

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

FROM: JOHN F. KELLY, CHIEF OF STAFF

TO: LARGETITANIC2, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

DEVTOOLS, SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES

EXECUTIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEES AND GENERAL PERSONNEL

CC: TIMOTHY F. GEITHNER, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 2018

RE: REFORMING THE WHITE HOUSE APPARATUS

The events of the last two weeks have, in my opinion, required us to evaluate our current organization within the White House. It is my belief -- and that of the President -- that the White House has operated without effective oversight since the January 30 swearing-in ceremony. This memorandum will outline, in detail, the new changes that shall go into effect immediately.

Though long, this memorandum is required reading for all employees either directly or indirectly associated with or under the oversight of the President, his staff, and otherwise general Executive Branch individuals, i.e. if you are employed under Executive-related agency, you must read this memorandum.

Current Faults in the System

Right now, the White House lacks hierarchy and well-defined grants and limitations on powers of individuals. The President currently operates a staff that could hardly be called a "staff" under the ordinary definition of the term. It is crucial that the President be able to do his job -- making broad policy decisions -- and not have to micromanage his Executive departments: doing so, quite plainly, is why we are here.

It is our province as a White House staff to manage the Executive, as a functioning, efficient government starts with a centralized source of power in a White House. Right now, instead of that, we have ten different people giving ten

different orders to ten different employees -- the disorganization is explicit.

The number-one issue we face is a break in communication. The President should not be responding to messages from every member of his administration -- something which, unfortunately, has been occurring as of late. And although the President issued a personal memorandum very politely dictating that communication chains of command are to be followed,¹ it has had little effect in actually changing the convention of: "I have a problem, so I'll go to the President to personally fix it because that's how America works."

Second, we have no institutionalized staff to help the President fulfill his day-to-day tasks. For example, the President should never -- ever -- log into the White House twitter; he should never have to do tasks that are more appropriately suited for an employee like, e.g., a Communications Director or a Press Secretary.

Nor should anyone be speaking to the President without going through a formalized process run from this White House -- run by me. That is to say that I, like Chiefs of Staff in real life, need to be the Oval Office gatekeeper. There must be a formalized flow of information to the President; without one, and he is without one right now, he is bombarded by a paper flow that is unmanageable for one individual and distracts him from what he needs to be doing as the President.

The President needs to be making big-picture decisions, not drafting Executive Order texts and arbitrating employee-Director disputes -- such responsibilities deservedly lie instead with staff and Department Directors. For when he is pulled away from his job to micromanage, everyone inevitably is pulled away from their duties, too.

There will be, therefore, a full-scale reform of how the White House operates and how access to the President will work.

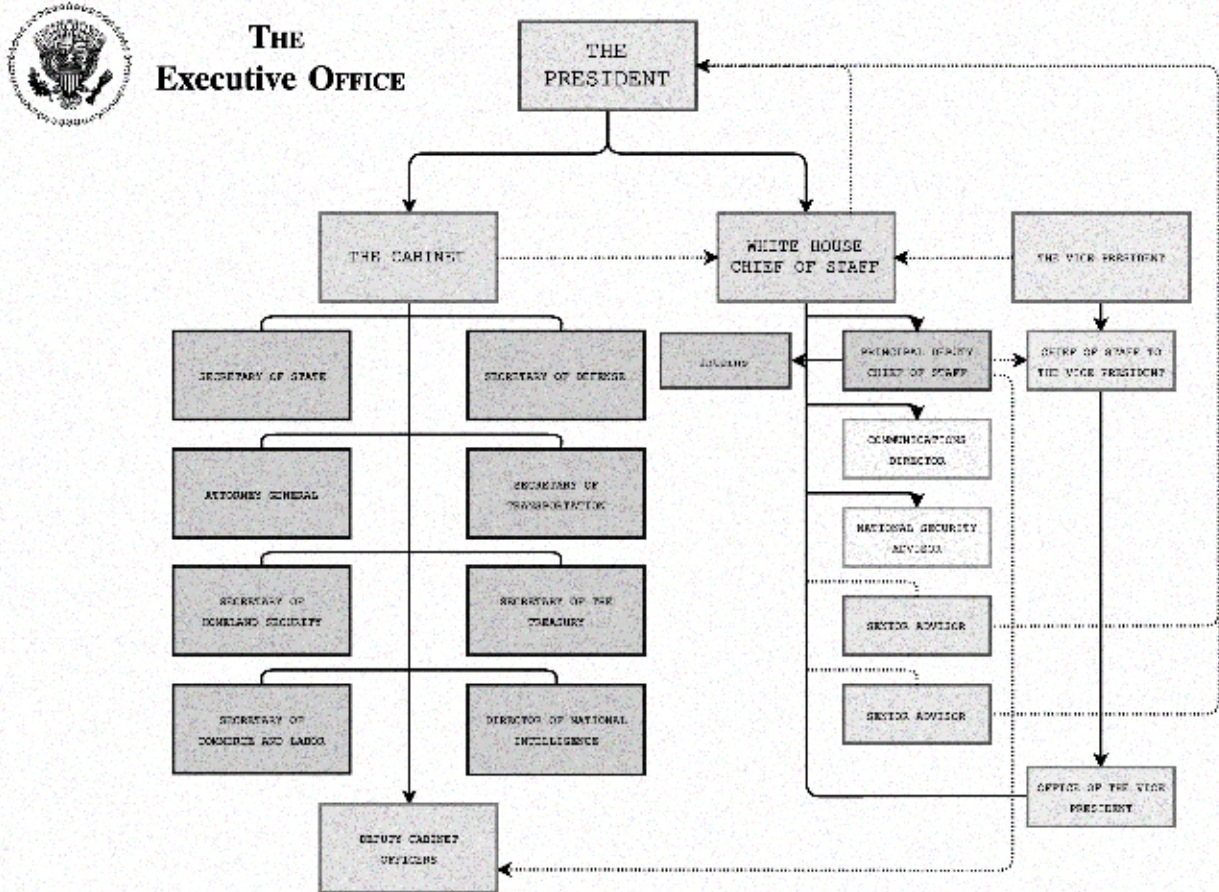
Organization of the White House

The White House shall be organized in a top-to-bottom manner; we are not some hip, millennial think tank for Google. We work for

¹ See Memorandum from President Timothy F. Geithner, on Chains of Command (Feb. 5, 2018) (available here: <https://goo.gl/bk3FpT>).

and in government, and as such, a clearly outlined chain-of-command structure is required.

The following chart reflects our new organizational structure:



Look to the lines and what they signify. A dotted line implies indirect authority; a solid implies the opposite. Lines without arrows mean that -- as is the case with senior advisors -- the entities linked are within the same office but do not necessarily report to each other. For example, the senior advisors are connected by dotted line to the White House Chief of Staff because they work within the White House Staff; but they don't actually report to him.

Similarly, pay attention to the dotted line with an arrow connecting the Principal Deputy Chief of Staff to the Vice President's Chief of Staff; although the arrow signifies authority, the dotted line shows that such authority is indirect -- that is to say that while the Vice President's Chief of Staff is overseen by the Principal Deputy Chief of Staff, he does not directly report to him.

This structure shall go into effect immediately. It is important that you note where you fall within the chart and pay attention to how your respective position fits in with everyone else. Especially crucial, moreover, is that Cabinet members note that in order to contact the President, they must go through the Chief of Staff.