received backing from the Republican National Committee.

A Kent County judge [ruled that Karamo was properly removed from her role](#) and could no longer hold the position. However, she refused to step down and [asked the Michigan Court of Appeals to reverse the ruling](#) over the summer.

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President-elect Donald Trump on Tuesday said he was picking John Phelan, who co-founded MSD Capital, as Navy secretary:



"It is my great honor to announce John Phelan as our next United States Secretary of the Navy! John will be a tremendous force for our Naval Servicemembers, and a steadfast leader in advancing my America First vision. He will put the business of the U.S. Navy above all else.

"John has excelled in every endeavor, from founding and leading Rugger Management LLC, to co-founding MSD Capital, LP, the Private Investment Firm for Michael Dell, CEO of Dell Technologies. His Record of Success speaks for itself - A true Champion of American Enterprise and Ingenuity!

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"John's intelligence and leadership are unmatched. John holds an MBA from the Harvard Business School, and is a truly brilliant guy! His incredible knowledge and experience will elevate the lives of the brave Americans who serve our Nation.

John will deliver real results for our Navy and our Country. I look forward to working with him.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Trump has named longtime ally Kashyap "Kash" Patel, who has been a frequent and harsh critic of the FBI, to serve as the bureau's next director in the [new administration](#).



Patel, 44, is an attorney with experience in national security, intelligence and counterterrorism and helped uncover the bureau's surveillance of the Trump campaign and first term. He has been a member of Trump's transition team, advising the administration on other appointments.

Trump announced Patel's appointment in a Truth Social post on Saturday.

"Kash is a brilliant lawyer, investigator, and 'America First' fighter who has spent his career exposing corruption, defending Justice, and protecting the American People," Trump's statement read. "He played a pivotal role in uncovering the Russia, Russia, Russia Hoax, standing as an advocate for truth, accountability, and the Constitution."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

The current FBI director, Christopher Wray, is currently serving a 10-year appointment which began in 2017. Wray will either need to be fired or resign in order for Patel to take the position.

Patel is widely seen as a staunch Trump loyalist who will implement Trump's desired reforms within the agency. During the first Trump administration, he served as senior director for counterterrorism at the National Security Council and later as the chief of staff for acting Secretary of Defense Christopher Miller, from 2020-2021.

Patel has been a fierce critic of bureaucracy and corruption. In 2023, Patel published a book called "Government Gangsters: The Deep State, the Truth, and the Battle for Our Democracy," which delved into "the major players and tactics within the permanent government bureaucracy," according to the book's description.

Media outlets have labeled Patel an "extremely controversial pick," with MSNBC's Morning Joe calling him the "personification of MAGA rage about the Justice Department and the FBI."

"I would shut down the FBI Hoover Building on day one and reopen the next day as a museum of the Deep State," Patel said in an interview with "The Shawn Ryan Show."

The attorney started his career as a public defender in Florida's Miami-Dade County after attending the University of Richmond and earning a law degree from Pace University in New York and a certificate in international law from University College London Faculty of Laws.

In 2014, Patel became a federal prosecutor at the Department of Justice National Security Division, a role in which he led prosecutions against members of Al-Qaeda, ISIS and other terror groups.

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Patel has served in several roles in the federal government, including most recently as the chief of staff to the Department of Defense and Deputy Assistant to President Trump during Trump's first term.

Prior to his Pentagon stint, Patel served as deputy director of National Intelligence and as deputy assistant to the president on the National Security Council.



Before joining the first Trump administration, Patel served as the national security advisor and senior counsel for the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI), where he reported to Committee Chair Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif. In that role, he helped to oversee the House probe into Russian interference in the 2016 election and uncovered unlawful surveillance of the Trump campaign by the FBI and DOJ.

The FBI director position requires Senate confirmation. In an X post on Saturday night, Trump ally Mike Davis called Patel "unquestionably qualified."

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Kash Patel greets the crowd during a campaign rally at Minden-Tahoe Airport, in Minden, Nevada, Oct. 2, 2022.



"I served as Senate Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley's chief counsel for nominations – the job responsible for the confirmation of the FBI director," Davis wrote. "Kash Patel will win Senate confirmation. He'll bring much-needed reforms to a broken, corrupt FBI."

Trump's statement said that Patel will work with Pam Bondi, the nominee for attorney general, to reform the FBI.

"This FBI will end the growing crime epidemic in America, dismantle the migrant criminal gangs, and stop the evil scourge of human and drug trafficking across the Border," Trump's post concluded. "Kash will work under our great Attorney General, Pam Bondi, to bring back Fidelity, Bravery, and Integrity to the FBI."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

US President Donald Trump has appointed podcaster and commentator Dan Bongino as deputy director of the FBI.



Trump posted on social media that Bongino was "a man of incredible love and passion for our Country" and would serve under newly confirmed FBI Director Kash Patel.

Bongino, 50, who has worked for the New York police department and the Secret Service, is a staunch Trump ally who has pushed false claims about the 2020 election.

His appointment, which does not require Senate confirmation, means neither of the top two people running the agency has FBI experience.

"Thank you Mr President," Bongino wrote on social media on Sunday night.

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The deputy director, who is responsible for supervising all domestic and international operations, is usually a career agent with years of experience.

