

US Executive Branch Update

May 2, 2020

This is a daily update (Monday through Saturday) on US executive branch (Executive Branch) schedules, notable developments and a synopsis of President Trump's social media activities. The report further provides a snapshot of the Executive Branch's priorities via daily press releases.

We report on the daily public event schedules for the President of the United States (POTUS) and Vice President of the United States (VPOTUS), as released by the White House; therefore, time for some scheduled items may change daily in real-time. The notable developments provided in this update typically include a listing of executive actions; a selection of departmental press releases and publications from the day prior; and information on or related to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); among other information.

POTUS' Schedule

THE PRESIDENT has no public events scheduled.

VPOTUS' Schedule

THE VICE PRESIDENT has no public events scheduled.

Recap of Friday, May 1, 2020

Note: All colored text denotes hyperlinks. Purple colored hyperlink spotlights COVID-19 developments.

The White House

- Executive Order on Securing the United States Bulk-Power System
 - Text of a Letter from the President to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate
- Remarks by President Trump in a Presidential Recognition Ceremony: Hard Work, Heroism, and Hope
- Remarks by President Trump in Announcement on Remdesivir
- Remarks by President Trump on Protecting America's Seniors
- Presidential Message to the Class of 2020

- Nominations/Appointments: President Donald J. Trump Announces Intent to Nominate and Appoint Individuals to Key Administration Posts (State, Commerce, HHS)
- Proclamation on National Hurricane Preparedness Week, 2020
- Press Briefing by Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany

Other Notable Developments

Center for Disease Control

COVID-19 webpage

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- Press Release: COVID-19 Funding Available to Minority, Rural and Socially Vulnerable Communities for Linkages to Services, Information and Education
- Press Release: HHS Begins Distribution of Payments to Hospitals with High COVID-19 Admissions, Rural Providers

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- Press Release: Coronavirus Pandemic Response: PPE Packages for Nursing Homes (May 2)
- Press Release: Coronavirus Pandemic: FEMA Assistance for Tribal Governments
- Press Release: Coordinated Efforts Bring Battelle Units to National Capital Region
- Press Release: Only a Few Days Remain to Apply for FEMA Assistance in Davidson, Putnam, Wilson Counties (Tennessee)
- Press Release: Understanding Your FEMA Letter (Mississippi)
- Press Release: It's Important to Return SBA Loan Application (Tennessee)
- Press Release: Register by June 2, 2020 for FEMA Federal Assistance in Umatilla County (Oregon)

Department of Defense

- Transcript: Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs Updates Reporters on DOD Operations
- Article: DOD Spokesman Briefs on COVID-19 Ops, Bahrain Command, 5G Problems
- Article: Army Finalizing Plan to Resume Collective Training

- Article: Defense Logistics Agency Pivots to Support COVID-19 Response
- Article: DOD Supports African Partner Nations in Multiple Ways
- Press Release: DOD Invests \$3.6 Million for the Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research Competition Winners
 - Publication: Fiscal Year 2019 Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research Competition Winners
- Contracts for May 1, 2020

Department of State

Department Statements

- May 2: Statement | Poland Constitution Day
- May 1: Interview | Secretary Michael R. Pompeo With Buck Sexton of The Buck Sexton Show (re: PRC/accountability/transparency; PRC/Hong Kong; Iran/JCPOA; COVID-19/Int'l Info Sharing)
- May 1: Fact Sheet | Update: The United States is Continuing to Lead the Response to COVID-19
- May 1: Statement | Republic of the Marshall Islands National Day (COVID-19 mention)

Department of the Treasury

 Press Release: Treasury Designates IRGC-Qods Force Front Company and Owner

Department of Homeland Security/Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

