

**Agency Staff Tracker:
Department of Housing and Urban
Development**

Regulatory powers, organizational
structure & key decision-makers

November 29, 2017
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Director: Alistair Taylor

Understanding the Agency Staff Tracker

The Agency Staff Tracker is a tool to help navigate the transition period in the new administration. Each deck corresponds to a federal department and tracks presidential appointments and nominations through the entire confirmation process. Use the Agency Staff Tracker as a resource to quickly identify the key decision-makers in federal agencies.

Roadmap

- Brief overview of department: mission, history, regulatory powers
- “Day one” issues for the administration
- Organizational chart
- Nomination tracker + in-depth nominee profiles
- Key decision-makers at the agency level + brief profiles

What to expect

The initial round of Agency Staff Trackers will be published for each cabinet department before expanding to independent agencies (EPA, SBA, etc.). Current organizational charts and nomination lists will be expanded as the decks are updated.



**Department of Housing and
Urban Development**
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Washington DC 20410
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www.hud.gov

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Overview

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is a cabinet-level federal department responsible for community planning and development, overseeing the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), maintaining public and Indian housing, ensuring fair housing and equal opportunity, conducting policy development and research, and overseeing the Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae).

Mission

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. It is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes; utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; and build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination.

History

The precursor to HUD was created in 1937 with the enactment of the U.S. Housing Act, and the cabinet-level organization was founded in 1965. In 1968, the Civil Rights Act was created in order to outlaw most housing discrimination and the Housing Act was passed to establish Ginnie Mae and expand availability of mortgage funds. In 1990 the HOME housing block grant was launched.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Regulatory powers

The Department of Housing and Urban Development has the responsibility to enforce laws regulating national housing goals, community development, public housing and rental assistance, housing for Native Americans and Native Hawaiians, mortgage insurance and rural housing.

Some of the main laws that grant regulatory authority to HUD are:

- Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968
- Housing and Community Development Act of 1974
- Fair Housing Act
- National Homeownership Trust Act

Additionally, the department is authorized to provide block grants, ensure loan guarantees, establish standards for residency in federally-owned housing, and create safety standards for housing-related issues such as the use of lead paint.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

“Day one” issues for the new administration

Mortgage premiums

The first executive action by the new Trump administration was to block the Obama administration policy that would have reduced the cost of Federal Housing Administration-backed mortgages.