Bongino hosts daily podcast The Dan Bongino Show, whose Facebook posts often attract more attention than those of Fox News and CNN combined.

In Friday's episode there was a segment about the FBI, in which he praised Patel and tried to allay Democratic fears the agency will be used to target Trump's enemies.

- Who is Kash Patel, the new FBI boss?
- Has Trump kept his day one promises?

"Kash Patel is there for one reason, he is there to make the FBI great again," he said.

He's committed to fighting crime and only that, he added, calling his new boss the "change agent" the FBI needs.

"How amazing would it be in four years to look back with a good, high-quality, reformed FBI free of woke culture and DEI that goes out making headline, big arrests of real bad guys destroying your community. How good would that be?"

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Watch: Trump's pick for FBI Director - Kash Patel

Bongino's appointment comes with FBI in flux after the justice department forced out some of its top officials and demanded the names of agents who investigated the 2021 riot by Trump supporters at the US Capitol.

Critics have said that threatened the FBI's political independence.

Bongino and Patel are both seen as Trump loyalists. Bongino, on Monday on his daily radio show, addressed concerns about political partisanship in his content.

"We play different roles in our life, and each one requires a different skill set," he said.

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He later added: "We are going to re-establish faith in this institution. The FBI belongs to the American people." Bongino, who has run for Congress three times, hosted Trump on his podcast ahead of last year's election.

Episodes of his programme from the last week include titles such as "Trump Keeps Delivering And The Libs Are Seething" and "The Only People Who Love Crime Are Criminals!!!"

He has repeated Trump's false claim that he won the 2020 election and advanced another conspiracy that Joe Biden's administration was behind the FBI search for classified documents at Trump's Florida home.

"EVERYONE involved in this DOJ/FBI abomination, from the management down to the agents, must be immediately terminated when the tyrants are thrown out of office," he said on X.

In 2018, when talking about his career as a prolific conservative political commentator, Bongino said: "My life is all about owning the libs now."

With a combative persona, he can often be found firing back at Trump's detractors on X, including a long-running spat with horror author Stephen King.

In his social media announcement on Sunday, Trump said that Bongino would give up the podcast in order to serve in the FBI role. Patel was last week narrowly confirmed by the Senate to lead the law-enforcement agency that he has long attacked.

He denied any plans to pursue political vendettas and has promised to "rebuild" the bureau.

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The FBI has 38,000 employees and a budget of more than \$11bn.

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President-elect Trump has nominated Charles Kushner, the father of Jared Kushner, to serve in his new administration as the U.S. ambassador to France.

I am pleased to nominate Charles Kushner, of New Jersey, to serve as the U.S. Ambassador to France," Trump wrote in a Truth Social post on Saturday. "He is a tremendous business leader, philanthropist, & dealmaker, who will be a strong advocate representing our Country & its interests.



Trump has nominated Charles Kushner, father of Jared Kushner, to serve in his new administration.

Trump touted Kushner's accomplishments in his statement on Saturday, calling Kushner Companies "one of the largest & most successful privately held Real Estate firms in the Nation."

"He was recognized as New Jersey Entrepreneur of the Year by Ernst & Young, appointed to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, & served as a

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Commissioner, & Chairman, of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, as well as on the Boards of our top institutions, including NYU," Trump said.



Charles Kushner, founder and former chairman of Kushner Cos, left, arrives at the funeral of Ivana Trump in New York City, July 20, 2022 His son, Jared, worked closely with me in the White House, in particular on Operation Warp Speed, Criminal Justice Reform, & the Abraham Accords," his statement concluded. "Together, we will strengthen America's partnership with France, our oldest Ally, & one of our greatest!"

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President Trump has announced the appointment of Derek S. Maltz as Acting Administrator of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. Maltz replaces Anne Milgram who departed the agency last week.



Maltz is a passionate, dedicated, career special agent who served 28 years at DEA before retiring in 2014. He also proudly served as the Chief of the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force, the country's oldest and largest drug task force. Most recently Maltz worked in the private sector.

Maltz is renowned for his relentless drive, strategic acumen, and no-nonsense approach. As DEA Acting Administrator, he is responsible for leading the enforcement, intelligence, regulatory, and awareness efforts of the agency.

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During his career at DEA, Maltz spent nearly a decade leading DEA's Special Operations Division and transforming DEA's work with international law enforcement partners. His leadership will be instrumental in maintaining momentum as DEA continues to disrupt and dismantle the drug trafficking networks responsible for flooding the United States with dangerous drugs such as fentanyl. Today, DEA's foreign footprint remains one of the largest among federal agencies.

"This appointment is the honor of my lifetime. I promise to lead the men and women of DEA with integrity and grit. DEA will continue to be relentless in our pursuit of the cartels who threaten this great nation," said DEA Acting Administrator Derek S. Maltz.

"DEA is positioned to lead the nation's drug enforcement and intelligence efforts, working closely within the federal, state and local partners, to seize record amounts of illicit drugs; bring the world's most ruthless narco-terrorists to justice; and save American lives by creating a vast network of community partners to help spread critical awareness. We want every American to understand the threat we face and know exactly how DEA is working to protect you."

A proud public servant, Maltz has always put the safety and security of the American people above all else. One of Maltz' greatest attributes is his ability to bring people together to create a lasting impact.

