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Washington Note

The U.S. Election: What Happens Next?

A viewpoint from Frank Kelly and Judy Winchester

In the wake of Tuesday's shock elections in the United States, we have been asked by many clients what they should keep in mind before the presidential inauguration in January. Below are the dates and events we will be watching in the coming two and half months:

2016 US Post-Election Timeline

- **November 14:** Congress returns to Washington and both the Senate and House of Representatives reconvene; the "Lame Duck" session begins.
- **Week of November 14:** House Republicans hold leadership elections. House Committee Chairs will likely be determined during this week, though there has been talk of delaying Committee selection until after the Speaker vote.
 - House Democrats may hold their leadership election also this week but for now they are scheduled to hold them the week of November 28th (see below).
- **November 15 & 16:** Senate Democrats hold orientation for new Members.
- **November 16:** Senate Democrats hold leadership elections. Chairmen (Ranking Members if Republicans keep the Senate) must give notice if they are moving committees. We believe Senator Chuck Schumer (D-New York) is almost certain to be chosen as Senate Minority Leader.
- **November 16:** Senate Republicans hold leadership elections. Open slots are National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC) Republican Committee Chairmen/Ranking
- Members will not be formally named until 2017, but we will unofficially know who will lead the committees shortly after the election.
- **Week of November 28:** House Democrats hold leadership elections. While Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD), and Assistant Democratic Leader James Clyburn (D-SC) are expected to hold their current positions, Rep. Joe Crowley (D-NY), the current Vice Chairman of the Democratic Caucus, is running unopposed for Democratic Caucus Chair. Reps. Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Linda Sánchez (D-CA) are running to replace Rep. Crowley as Vice Chairman.
- **December 9:** Current Continuing Resolution (CR) expires.
- **December 16:** Target adjournment sine die (end of Congressional session).
- **January 3:** House Speaker floor vote (218 votes needed).
- **January 20:** Inauguration Day. President-elect and Vice President-elect sworn into office; all members of Congress sworn into office.



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