2015 rule on furthering fair housing

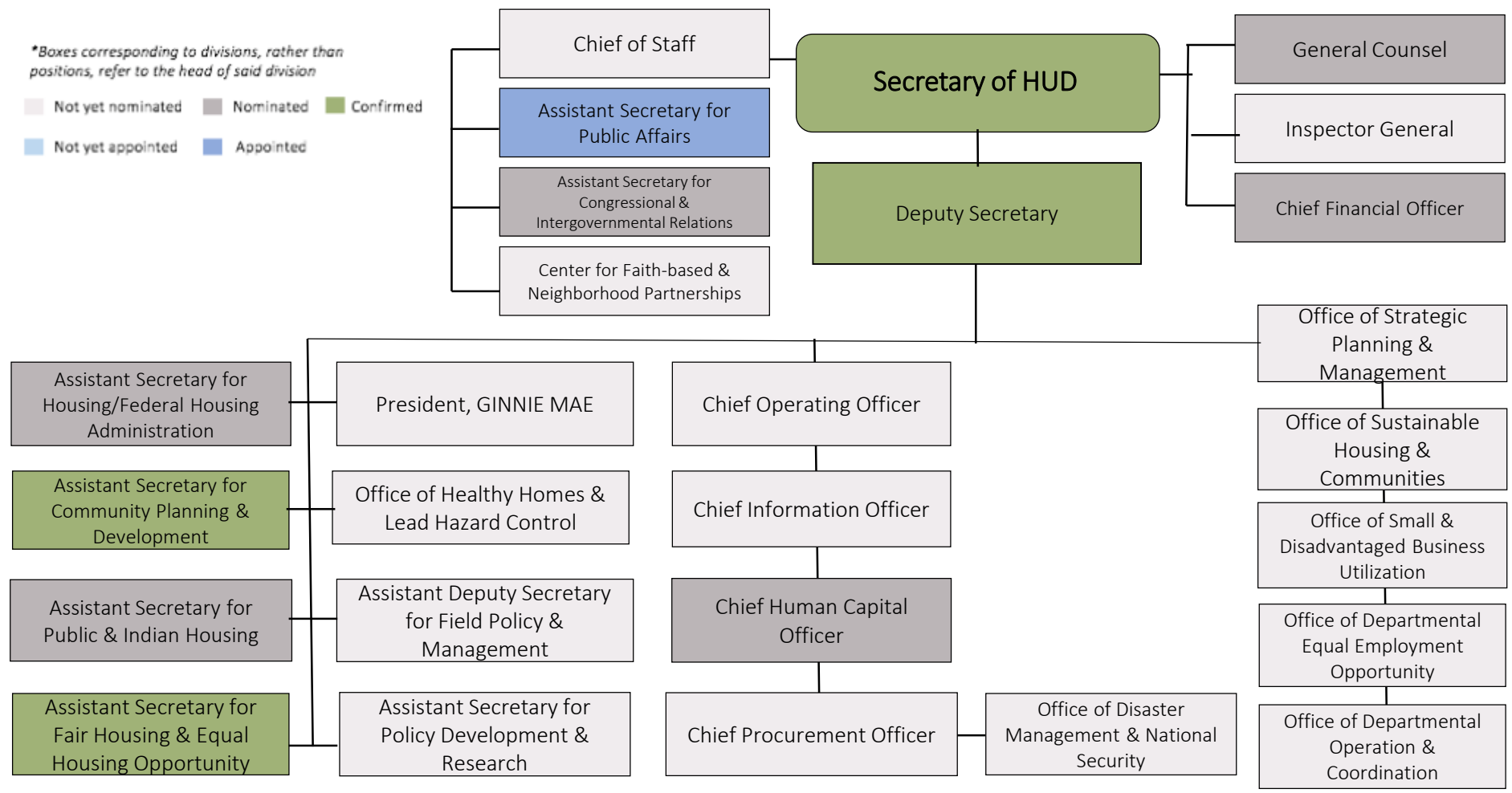
The Obama administration created a rule to require cities to assess whether housing in their communities is racially segregated and release these assessments, in compliance with the Fair Housing Act of 1968. Trump and conservatives have described this rule as a case of overreach and suggested as early as November 2016 that it could be repealed.



Sources: Gregory Korte, “Trump’s first executive action: Cancel Obama’s mortgage premium cuts,” *USA Today*, January 20, 2017; Alana Semuels, “The future of housing segregation under Trump,” *The Atlantic*, November 29, 2016.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Organizational chart



Sources: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Agency staff tracker

Position	Obama Administration	Trump Administration	Status
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development	Julian Castro (Confirmed 7/9/14)	Ben Carson	Nominated (12/05/16) Confirmed (03/02/17)
Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development	Nani A. Coloretti (Confirmed 12/02/14)	Pamela Patenaude	Nominated (04/28/17) Confirmed (09/14/17)
Assistant Secretary for Administration	Vacant	Suzanne Israel Tufts	Nominated (09/02/17) Confirmed (N/A)
Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development	Mercedes M. Marquez (Confirmed 06/26/09)	Neal J. Rackleff	Nomination (04/21/17) Confirmed (08/03/17)
Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations	Erika L. Moritsugu (Confirmed 07/30/14)	Leonard Wolfson	Nominated (10/19/17) Confirmed (N/A)
Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity	Gustavo Velasquez Aguilar (Confirmed 06/19/14)	Anna Maria Farias	Nominated (06/19/17) Confirmed (08/03/17)
Assistant Secretary for Housing/Federal Housing Commissioner	Vacant Genger Charles – General Deputy	Brian Montgomery	Nominated (9/12/17) Confirmed (N/A)
Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research	Katherine O'Regan (Confirmed 4/28/14)	TBA	Nominated (N/A) Confirmed (N/A)