Maltz has worked closely with families affected by fentanyl to spread awareness, and he vows to use the resources of the federal government, along with our valued state and local partners, to further promote awareness efforts and turn the tide on the devastating drug crisis facing the United States.

While Maltz has long advocated for families, he has also been a champion of law enforcement's fight against global drug trafficking and terrorism. In 2023, Maltz testified at the United States House Judiciary Committee meeting [*The Fentanyl Crisis in America: Inaction is No Longer An Option.*](#)

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Maltz also appeared in front of the Ohio State Legislature in 2019 in a hearing held to advise on the designation of Mexican drug cartels as foreign terrorist organizations.

As a result of his leadership, Maltz has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards including the Presidential Rank Award for his accomplishments throughout his law enforcement career. Maltz is a proud graduate of Syracuse University.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Trump nominated Warren A. Stephens to serve as the ambassador to the United Kingdom, marking off another role in his growing list of administration nominations.



"Over the last 38 years, while serving as the president, chairman, and CEO of his company, Stephens Inc., Warren has built a wonderful financial services firm, while selflessly giving back to his community as a philanthropist," Trump said in a post on Truth Social.

"Warren has always dreamed of serving the United States full-time. I am thrilled that he will now have that opportunity as the top Diplomat, representing the U.S.A. to one of America's most cherished and beloved Allies."

[Trump then congratulated](#) Stephens, his wife Harriet, their three children, Miles, John and Laura, and their six grandchildren.

The announcement comes as Trump continues to fill several positions in his administration.

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According to the Stephens Inc. website, Trump's pick serves as the chairman, president and CEO of the privately owned diversified financial services firm headquartered in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Stephens is a graduate of Washington and Lee University where he received a BA in economics. He later earned an MBA from Wake Forest University.

Under [Stephens' leadership](#), the company expanded into major U.S. markets and opened offices in London, U.K., and Frankfurt, Germany.

Stephens has also served as chairman of the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD) District Conduct Committee, and currently sits on the Board of Directors of Dillard's Inc.

In terms of civic and community involvement, Stephens has chaired the board for the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts; the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts Foundation Board; the Episcopal Collegiate School Foundation Board; and served on the Board of Directors for the Central Arkansas Boys and Girls Club, among other things.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President-elect Donald Trump has tapped former Georgia Sen. Kelly Loeffler to lead the Small Business Administration.



Loeffler, 53, is the current co-chair of Trump's second inaugural committee. She is also the former CEO of Bakkt, a commodity and cryptocurrency trading platform that Trump's Truth Social media company has been in talks to purchase. And she is married to billionaire Jeffrey Sprecher, [a Trump donor and CEO of Intercontinental Exchange](#).

"Kelly will bring her experience in business and Washington to reduce red tape, and unleash opportunity for our Small Businesses to grow, innovate, and thrive," [Trump said in a post on Truth Social on Wednesday](#). "She will focus on ensuring that SBA is accountable to Taxpayers by cracking down on waste, fraud, and regulatory overreach."

The Georgia Republican lost her bid for a full term in a January 2021 runoff of a 2020 special election against Sen. Raphael Warnock (D-Ga.).

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Loeffler was one of Trump's most vocal allies while in the Senate and vowed to supporters that she would challenge the 2020 Electoral College results until the Jan. 6 storming of the Capitol.

In 2017, Trump picked Linda McMahon to lead the Small Business Administration during his first term; she stepped down in 2019 to help with his reelection campaign. McMahon, who kept a relatively low profile at SBA and was seen as a loyal foot soldier inside the White House, is Trump's pick to serve as secretary of Education in his second term.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President Trump on Wednesday picked former congressman Billy Long to be commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service tax body.



Trump cited Long's previous experience in real estate and as a business and tax advisor in a [post on Truth Social](#), where he made the announcement:

"I am pleased to announce that former Congressman Billy Long, of the Great State of Missouri, will be appointed to serve as the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Billy brings 32 years of experience running his own businesses in Real Estate and, as one of the premier Auctioneers in the Country.

He then served 12 years in Congress, because he 'felt it was important for his constituents to have a Representative who has signed the front of a check!'

"Since leaving Congress, Billy has worked as a Business and Tax advisor, helping Small Businesses navigate the complexities of complying with the IRS Rules and Regulations. I have known Billy since 2011.

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He is an extremely hard worker, and respected by all, especially by those who know him in Congress. Taxpayers and the wonderful employees of the IRS will love having Billy at the helm. He is the consummate 'people person,' well respected on both sides of the aisle."

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

Trump announces Adam Boehler as special envoy for hostage affairs.



Adam Boehler, the CEO of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation holds a briefing in the Rose Garden at the White House in Washington, U.S., April 14, 2020. REUTERS/Leah Millis/File Photo [Purchase Licensing Rights, opens new tab](#)

Dec 4 (Reuters) - U.S. President-elect Donald Trump said on Wednesday that Adam Boehler would be his special presidential envoy for hostage affairs.

Trump said Boehler was a lead negotiator for him on his team that worked the [Abraham Accords](#) in 2020, a series of normalization agreements between Israel and Arab nations.

