



## The Transfer of Power: Ensuring a Smooth Presidential Transition

Thursday, October 27, 2016

### Context:

On November 9th, the winning presidential candidate will celebrate their victory as their months of hard work have finally paid off.

But quietly behind the scenes, a whole team of transition experts will immediately spring into action to ensure their candidate's arrival at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue is seamless. Policy priorities are strategically thought through, short lists are created for cabinet positions and briefing materials are written to prepare new staffers within agencies.

Bloomberg Government will host a conversation with veterans from past transition teams to discuss what goes on behind the scenes as a new Administration prepares to govern.

### Location:

Bloomberg Government  
1101 K Street NW Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20005

### On Site Contact:

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**Media:** The event is open to the media and is on the record.

A list of confirmed media will be made available the night before the event.

### Event Time:

8:00 AM- 8:30 AM      Registration  
8:30 AM- 10:00 AM    Program

### Arrival Time:

Your conversation will begin at **8:35 AM**; Please arrive by **8:00 AM**, allowing time to check-in and find the event space. There will be a Green Room area. If you are joining the program for its entirety, please meet in the Green Room 15 minutes before you are scheduled to be on stage.

**\*\*PROGRAM AGENDA AND SPEAKER/MODERATOR BIOGRAPHIES BELOW\*\***

**Agenda:**

**8:00 AM** – Registration

**8:30 AM** – Opening Remarks, Arielle Elliott, Head of Government Affairs, Bloomberg Government

**8:35 AM** – An Inside Look at Past Transitions: Accounts from Former Advisors

- Chris Lu, Deputy Secretary of Labor, U.S. Department of Labor
- Anita McBride, Executive-in-Residence, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, School of Public Affairs, American University

*Moderator: David Eagles, Director of Presidential Transition, Partnership for Public Service*

**9:10 AM- Looking For a Job? How the Personnel Process Works**

- Don Gips, Principal, Albright Stonebridge Group
- Nels Olson, Vice Chairman and Co-Leader of Korn Ferry's Board & CEO Services Practice, Korn Ferry
- Liza Wright, Managing Partner, Lochlin Partners

*Moderator: Margaret Talev, White House Correspondent, Bloomberg News*

## **Moderator Biographies**

### **David Eagles**

#### **Director of Presidential Transition | Partnership for Public Service**

David Eagles is director of presidential transitions at the Partnership for Public Service. He leads the Ready to Govern initiative to improve incoming and outgoing presidential transitions, engage Congress to promote transition reforms, develop management recommendations addressing operational challenges, and train political appointees to lead effectively.

### **Margaret Talev**

#### **White House Correspondent | Bloomberg News**

Margaret Talev is White House correspondent for Bloomberg. She covers President Barack Obama, the 2016 election, American politics and foreign policy. She is president of the Washington Press Club Foundation, and a board member and 2017-18 president-elect of the White House Correspondents' Association.

Talev has covered Obama since 2007. She previously covered Congress, California and Florida politics and has reported for the Los Angeles Times, McClatchy Newspapers, the Sacramento Bee and the Tampa Tribune. In 2008, she won the Scripps Howard Raymond Clapper Memorial Award as part of a three-member team that exposed the Bush administration's politicization of the Justice Department.

She was part of a reporting team whose breaking news coverage of the crash of Alaska Airlines Flight 261 earned a finalist spot for the Pulitzer in 2001. Talev is a graduate of the University of Maryland at College Park.

## **Speaker Biographies**

### **Don Gips**

#### **Principal | Albright Stonebridge Group**

Donald H. Gips is a Principal of ASG, where he brings a wealth of experience in international business, management, and diplomacy to clients across the firm. He led the building of ASG's robust Africa practice.

Ambassador Gips served as the United States Ambassador to South Africa from July 2009 until January 2013. As Ambassador, he managed over 1,000 people from a dozen different government agencies and oversaw an annual budget of over \$600 million. He was recognized for his efforts to promote improved relations with South Africa when the U.S. State Department chose him as the recipient of the 2010 Sue M. Cobb Award for Exemplary Diplomatic Service.