Sources: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Department of Housing and Urban Development

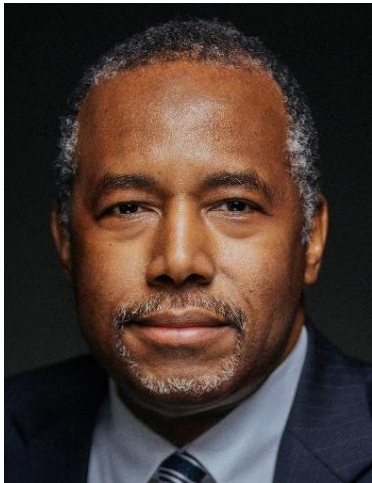
Agency staff tracker

Position	Obama Administration	Trump Administration	Status
Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing	Vacant Maria Castro Ramirez – Acting Deputy	Robert Hunter Kurtz	Nominated (9/15/17) Confirmed (N/A)
Chief Financial Officer	Vacant	Irving Dennis	Nominated (10/30/17) Confirmed (N/A)
General Counsel	Helen Kanovsky (Confirmed 5/01/09)	J. Paul Compton Jr.	Nominated (05/23/17) Confirmed (N/A)
Inspector General	David Montoya (Confirmed 11/18/11)	TBA	Nominated (N/A) Confirmed (N/A)
President – Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae)	Theodore W. Tozer (Confirmed 2/24/10)	TBA	Nominated (N/A) Confirmed (N/A)
Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs	Melanie Roussell Newman (Appointed 04/18/13)	Amy Cantu Thompson	Appointed (06/09/17)

Sources: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Key decision-makers: Office of the Secretary of HUD



Ben Carson

Position: Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

Biography

He was the director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Maryland and a pioneer in neurosurgery. He performed the first and only separation of conjoined twins joined at the back of the head. In 2008 he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the U.S. Carson rose to political fame in 2013 after criticizing President Obama during a National Prayer Breakfast. Carson ran against Trump in the Republican primary, and at one point during the race Trump questioned the intelligence of Iowa voters for believing some of Carson's claims. After dropping out, Carson later joined Trump's campaign and made appearances on political talk shows as a surrogate. He was confirmed by the Senate with a vote of 58-41.

Date of birth

September 18, 1951

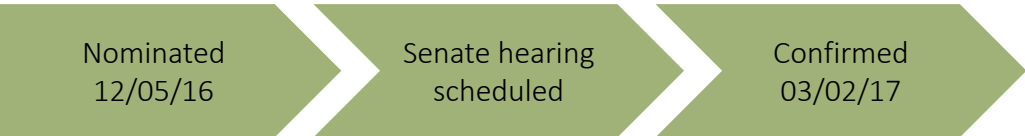
Education

Yale University, B.A., 1973
U. of Michigan, M.D., 1977

Occupation

Neurosurgeon

Confirmation status



Sources: Department of Housing and Urban Development; Philip Bump, "Ben Carson: from Trump friend to enemy to ally to outsider to Cabinet member," Washington Post, December 5, 2016; David Wright, "Trump taps Ben Carson for HUD secretary," CNN, December 5, 2016.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Nominee: Office of the Secretary of HUD



Pamela Patenaude

Position: Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

Biography

The nomination of Pamela Patenaude was announced on April 28th. Currently, Patenaude is the president of the J. Ronald Terwilliger Foundation for Housing America’s Families. She has previously served as the former director of housing policy at the Bipartisan Policy Center and as HUD assistant secretary for Community, Planning and Development during the George W. Bush administration. She is a member of the Board of Directors for the National Housing Conference. Her nomination is supported by the Mortgage Bankers Association, National Association of Realtors, National Association of Home Builders, National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals and others.