"He has negotiated with some of the toughest people in the World, including the Taliban, but Adam knows that NO ONE is tougher than the United States of America, at least when President Trump is its Leader. Adam will work tirelessly to bring our Great American Citizens HOME," Trump said.

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Boehler is a former chief executive officer of the U.S. International Development Finance Corp, a new federal agency created during Trump's first administration ending in 2021.

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

President Trump selected former Corder Chief [Rodney Scott](#) as the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP):



Rodney Scott, chief of the Border Patrol's San Diego sector, stands for a portrait near the border wall on April 25, 2018 in San Diego, California. (Carolyn Van Houten/The Washington Post via Getty Images)

Scott is a former Border Patrol chief who served as chief from 2020 until he was ousted by the Biden administration in mid-2021. Since then, he has been a fierce critic of the Biden administration's immigration policies and its handling of the crisis at the southern border.

Before being chief, he had led the San Diego Sector, one of the most challenging sectors in the country. He has been highly critical of DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, and recently accused him of having "intentionally" opened the southern border.

["Rodney served nearly](#) three decades in the Border Patrol, building vast experience and knowledge in Law Enforcement and Border Security.

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Rodney served as the 24th Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol, where he implemented Remain-in-Mexico, Title 42, Safe Third Agreements, and achieved record low levels of illegal immigration," Trump said in a statement on Truth Social. "He began his career with the Border Patrol in 1992 at the Imperial Beach Station, San Diego Sector.

Following the September 11th terrorist attacks, he served as an Anti-Terrorism Advisor to the CBP Commissioner, and later, as Deputy Executive Director of the CBP, Office of Anti-Terrorism."

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Former U.S. Sen. David Perdue, a Georgia native, accepted an offer from President Trump to serve as the next U.S. ambassador to China.



Announced Thursday evening, Perdue is the third Georgian nominated to join Trump's administration. Trump said he has been a "loyal supporter and friend."

"As a Fortune 500 CEO, who had a 40-year international business career, and served in the U.S. Senate, David brings valuable expertise to help build our relationship with China," [Trump said in his announcement](#).

"He will be instrumental in implementing my strategy to maintain peace in the region, and a productive working relationship with China's leaders."

Perdue served as a U.S. Senator representing Georgia from 2015 to 2021. He unsuccessfully ran for governor of the state in 2022. In a [social media post](#), Perdue said he is excited for the opportunity.

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“Having lived in Asia on two occasions, I understand the gravity of this responsibility and look forward to implementing President Trump’s strategy to make the world safe again and to represent the United States’ interests in China,” he explained.

The nomination was received with acclamations from other Georgia Republicans.

“Another strong nomination from Trump,” [said U.S. Rep. Rick Allen](#). “Perdue’s international business expertise will suit him well in carrying out President Trump’s peace-through-strength policies as our next Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China.”

Perdue will join former U.S. Sen. Kelly Loeffler, who was the second Georgian nominated for a spot in Trump’s administration. If confirmed, Loeffler will lead the Small Business Association.

Former U.S. Rep. Doug Collins, who ran against Loeffler for the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate in 2020, is Trump’s choice for secretary of Veterans Affairs.

“Georgia is rolling DEEP in the Trump Administration,” [said U.S. Rep. Mike Collins of Perdue as Trump’s latest appointment](#).

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Trump To Restructure A New American Government

[President Trump announced](#) that Alina Habba would be joining his White House team as the Counselor to the President.



Trump named his lawyer Alina Habba as Counselor to the President.

"Alina has been a tireless advocate for Justice, a fierce Defender of the Rule of Law, and an invaluable Advisor to my Campaign and Transition Team," Trump wrote in a post on Truth Social. "She has been unwavering in her loyalty, and unmatched in her resolve - standing with me through numerous 'trials,' battles, and countless days in court."

The president-elect noted that there are not many who understand the weaponization of the "injustice" system as well as Habba.

"As a first generation American of Middle Eastern Heritage, she has become a role model for women in Law and Politics, most recently being named Chaldean Woman of the Year," [Trump continued](#). "Congratulations to Alina, her husband Gregg, and her three beautiful children, Chloe, Luke, and Parker."

Habba responded on X, saying, "Honor of my life to serve the 45th and 47th President of the American people."

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Trump announced that he was nominating Christopher Landau to serve as U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, who will work alongside Secretary of State nominee Marco Rubio.



Donald Trump nominated his former ambassador to Mexico, Christopher Landau, to serve as deputy secretary of State, as the president-elect continued to fill out the foreign policy arm of his incoming administration on Sunday night.

If confirmed by the Senate, Landau will work with Trump's secretary of State on a range of pressing issues, including illegal immigration, which the president-elect heavily ran on during his election campaign, and ongoing wars in Israel and Ukraine.

Trump has tapped Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida to serve as secretary of State.

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In [a statement](#), the former New York real estate mogul said Landau will work closely with Rubio "to promote our Nation's security and prosperity through an America First Foreign Policy."

He also lauded Landau for being "one of our Country's great lawyers."

"I'm deeply honored by, and grateful for, this nomination and the opportunity to work with Senator @marcorubio to implement President @realdonaldtrump's foreign policy agenda," Landau said in [a statement](#) on X.

