

**The Presidency**  
A "Refresher" Lecture

Source: REUTERS/Carlos Barria

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## The Presidency

- ★ Roles
  - ★ Chief of State: National Symbol
  - ★ Head of Government: 'CEO'
  - ★ Other countries separate
    - ★ We combine, but "tether"
    - ★ ...to Congress, Courts, People

Fortune Magazine  
Prime Min.

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## The Presidency

- ★ Constitutional Power
  - ★ Expressed power: Constitution
  - ★ Delegated power: Congress
  - ★ "Inherent" power: ...just 'cuz...
  - ★ Not all powers are clear: e.g., national emergency

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## Constitutional/Legal Sources

- ★ Appointments (“Patronage”): approx. 5000...
  - ★ White House & Executive Branch
  - ★ Ambassadors
  - ★ Federal judges and Justices
- ★ Executive Branch
  - ★ White House Staff, Executive Office
  - ★ Cabinet, Vice President




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## Political/Other Sources

- ★ Elections: mandate
- ★ Political Party: loyalty
- ★ Groups: support
- ★ Media: convey message
- ★ Public Opinion: leadership
- ★ Popularity: ‘interim election’




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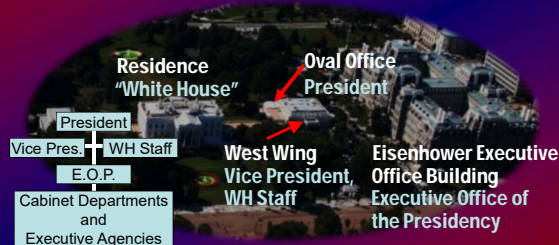
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## Organization




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## Organization: Limits

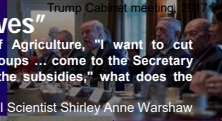
### ★ Cabinet: "Marrying the natives"

When the President says to the Secretary of Agriculture, "I want to cut agricultural subsidies," but all of the farmers' groups ... come to the Secretary of Agriculture and say, "We can't live without the subsidies," what does the Secretary of Agriculture do?

—Political Scientist Shirley Anne Warshaw

### ★ White House Staff:

★ become 'yes' people, shield president from bad news



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## Executive Agencies

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## Executive Agencies

★ Who cares?: Government role in our lives

★ Characteristics

- ★ Established structure (full-time, career)
- ★ Hierarchical structure (supervision)
- ★ Specialized tasks (div. of labor, allocation)
- ★ Administers or establishes rules for governing



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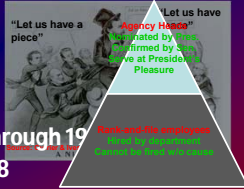
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# History

## ★ History: Growing and shrinking

- ★ Spoils System
- ★ Civil Service Act of 1883 ("Pendleton Act")
  - ★ Merit System, "Tenure"
- ★ Grew with government through 1968
- ★ Decline in size since 1968



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# Organization

## ★ Types

- ★ Cabinet Departments
- ★ Independent Executive Agencies
- ★ Government Corporations
- ★ Independent Regulatory Commissions



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# Organization

## ★ Categories of Services

- ★ Public Welfare
  - ★ Health, Safety, Education
- ★ Economic
  - ★ Banking, Revenue, Fiscal
- ★ Internal/External Security
  - ★ Legal, Diplomatic, Military



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## Budgeting

- ★ Annual cycle
  - ★ **March-June:** Agency request to OMB
  - ★ **July-Sept.:** OMB compiles requests
  - ★ **Oct.-Jan.:** President prepares budget
  - ★ **February:** President submits to Congress
- ★ *Annual* federal budget takes 2 years!

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## Control of Bureaucracy?

- ★ Shared Control
  - ★ President:
    - ★ White House Management
    - ★ Propose creation, reorganization, and budget
  - ★ Congress
    - ★ Legislation: Create, Reorganize, Budget
    - ★ Oversight: Review, Hearings, Budget
- ★ End Lecture

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