

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 23, 2009

PRESIDENTIAL STUDY DIRECTIVE - 1

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
THE SECRETARY OF LABOR
THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY
THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
THE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY
THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OF STAFF
THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
AND BUDGET
THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY
THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS
THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR ECONOMIC POLICY
THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR DOMESTIC POLICY
THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR HOMELAND
SECURITY AND COUNTERTERRORISM
THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY POLICY
THE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT
THE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
THE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Organizing for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism

My highest priority is to keep the American people safe. I believe that Homeland Security is indistinguishable from National Security -- conceptually and functionally, they should be thought

of together rather than separately. Instead of separating these issues, we must create an integrated, effective, and efficient approach to enhance the national security of the United States. The White House must be organized in ways that reflect this reality.

Accordingly, I direct the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism to lead an interagency review of ways to reform the White House organization for counter-terrorism and homeland security in order to strengthen the Government's ability to craft and implement sound policies designed to keep our country secure and our citizens safe. This Presidential Study Directive (PSD) will enhance strategic planning among the Principals and help clarify issues and options for my final decision. In assessing and proposing possible structural reforms, this review shall consider many of the recommendations of numerous bipartisan and expert studies that have examined the White House organization on counterterrorism and homeland security issues.

The review shall examine:

- How to strengthen interagency coordination of the development and implementation of the full range of homeland security and counterterrorism policies within a cohesive and integrated structure;
- How to ensure seamless integration between international and domestic efforts to combat transnational threats such as terrorism, organized crime, and narcotics trafficking;
- How to ensure a seamless capability within the White House to coordinate planning for the Federal Government's response to domestic incidents of all kinds; and
- How to retain within the White House the capacity to coordinate Federal, State, local, and tribal efforts to respond to natural disasters, including as a result of hurricanes, floods, fire, and other incidents, if necessary.

The Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism will chair the interagency review, in which all members of the Homeland Security Council will fully participate. During the course of this review, important stakeholders -- in the Congress, among State, local and tribal authorities, and outside experts -- must be fully consulted.

Within 60 days of the date of this directive, this review shall be completed and the findings presented to me. During the review period, interagency coordination of all counterterrorism issues will follow the procedures spelled out in Presidential Policy Directive-1; the Homeland Security Council and its activities will continue to function in accordance with the process and procedures contained in Homeland Security Presidential Directive-1. Any conflict between these directives will be resolved by the National Security Advisor and the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff.

National Security Presidential Directive-8 is hereby rescinded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style.