Born in Madrid, Spain, Landau speaks fluent spanish and earned a Certificate in Latin American studies at Harvard, where he also earned his Bachelor of Arts in history in 1985, according to [his biography](#) on the U.S. Embassy in Mexico website.

He later clerked for Clarence Thomas when the future Supreme Court justice was a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. He then clerked for conservative Associated Justices Antonin Scalia and Thomas on the U.S. high court in 1990 and 1991.

After years of practicing law, Landau was confirmed as the U.S. ambassador to Mexico in 2019, a position he held under 2021.

In [a Spanish-language statement](#) addressed to the people of Mexico on X, Landau said that if confirmed by the Senate, "the relationship between our countries will continue to be one of my top priorities."

"Even if I do not have the pleasure of living among you again, you will always be very present of me."

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President Trump's Special Assistant Natalie Harp said "confidentiality, speed, accuracy, and adaptability" are key to delivering for the president, as lawmakers who communicate with her regularly told Fox News Digital that she is "critical" in ensuring Congress is a "real partner" for the incoming administration.



Harp has worked alongside the president-elect throughout his campaign and [the transition](#), since 2022. The 33-year-old is expected to join the president at the White House for his second term, and Trump Transition Team sources say she will have an "important role" in the White House.

EXCLUSIVE: TRUMP SAYS MEDIA IS 'VITAL' TO MAKING AMERICA 'GREAT AGAIN,' VOWS TO WORK WITH 'FREE, FAIR AND OPEN' PRESS

But according to several top lawmakers, governors and members of Trump's team, Harp is more than just an assistant.

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Sources close to the transition team told Fox News Digital that Harp has been a "valuable resource" for getting information to the president "in a timely manner."

President-elect Trump and Natalie Harp on the golf course. (Trump campaign)

Steven Cheung, spokesman for the Trump Transition Team and incoming White House communications director, told Fox News Digital that Harp is "a trusted and valued member of President Trump's team."



"And she is certainly a big reason why his operation has been as successful as it has ever been," Cheung told Fox News Digital. "Her work ethic and dedication to helping President Trump achieve his historic victory is second to none."

"I believe she is an extra set of eyes and ears for President Trump," Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wy., told Fox News Digital. "Every time I have been with him, she has been close at hand."

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Barrasso explained that Harp is in regular communication with him and other senators and members of Congress via text message.

"I text her if I need to get to the president," Barrasso explained. "If he doesn't pick up the phone, I know to go to Natalie, and he gets the message."

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., also said he goes to Harp to set up anything from "golf to the most sensitive foreign policy matters."



"You want to get something to President Trump, she's the person to talk to," Graham told Fox News Digital. "I trust Natalie to keep anything I communicate to President Trump confidential. She is very dedicated to the president – she is very loyal and always professional and always polite."

Graham added: "She will promptly respond to requests by senators – I've heard that from others – and I feel like when I am communicating with Natalie, I am communicating in a sense of trust."

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In an interview with Fox News Digital, Harp touted the president for having "truly invested time in building a network of allies, in Congress, media, and business, that is unrivaled."

She said those relationships have "deep roots" and credited them to accessibility.

President Trump dictates to his assistant Natalie Harp, and she types. (Trump campaign)

"Communication by phone and by text is always open," Harp said.

South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster told Fox News Digital he's worked with Harp directly "on many occasions."

"She is the ultimate professional – highly driven, disciplined and loyal," McMaster said. "She has and will continue to serve President Trump and our country well."

Harp created a "mobile office" for the president during the campaign, telling Fox News Digital that she did so because the president wants to stay "accessible."

"Breaking news has no consideration for where you are. That's how our mobile office started," Harp said.

"Many times, the president wants to get his thoughts out on paper, so I'll take dictation, print, and then he works on it until he has the words just right for a viral Truth."

Harp said she had the idea to get a mobile printer to "speed up the process," noting that printers "aren't always accessible" on the golf course or on the road.

And Harp said the set-up is how they "get breaking information we can act on, in real time, and vice versa."

Harp told Fox News Digital she regularly communicates with that network of allies, sending news clippings and even polling members of Congress on timely issues and legislation.

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"He can virtually whip votes in a matter of minutes," Harp said.

Rep. Ronny Jackson, R-Texas, told Fox News Digital that Harp "keeps us in the loop" on Capitol Hill.

"If you want a Congress that represents a real partner for the incoming president, it's important to share information," Jackson told Fox News Digital. "Natalie is critical in making sure members of Congress feel like they're part of the president's team."



But in working for the president, Harp said "confidentiality, speed, accuracy, and adaptability" are "the nature of the job."

Natalie Harp has been President Trump's assistant since 2022. (Trump campaign)

"The president deserves nothing less," Harp told Fox News Digital. "Yes, he works 24/7, but it never feels like he's driving or pushing us to work harder. Rather, he inspires us to be more, and do more, because he sets the example himself."

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When asked what type of information Harp brings the president or shares with his allies, she said, "It depends."

"During the various witch hunts, I researched what legal experts and scholars were writing about the cases. When we were out campaigning, I monitored reviews to see what parts of the president's messaging were resonating best," she explained.

"I have a big database of websites that I source from. Sometimes I go through back-to-back, checking top headlines and, if I see one on an issue the president has been talking about or that he's interested in, I grab it."

