

Administration Updates

Profiles of Top Officials in
the Obama Administration

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White House Hired New Press Secretary, OMB Director and Chief of Operations Since 2013

Administration Updates: Departures From The White House

2013 Staff Member

Where They Are Now

Replacement

Jay Carney



Press Secretary
Carney was *Time's* Washington bureau chief before becoming VP Joe Biden's Communications Director in 2009. Carney left his position after more than three years as Press Secretary.

After working briefly as a political analyst for CNN, Carney took a position as the Senior Vice President of Corporate Affairs at Amazon. Carney had to defend the company against a New York Times story that condemned Amazon's work environment. Carney was considered for PR positions with Uber and Apple.

Josh Earnest



Earnest, who was Obama's Iowa Communications Director in 2007, succeeded Carney in 2014. Earnest previously served as Principal Deputy White House Press Secretary.

Sylvia Burwell



Director, Office of Management and Budget
Burwell, a veteran of the Clinton administration, previously held top positions at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Walmart Foundation.

Burwell is now the Secretary of Health and Human Services, where she oversees over 77,000 employees. She has led a "Healthy Self" campaign, devoted to connecting people to the care they need. Recently, Burwell was in Flint, Michigan directing the administration's recovery effort after the water crisis.

Shaun Donovan



Prior to OMB, Donovan served as the 15th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, where he managed the Department's \$47 billion budget.

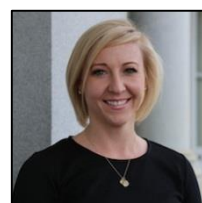
Alyssa Mastromonaco



Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations
Mastromonaco started off as the scheduler in Obama's Senate office. Obama reportedly seeks Alyssa when he "thinks his life is out of control."

Mastromonaco now serves as the Chief Operating Officer of Vice. Vice, based in Brooklyn, started as a free punk magazine in Montreal 20 years ago and has since expanded into digital media, television and film. It now operates in 36 countries.

Anita Breckenridge



Before joining the White House, Ms. Breckenridge served as chief of staff at the National Endowment for the Arts, where she worked since the start of the administration.

Sources: WhiteHouse.gov, February 2016; Emily Steel, "Vice Hires Alyssa Mastromonaco, Former Official in Obama White House, as a Top Executive," *New York Times*, November 16, 2014; "Alyssa Mastromonaco Named Contributing Editor to Marie Claire," *Hearst*, June 16, 2014; Justin Snow, "Congressional Democrats Continue Calls for End to Nation's Gay Blood Ban," *Metro Weekly*, September 8, 2014; Dylan Byers, "Jay Carney up for Uber, Apple PR Posts," *Politico*, July 15, 2014; *National Journal*, 2016; Department of Health and Human Services, February 22, 2016; *National Journal*, 2013; *National Journal*, 2016.

2013 Appointees Have Settled into Their Roles in the Obama Administration

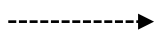
Administration Updates: Staff Hired in 2013

Staff Member

Time Since 2013



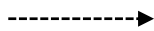
Susan Rice
National Security Advisor
 Rice was initially the leading candidate to succeed Hillary Clinton as Secretary of State, but withdrew her name from consideration after GOP Senators criticized her remarks in the days following the attack on Benghazi, promising a lengthy confirmation process. Previously to her role as National Security Advisor, Rice served as Ambassador to the UN.



As National Security Advisor Rice was not able to fully leave behind the Benghazi scandal, testifying before the House Select Committee on Benghazi. Rice was a proponent of the Iran nuclear deal, calling it the “most comprehensive and effective” nuclear plan ever. Her vocal support for the deal drew criticism from Israel lobbyists. Rice has made a trade agreement with Asia-Pacific nations, development projects in Africa, and gay rights overseas some of her priorities.



John Brennan
Director of the CIA
 Brennan served in CIA for 25 years and lead the Analysis Corporation, a private intelligence business as CEO and President. Brennan was forced to withdraw the first time he was tagged for CIA director in 2008 due to a media maelstrom over his alleged role in permitting the use of “enhanced interrogation techniques” as a top CIA official in the Bush administration.



Brennan faced a public controversy when Senator Diane Feinstein accused the CIA of spying on the senate, which Brennan initially denied, and later apologized for. Brennan has also voiced strong support for the use of drones. He also has denounced Edward Snowden on several occasions, suggesting that the leaking of government secrets abetted the November 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris.

Sources: Eun Kyung Kim, “Obama’s Chief of Staff on Paris March ‘Snub’: ‘That Rests on Me,’” USA Today, January 20, 2015; The White House, February 2016; Karen DeYoung and Ann Gearan, “Susan Rice Withdraws as Candidate for Secretary of State,” The Washington Post, December 13, 2012; Ian Schwartz, “Susan Rice: ISIS Threat ‘Not Of The Existential Nature We Confronted In World War II,’” Politico, February 6, 2015; Greg Miller, CIA Director John Brennan Apologizes for Search of Senate Committee’s Computers,” The Washington Post, July 31, 2014; Amy Davidson, “Don’t Blame Edward Snowden for the Paris Attacks,” The New Yorker, November 19, 2015; National Journal, 2013; National Journal, 2016.

McDonough and Valerie Have Become Two of Obama's Longest-Serving Advisors

Administration Updates: Long-Time Advisors

Staff Member



Denis McDonough

Chief of Staff

McDonough has served Obama for over a decade, beginning with his senatorial election in 2004, and he served as Deputy National Security Adviser. McDonough was anointed Chief of Staff at only age 43. Former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) commented that McDonough shares a temperament with the President: "The person Denis reminds me most of? Barack Obama." Obama has had more Chiefs of Staff than any other President, but McDonough has been by far Obama's longest serving Chief of Staff, and is considered Obama's favorite. McDonough is known establishing a "no drama" work atmosphere and favoring an attention to detail, spending hours on tasks previous chiefs delegated.



Valerie Jarret

National Security Advisor

Jarret has known Obama since 1991, when she offered first lady Michele a job in Chicago's City Hall. Since then, Jarret has remained a very close personal ally to the President and is known for being involved in many of Obama's most important decisions. "Her role since she has been at the White House is one of the broadest and most expansive roles that I think has ever existed in the West," said Obama's former communications director Anita Dunn.