Date of birth

January 20, 1961

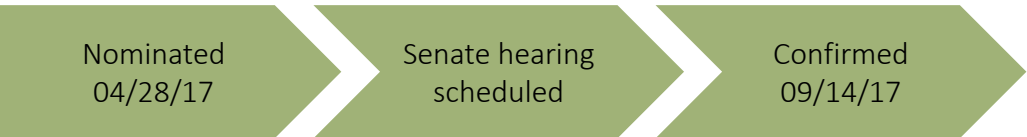
Education

Saint Anselm College, B.S.
S. New Hampshire U., M.S.

Occupation

Former HUD employee,
president of a foundation

Confirmation status



Sources: Ben Lane, “Housing industry praises Trump’s selection of Pam Patenaude as HUD deputy secretary,” HousingWire, April 28, 2017; “Pamela Hughes Patenaude,” Speakers and Panelists, University of Miami: School of Business Administration.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Nominee: Office of the Secretary of HUD



Suzanne Israel Tufts

Position: Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Administration

Biography

The nomination of Suzanne Israel Tufts was announced on September 2nd. Currently, Tufts is a consultant at her own consulting firm, which focuses on providing services for tax-exempt organizations and emerging companies. She has previously worked as president and CEO of the American Woman’s Economic Development Corporation.

Date of birth

N/A

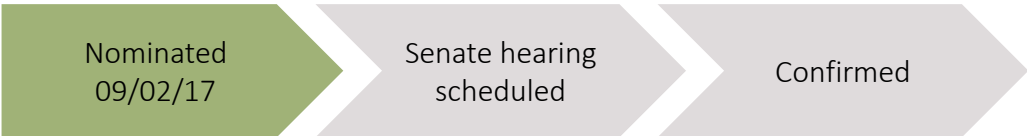
Education

Princeton U., A.B.
U. of Virginia, J.D.

Occupation

Attorney, consultant

Confirmation status



Sources: “President Donald J. Trump announces intent to nominate personnel to key administration posts,” White House Office of the Press Secretary, September 2, 2017; “Board membership: Enhance your career, improve your community,” University of Virginia Alumni Career Service, August 22, 2014.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Nominee: Office of the Secretary of HUD



Neal Rackleff

Position: Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Community Planning and Development

Biography

On April 21, the Trump administration announced its intention to nominate Neal Rackleff. Rackleff is a partner at Lock Lord of Austin and Houston, where he focuses on community and economic development, affordable housing and inner-city revitalization. He has previously served as the director of Houston’s Housing and Community Development Department. In this position, he provided affordable housing to victims of hurricane damaged homes and effectively ended homelessness of veterans.

Date of birth

N/A

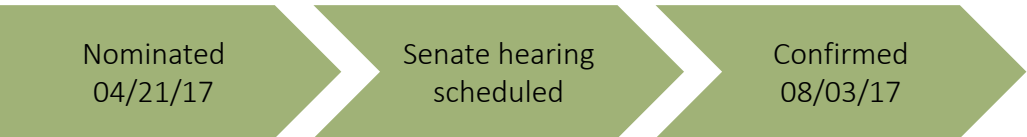
Education

Brigham Young U., B.A.
U. of Southern California,
J.D.

Occupation

Lawyer

Confirmation status



Sources: “President Donald J. Trump announces intent to nominate personnel to key administration posts,” Office of the Press Secretary, The White House, April 21, 2017.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Nominee: Office of the Secretary of HUD



Leonard Wolfson

Position: Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs

Biography

On October 19, the Trump administration announced the nomination of Leonard Wolfson to an assistant secretary position at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Wolfson served as an associate vice president of legislative affairs for the Mortgage Banking Association. In addition, he previously served as general deputy assistant secretary for congressional and intergovernmental relations at HUD during the George W. Bush administration, as well as a staff member for former Rep. Christopher Shays (R-CT).