Harp traveled with the president throughout the campaign, spent days in court as he battled now-dismissed cases against him, and was even with him during both assassination attempts in July in Butler, Pennsylvania, and September at Trump International Golf Course in Palm Beach, Florida.

TRUMP BLAMES BIDEN-HARRIS 'RHETORIC' FOR LATEST ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, SAYS HE WILL 'SAVE THE COUNTRY'

"We share a deep faith in God, but now, a 'miracle' is something we've not just read about, but lived, not once but two times," Harp said. "Some have said that they see a 'changed' Donald Trump after two assassination attempts. I disagree. These gut-wrenching experiences have not left him a different person, but only revealed to the world who he has always been."

Natalie Harp will join president Trump at the White House. (Trump campaign)

Harp said that is "the same misunderstanding that the 2024 presidential election is the story of Donald Trump's comeback."

"It isn't. He'd be the first to say so – he never went anywhere. It is others who left, only to return or, who never gave him a chance, that are finally coming around,"

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Harp said. "None of this is to say that the president hasn't changed at all through the years, but rather that the essence of who he is has only become more visible."

Harp recalled being in court with the president, when he would "occasionally close his eyes and listen."

"He is on a totally different plane, at peace with God, and unshakably focused. Nothing gets to him, because he puts his comfort second, and his purpose first," Harp said of the president.



"If people could just tune out the noise and prejudice coming from those who, whether purposefully or unintentionally, misunderstand him, you will see the heart of a man who had everything, but continues to risk it all, for love, of country, and the American people."

[FLASHBACK: MILLENNIAL FIGHTING RARE BONE CANCER RESPONDS TO BIDEN VOW: LAW SUPPORTED BY TRUMP HELPED SAVE MY LIFE](#)

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Harp studied business finance at Point Loma University and received her Master of Business Administration from Liberty University.

Harp, who battled and survived stage 2 bone cancer, credits Trump's 2018 "Right to Try" law with saving her life.

The measure allows terminally ill patients to access drug treatments that have not yet been fully approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

Harp penned an op-ed in 2019 about her experience with Right to Try, which went viral.

She appeared on "Fox & Friends" to share her story in June 2019. After her appearance, Trump tweeted, "Proud of Natalie!" and invited her onstage at his next event, in Washington D.C., at the [Faith and Freedom Coalition's](#) Road to Majority Conference, where she called him her "Good Samaritan."

"Donald Trump isn't just a believer in miracles, he helps to make them happen," Harp told Fox News Digital.

Barrasso, a physician, echoed Harp's sentiment about Right to Try, saying she "is a great success" of the legislation.

"It is possible she would not have been able to survive," Barrasso said. "The fact that she is still with us is a miracle itself, and she wants to spend every day thanking God for what she has, and she does an awful, awful lot with and for President Trump."

Harp later joined the Trump 2020 presidential campaign's advisory board and spoke at the 2020 Republican National Convention.

"She keeps everybody in a really good mood, and most importantly, she keeps the president in a really good mood, and I think she has been key to his success throughout the campaign," Rep. Ronny Jackson told Fox News Digital.

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"As a physician, from a psychological standpoint, when you are around people who are in a good mood, that are laughing, that are smiling, it makes you feel better as well – that's just human nature – and I think it's important to have someone like Natalie around, who never gets down about anything."

President Trump and his assistant, Natalie Harp. (Trump campaign)



"She's the first person up in the morning and the last person to go to bed," Jackson said. "The unbelievable work ethic, combined with her bubbly personality, is a unique combo that is really good for President Trump and really good for our country."

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President Donald Trump's [**nomination of Harmeet K. Dhillon**](#) to lead the Justice Department's civil rights division has Jewish students breathing a sigh of relief as incidents of antisemitism continue to run rampant at universities across the U.S.

Trump announced Dhillon's nomination for the role on Monday, hailing her as a civil rights warrior who has taken on prominent legal battles in defense of free speech, religious rights and anti-woke discrimination cases.

But it's Dhillon's outspoken position against Ivy League schools for their [**failure to combat antisemitism**](#) that has many students hopeful that help is on the way.

[AMERICANS ARE EAGER FOR CHANGE: HARMEET DHILLON](#)



Harmeet Dhillon, attorney and member of the Republican National Committee, speaks to members of the media during the Republican National Committee winter meeting in Dana Point, California, US, on Friday, Jan. 27, 2023.

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Dhillon has repeatedly taken a hard-line stance against antisemitism at U.S. universities. In April, Sahar Tarktak, a Yale student from Long Island, wrote on X that she was hospitalized after she was attacked by an anti-Israel mob for walking with her visibly Jewish friend on campus.

Dhillon urged Tartak and others to take legal action against the university and her attackers.

"Sue Yale. Sue every university that refuses to keep students safe based on their religion. Make them regret their choices," Dhillon responded on X. "Deplete their endowments. Sue each and every violent protester and organizers. Drain their bank accounts. Sew salt in their careers."

In a [separate video](#) circulating online, Dhillon described anti-Israel protesters who were blocking Jewish students from accessing their campuses as "little terrorists."