Before being asked to be President Obama's personal representative to South Africa, Ambassador Gips served as Assistant to the President. He was a leader on the Presidential Transition Team and then served in the White House, where he ran the Office of Presidential Personnel, overseeing the selection of several thousand political appointments for the Obama Administration. He previously served in the White House during the Clinton administration, working as Chief Domestic Policy Advisor to Vice President Al Gore.

### **Chris Lu**

#### **Deputy Secretary of Labor | U.S. Department of Labor**

Chris Lu was sworn in as the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Labor on April 4, 2014, after being confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate. He serves as the chief operating officer of a 17,000-employee organization that works to create greater opportunities for all Americans.

During his career in public service, Lu has worked in all three branches of the federal government. From 2009 to 2013, Lu served as the White House Cabinet Secretary and Assistant to the President. In this role, he was President Obama's primary liaison to the federal departments and agencies, helping to coordinate policy and communications strategy.

As one of the highest-ranking Asian Americans in the Obama Administration, Lu was also the Co-Chair of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Prior to his service in the White House, Lu worked for then-Senator Obama, first as the Legislative Director, and then as the Acting Chief of Staff. After the 2008 Presidential election, Lu was the Executive Director of the Presidential transition planning efforts.

**Anita McBride****Executive-in-Residence, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, School of Public Affairs | American University**

Anita B. McBride is Executive-in-Residence at the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies in the School of Public Affairs at American University in Washington, DC. She directs programming and national conferences on the legacies of America's first ladies and their historical influence on politics, policy and global diplomacy.

McBride previously served as assistant to President George W. Bush and chief of staff to First Lady Laura Bush from 2005 to 2009, directing the staff's work on the wide variety of domestic and global initiatives in which Mrs. Bush was involved. She had primary responsibility for the First Lady's efforts to support US foreign policy objectives in human rights, women's empowerment, global health and human freedom. She directed Mrs. Bush's travel to 67 countries in 4 years including historic visits to Afghanistan, the Middle East and the Thai-Burma border.

McBride's White House service spans two decades and three presidential administrations, including as Director of White House Personnel under Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush; and as Director of the U.S. Speaker's Bureau at the United States Information Agency.

Also under President George W. Bush, McBride served as a special assistant for White House Management; as senior advisor in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Organizations and as the State Department's White House liaison.

**Nels Olson, Vice Chairman and Co-Leader of Korn Ferry's Board & CEO Services Practice | Korn Ferry**

Mr. Olson is a Vice Chairman and Co-Leader of Korn Ferry's Board & CEO Services Practice, based in the Firm's Washington, D.C. and New York offices. In addition to his Board & CEO Services Practice role, Mr. Olson is the Head of the Global Government Affairs Practice.

Recognized in the industry for his keen business sense and political knowledge, Mr. Olson has advised many clients through challenging management transitions. Over the past 20 years, he has completed in excess of 1000 successful searches for a wide range of Fortune 500 companies.

Mr. Olson's executive search and board assignments span the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America, and lie across multiple industries, including financial services, technology, consumer, industrial and healthcare.

Recent CEO level assignments include Sallie Mae, the Commissioner of the NFL and the Federal Reserve Banks of New York and Boston. Recent Board assignments include American International Group, Occidental Petroleum Corp., The Carlyle Group, NewsCorp and The Travelers Companies.

**Liza Wright, Managing Partner | Lochlin Partners**

Liza Wright has over 20 years of experience in the executive search industry. She most recently served at the highest levels of government, working at the White House as the Assistant to the President and Director of Presidential Personnel. As the senior personnel advisor to the President, she met with the President regularly to recommend individuals to fill critical presidential appointments, including Cabinet Secretaries, Ambassadors and other key positions in Cabinet-level departments and U.S. regulatory agencies.

Before joining the White House senior staff, Liza spent almost a decade as a Principal with one of the largest international executive search firms, Heidrick & Struggles. Her search practice focused on senior level searches in the financial services, government contracting and professional services sectors. She has successfully completed searches for CEO's, board members, presidents and other functional vice presidents. She has placed these executives in start-up firms, small and medium sized public and private firms, major Fortune 100 corporations and leading nonprofit entities.