Date of birth

N/A

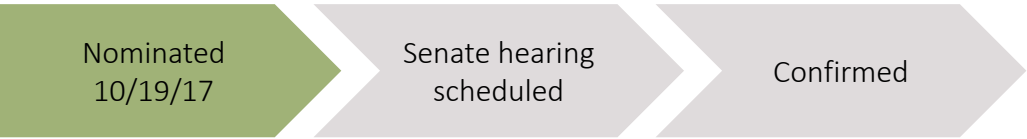
Education

U. of Connecticut, B.A.

Occupation

Government official

Confirmation status



Sources: “President Donald J. Trump announces intent to nominate Leonard Wolfson to the Department of Housing and Urban Development,” Office of the Press Secretary, The White House, October 19, 2017.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Nominee: Office of the Secretary of HUD



Anna Maria Farias

Position: Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

Biography

On June 19, the Trump administration announced its nomination of Anna Maria Farias to the position of Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. Prior to this position, she was the Chair of the Board of Regents at Texas Woman’s University and served on the board of the One Star Foundation. Previously, she served as Senior Counsel to former Secretary Martinez, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Initiatives, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grand Programs (CDBG) and Director for the Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in HUD.

Date of birth

N/A

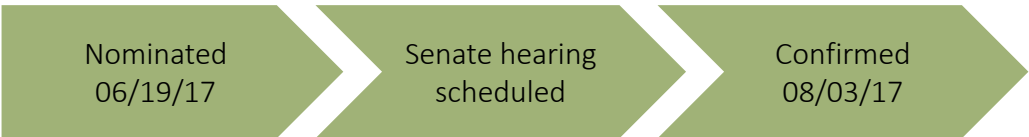
Education

Boston University, B.A.
Temple University, J.D.
Harvard University, Fellow

Occupation

Former HUD employee

Confirmation status



Sources: “President Donald J. Trump announces intent to nominate personnel to key administration posts,” Office of the Press Secretary, The White House, June 19, 2017.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Nominee: Office of the Secretary of HUD



Brian Montgomery

Position: Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Housing Administration

Biography

On September 12, the Trump administration announced its intention to nominate Brian Montgomery to be assistant secretary of Housing and Urban Development and federal housing commissioner. Montgomery currently serves as vice chairman of The Collingwood Group, an advisory firm focused on business consulting, risk management and compliance within the financial services industry. Previously, he served as acting assistant secretary of Housing/Federal Housing Administration, acting secretary of HUD and deputy assistant to the president during the George W. Bush administration.

Date of birth

N/A

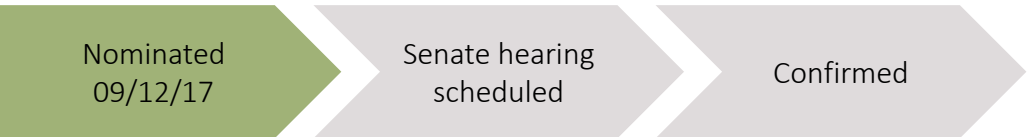
Education

U. of Houston, B.A.

Occupation

Government official

Confirmation status



Sources: “President Donald J. Trump announces intent to nominate personnel to key administration posts,” Office of the Press Secretary, The White House, September 12, 2017.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Nominee: Office of the Secretary of HUD



Robert Hunter Kurtz

Position: Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Public and Indian Housing

Biography

Robert Hunter Kurtz was nominated by the Trump administration to the position of assistant secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Public and Indian Housing. Currently, Kurtz serves as the deputy chief of staff for Policy and Programs at HUD. He has a background in housing policy and has implemented housing programs at both the federal and local levels since the George W. Bush administration

Date of birth

N/A

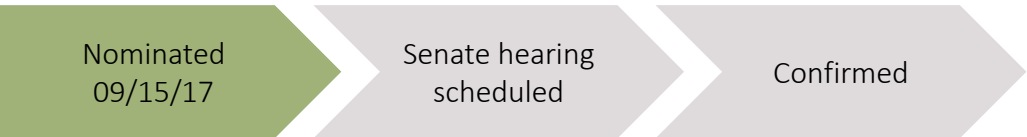
Education

Hamilton College, B.A.