"If you want to link arms & block access to a campus...tap a cop on the head, f--- around and find out, you should be arrested & hauled off to jail...," Dhillon said in the clip. "I think these students are little terrorists. They're terrorizing Jewish students, and they're terrorizing everybody who wants to get an education at that campus and that is not permitted by the First Amendment..."

A webpage on Dhillon's law firm site [outlines its commitment](#) to representing victims of campus antisemitism as part of their larger mission of "upholding civil rights and defending constitutional principles across the nation."

JEWISH STUDENTS DESCRIBE GOING TO COLLEGE IN NYC AMID INTENSE ANTI-ISRAEL PROTESTS: 'TARGET ON MY BACK'

"We are proud to extend our unwavering legal support to Jewish individuals who have encountered discrimination, retaliation, or harassment in their school or workplace environments," the website reads. "Our firm is ready to allocate extensive resources to support individuals who have suffered due to antisemitism."

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Harmeet Dhillon gives a benediction at the end of the first day of the 2024 Republican National Convention at the Fiserv Forum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 15, 2024



Tartak, now a junior at Yale, praised Trump's nomination of Dhillon, telling Fox News Digital that she and other Jewish students are [still grappling](#) with disturbing antisemitic incidents on campus regularly.

"Because the university does not exhibit moral clarity and refuses to stand up for what's right, the environment at Yale has and will continue to be unsafe for Jewish students," she said. "It is so important and such a relief to have someone of her stature and role not only stand up for Jewish students but stand up for our country and our civilization. I wish she didn't have to."

Tartak said Trump's selection of Dhillon puts Yale and other universities "on notice" as he fulfills his vow to crack down on unchecked campus antisemitism and violence.

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Harvard University graduate Shabbos Kestenbaum, who is currently suing the university alleging pervasive and systemic antisemitism, also praised Trump's selection of Dhillon, warning, "Harvard should be very, very nervous."

"This has been a consistent theme within the Trump transition team namely, that promises made will be promises kept," he told Fox News Digital. "There is a moral and legal imperative for institutions of higher learning that have betrayed the American taxpayer, discriminated against Jewish students and enabled the culture of political indoctrination, to finally be held accountable."

Kestenbaum said it's a "a damning indictment on the current administration that we Jewish students are counting down until January 20 for justice to finally be served."

The Harvard graduate hailed Dhillon as "someone who has been at the forefront, not just on social media but within the political landscape, amplifying the voices of Jewish students and encouraging them to hold their colleges accountable," telling Fox News Digital that students across the U.S. are "incredibly relieved" by news of her nomination.

Shabbos Kestenbaum at Boston Jewish unity rally (Shabbos Kestenbaum)

[HARVARD SLAMMED FOR 'SMOKE AND MIRRORS' ANTISEMITISM RESPONSE: 'THEY ACTUALLY MAKE THINGS WORSE'](#)

"Come January 20th, Harvard, Columbia, Yale, and any other university that has failed to sufficiently address campus antisemitism, should expect to have it coming.

"If they're not shaking in their boots, then they're not paying attention," he said. "The American people in November repudiated the Ivy League values, the sense of moral hypocrisy and elitism and absolutely, Harvard in particular, will feel the sting of the Trump Administration if they continue to act in this way."

Harvard did not respond to Fox News Digital's request for comment.

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Trump's victory has colleges and universities on high alert after he vowed to take on higher education as part of his plan to overhaul the U.S. education system. U.S. universities have come under scrutiny in recent months for their lackluster [response to antisemitism](#) as protests and encampments overtook campuses nationwide amid the ongoing war in Gaza. Many universities chose to look the other way, prompting a mass exodus by donors who withdrew millions in grants and severed relationships with their alma matters.



Harmeet Dhillon greets President Trump after he arrives aboard Air Force One at Moffett Federal Airfield in Mountain View, Calif. to attend a Republican Party fundraiser at an undisclosed location on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019.

Trump has repeatedly targeted colleges and universities on the campaign trail, pledging to free higher learning in America from the grip of what he called "Marxist Maniacs."

His platform in 2024 called for "deporting pro-Hamas radicals and make our college campuses safe and patriotic again." Trump has also vowed to combat "wokeness" and progressive culture in education, repeatedly railing against DEI initiatives, which he believes are inadvertently discriminatory.

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In July, Trump said that he would advance a measure to have schools "fined up to the entire amount of their endowment" if they do not desist DEI programs that engage in "explicit unlawful discrimination under the guise of equity."

He has [also threatened](#) to withhold federal dollars from schools that play a role in online censorship as part of his plan to "shatter the left-wing censorship regime."

His selection of Dhillon for the task "proves he is putting his money where his mouth is," a New York student told Fox News Digital.

She and the president-elect largely see eye to eye on the issue. In May, Dhillon [posted on X](#), "Incredible the number of future doctors & lawyers shouting 'from the river to the sea' while draped in keffiyehs & calling for death to Israel. No wonder these same soft-brains go on to push gender ideology, pronouns, DEI. If you stand for nothing, you'll fall for anything."

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President Trump selects Kari Lake to be the Head of Voice of America.



Arizona Republican U.S. Senate candidate Kari Lake speaks on stage on the second day of the Republican National Convention, July 16, 2024 in Milwaukee.

