

**The United States
Government Manual
2007/2008**

**Office of the Federal Register
National Archives and Records Administration**

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On the cover: Celebrating 50 years of publishing the **Public Papers of the Presidents**.

The **Public Papers of the Presidents (Public Papers)** series, published by the Office of the Federal Register of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), began in 1957 during the administration of President Dwight Eisenhower as an official publication of the public writings, speeches, messages, and statements of the President of the United States.

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Each volume of the **Public Papers** features a foreword signed by the President and a portfolio of photographs from the time period covered in the volume, as well as subject and name indexes and a document categories list. Volumes are generally published twice a year, with each volume covering approximately a 6-month period.

We accord special thanks to NARA's Presidential Libraries and the White House for providing the commemorative photographs used on the cover. We also thank the office of Creative and Digital Media Services at the Government Printing Office for its artistic contributions in designing the cover.

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Preface

As the official handbook of the Federal Government, *The United States Government Manual* provides comprehensive information on the agencies of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches. The *Manual* also includes information on quasi-official agencies; international organizations in which the United States participates; and boards, commissions, and committees.

A typical agency description includes a list of principal officials, a summary statement of the agency's purpose and role in the Federal Government, a brief history of the agency, including its legislative or executive authority, a description of its programs and activities, and a "Sources of Information" section. This last section provides information on consumer activities, contracts and grants, employment, publications, and many other areas of public interest.

The 2007/2008 *Manual* was prepared by the Presidential and Legislative Publications Unit, Office of the Federal Register, under the supervision of Gwendolyn J. Henderson. Alfred W. Jones was Managing Editor, assisted by Matthew R. Regan, and Jennifer Partridge.

THE FEDERAL REGISTER AND ITS SPECIAL EDITIONS

The *Manual* is published as a special edition of the *Federal Register* (see 1 CFR 9.1). Its focus is on programs and activities. Persons interested in detailed organizational structure, the regulatory documents of an agency, or Presidential documents should refer to the *Federal Register* or one of its other special editions, described below.

Issued each Federal working day, the *Federal Register* provides a uniform system for publishing Presidential documents, regulatory documents with general applicability and legal effect, proposed rules, notices, and documents required to be published by statute.

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recommendations for executive, legislative, and judicial salaries; reorganization plans; proposed and ratified amendments to the Constitution; and Presidential proclamations. Included with many of these documents are sidenotes, U.S. Code and statutes citations, and a summary of their legislative histories.

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