Occupation

Government official

Confirmation status



Sources: “President Donald J. Trump announces intent to nominate personnel to key administration posts,” Office of the Press Secretary, The White House, September 15, 2017.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Nominee: Office of the Secretary of HUD



Irving Dennis

Position: Chief Financial Officer

Biography

On October 26, the Trump administration announced the nomination of Irving Dennis to the position of chief financial officer for HUD. Dennis had recently retired as global client service partner with Ernst & Young, LLP. He has held other leadership roles within Ernst & Young, including regional audit methodology leader and was a member of its Regional Assurance Leadership Team. Dennis is a certified public accountant (CPA) and has served on several not-for-profit boards and been a member of various accounting-related organizations.

Date of birth

N/A

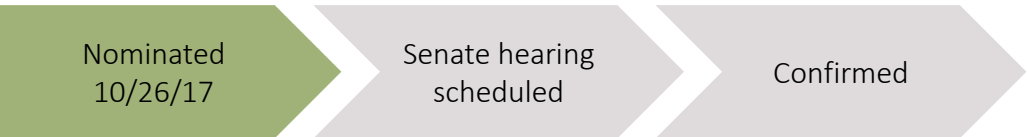
Education

Montclair State U., B.S.

Occupation

CPA

Confirmation status



Sources: “President Donald J. Trump announces key additions to his administration,” Office of the Press Secretary, The White House, October 26, 2017.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Nominee: General Counsel



J. Paul Compton Jr.

Position: General counsel

Biography

On May 23, the Trump administration announced its intention to nominate J. Paul Compton Jr. to be general counsel at HUD. Compton currently serves as a partner at the Birmingham, Alabama office of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP and serves as Chairman of its Finance Committee. At the law firm, he has focused primarily on advising clients on consumer lending, regarding loans and investments by banks, advising on the new markets tax credit program, and acting as representation for varying interests in affordable housing and community development projects. He has served as General Counsel to the Alabama Affordable Housing Association and is a member of the American Bar Association Forum on Affordable Housing and Community Development.

Date of birth

N/A

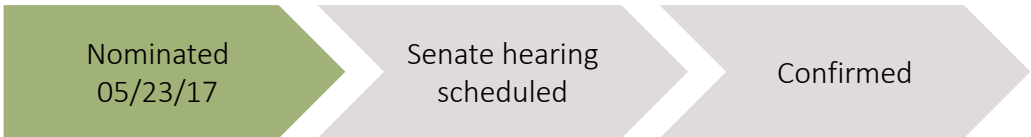
Education

U. of Alabama, B.S.
U. of Virginia, J.D.
LSE, Truman Scholar

Occupation

Lawyer

Confirmation status



Sources: “Paul Compton, Partner,” Our People, Bradley; “President Donald J. Trump announces intent to nominate personnel to key administration posts,” Office of the Press Secretary, The White House, May 23, 2017.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Key decision-maker: Assistant Secretary of Public Affairs



Amy Cantu Thompson
Position: Assistant Secretary of Public Affairs

Biography
On June 9, the Trump administration announced the appointment of Amy Cantu Thompson to the position of Assistant Secretary of Public Affairs. Prior to this position, she served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs at HUD. Previously, she has served as Deputy Press Secretary for HUD during the George W. Bush Administration and Director of Communications for the Community Financial Services Association. She has also acted as counselor and advisor to Fortune 500 companies at Levick Strategic Communications and managed public relations campaigns and speechwriting for Target Corporation.

Date of birth

N/A

Education

U. of North Texas, B.A.

Occupation

Communications specialist

Confirmation status

N/A

Sources: “President Donald J. Trump announces intent to nominate personnel to key administration posts,” Office of the Press Secretary, The White House, June 9, 2017.