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President-elect Donald Trump said he has selected Kari Lake as director of Voice of America, installing a staunch loyalist who ran unsuccessfully for Arizona governor and a Senate seat to head the congressionally funded broadcaster that provides news reporting around the world.

Lake, an immigration hard-liner, was a television news anchor in Phoenix for nearly three decades until she left in 2021. She launched her political career a short time later, quickly building a loyal following and national profile as she sparred with journalists and echoed Trump in her sharp criticism of what she called the “fake news.”

She endeared herself to Trump through her dogmatic questioning of election integrity. Trump reportedly considered her for his vice presidential running mate before deciding on JD Vance.

Trump has in the past been a fierce critic of Voice of America, including saying in 2020 that “things they say are disgusting toward our country.”

The broadcaster drew additional criticism during Trump's first term for its coverage of the early days of the coronavirus pandemic, with a White House publication accusing it of using taxpayer money “to speak for authoritarian regimes” because it covered the lifting of lockdown in the Chinese city of Wuhan, where the virus first emerged.

VOA was founded during World War II, and its congressional charter requires it to present independent news and information to international audiences. It responded to Trump's criticism by defending its coverage.

Also Wednesday, Trump announced Leandro Rizzuto as his choice to be the U.S. ambassador to the Washington-based Organization of American States, and said he wanted Florida personal injury attorney Dan Newlin to be his administration's ambassador to Colombia.

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He also picked Peter Lamelas, a physician and the founder of one of Florida's largest urgent care companies, to be the U.S. ambassador to Argentina. Lamelas is also a large donor to the past campaigns of Trump and other top Republicans.

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Former Fox News contributor Tammy Bruce has been appointed the spokesperson for the U.S. Department of State, President-elect Donald Trump announced Friday, marking another high-profile addition to his incoming administration, The Hill [reported](#).

President-elect Donald Trump revealed Friday that Tammy Bruce, a longtime Fox News contributor, will serve as the U.S. Department of State's spokesperson. Bruce will report to Senator Marco Rubio, the department's nominee for Secretary of State.

"It is my great honor to announce that Tammy Bruce will be joining our incredible nominee for United States Secretary of State, Marco Rubio, as Spokesperson for the U.S. Department of State," Trump wrote on his social media platform, Truth Social.

Bruce, a seasoned political analyst, joined Fox News in 2005 and became a prominent voice on the network. A spokesperson for the network confirmed her departure, praising her contributions over nearly two decades.

"Tammy Bruce has been an extremely valued contributor at FOX News Media for nearly 20 years, and we wish her all the best in her new role," the spokesperson told The Hill.

Trump described Bruce as "highly respected" and credited her with exposing the "lies and fraud of the Radical Left." Bruce's Fox News biography highlights her past as a registered Democrat and a liberal activist. In the 1990s, she worked on progressive political campaigns and was president of the National Organization for Women before transitioning to a more conservative platform. The biography notes her current mission to "expose and help defeat the leftist agenda."

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Bruce's career at Fox News also included authoring several books, which delve into her political evolution and views. Trump emphasized her dedication and ability to connect with the public.

"As one of the longest-serving News Contributors, Tammy has brought TRUTH to the American People for over two decades," Trump said in his announcement. "I know she will bring that same strength of conviction and fearless spirit to her new position as State Department Spokesperson."

Bruce's appointment continues a pattern of Trump enlisting former Fox News personalities for key administration roles. Others tapped include Sean Duffy, Pete Hegseth, Janette Nesheiwat, and Monica Crowley. Unlike some government positions, Bruce's role does not require Senate confirmation.

The appointment underscores the close ties between Trump's administration and Fox News alums, further solidifying the network's influence on the incoming administration's communications strategy.

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President-elect Donald Trump on Saturday nominated IBM executive Troy Edgar to serve as deputy Secretary of Homeland Security.

"Troy served for me previously as the Chief Financial Officer and Associate Deputy Under Secretary of Management for Homeland Security, where he did an outstanding job managing their \$90 Billion Dollar budget, resourcing critical immigration policy, and funding Wall construction," [Trump wrote on Truth Social](#).

"Troy is currently an executive at IBM. He holds an M.B.A. and B.S. of Business Administration from the University of Southern California. He was previously the Mayor of Los Alamitos, California, where he helped me lead the City and County revolt against Sanctuary Cities in 2018. I am very excited to have Troy on our team, as he will help us Make America Great Again!"

Edgar, a Navy veteran, [as chief financial officer](#) for DHS managed a \$90 billion budget and oversaw 10 financial divisions spanning program and cost analysis, budget, financial and risk management, financial operations, policy, transformation, Government Accountability Office & Office of Inspector General liaison and workforce development.

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[TRUMP GOES FULL MAGA AS HE PICKS ALLIES AND LOYALISTS TO FILL HIS SECOND ADMINISTRATION](#)



Trump's second administration is already coming together at a much faster pace than during his 2016 transition phase, naming more than 20 picks just over a week after Election Day, including high-profile choices such as Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. to oversee the Department of Health and Human Services; Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., to lead the State Department; and Pam Bondi, R-Fla., as US Attorney General.

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I would be interested in reading your opinions or comments about any of these selections. You are welcome to send me an email at: andy@celestialgrace.org

May the Grace of God be upon you always.

Sincerely,

Pastor Andy Anderson