- Press Release: CBP Issues Detention Order on Hair Products Manufactured with Forced Labor in China (Washington DC)
- Press Release: USBP Agents Seize 56 Pounds of Meth (California)
- Press Release: Yuma Sector Rescues Local Man Wanted for Domestic Violence (Arizona)
- Press Release: CBP Field Operations at Hidalgo International Bridge Arrests Man Wanted on Aggravated Assault Charges (Texas)
- Press Release: CBP Goes 4 for 4, Seizing Undeclared Currency, Firearms, and Ammunition while Conducting Outbound Inspections at Eagle Pass Port of Entry (Texas)
- Press Release: Rio Grande Valley Agents Seize Nearly \$3M in Cocaine at Checkpoint (Texas)
- Press Release: Methamphetamine seized at Border Patrol Checkpoint (Texas)

- Press Release: Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol Agents Seize Thousands of Xanax Pills (Texas)
- Press Release: Missing Migrant Program Expands Life-Saving Efforts in the Rio Grande Valley (Texas)
- Press Release: 1,147 Prohibited Test Kits Seized by Chicago CBP in 45 Days (Illinois)
- Press Release: Niagara River Rescue (New York)
- Press Release: CBP Seizes Over 35 Pounds of Counterfeit Xanax (New York)
- Press Release: CBP Inspects Cut Flowers inside the First Ghost Flight to San Juan (Puerto Rico)

Department of Justice

- Daily Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Press Releases
- Statement from Assistant Attorney General Makan Delrahim on Sabre and Farelogix Decision to Abandon Merger
- Press Release: President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice Completes Teleconferences on Reentry and Grant Programs
- Press Release: Criminal Charges Filed Against Two Iranian Nationals for Violating Money Laundering & Sanctions Laws by Procuring Petroleum Tanker
- Press Release: Peruvian Man Pleads Guilty to Overseeing Call Centers that Threatened and Defrauded Spanish-Speaking U.S. Consumers
- Press Release: Justice Department and the State of Arkansas Settle Claims over Opportunities to Update Voter Registration
- Press Release: Justice Department Requires
 Divestitures as Dean Foods Sells Fluid Milk Processing
 Plants to DFA out of Bankruptcy
- Press Release: Blue Bell Creameries Agrees to Plead Guilty and Pay \$19.35 Million for Ice Cream Listeria Contamination – Former Company President Charged
- Press Release: Owner of U.S. Navy Husbanding Services Provider Pleads Guilty to Conspiracy to Commit Bribery
- Press Release: Justice Department Charges Two Defendants with Carjacking and Carrying a Firearm in Relation to a Crime of Violence in Connection with the Death of Two Transgender Individuals

Department of Commerce

 Statement from US Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross on [Departure of] Henry Childs (May 2)

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- Press Release: USDA Approves Minnesota to Accept SNAP Benefits Online
- Press Release: USDA Approves Program to Feed Kids in Delaware and Oregon

Department of Energy

 Press Release: President Trump Signs Executive Order Securing the United States Bulk-Power System

Department of Labor

- Press Release: US Department of Labor Issues Safety Alert for Restaurant, Food and Beverage Businesses Providing Curbside Pickup and Takeout Service
- Press Release: US Department of Labor Issues New COBRA Notices for Employee Benefit Plans

US Government (USG) COVID-19 Webpages

- Department of Defense COVID-19 webpage
- Department of State COVID-19 Travel Advisory webpage
- Office of Personnel Management COVID-19 webpage
- Food and Drug Administration COVID-19 webpage
- DHS Employee COVID-19 webpage
- Department of Labor COVID-19 webpage
- USG COVID-19 webpage

Non-USG COVID Webpages

Johns Hopkins University & Medicine

- Coronavirus Resource Center
 - COVID-19 Interactive Map

Synopsis of President Trump's Tweets

May 2: "Thank you Michael. You also!
 Michael R. Caputo @MichaelRCaputo · May 1
 Replying to @KFILE
 The first requisite of working for a fearless man like
 @realDonaldTrump is to have no fear."

Contacts

Stacy A. Swanson

Public Policy Advisor, Washington DC T +1 202 457 5627 E stacy.swanson@squirepb.com

- May 2: "The Russia Hoax is the biggest political scandal in American history. Treason!!! Lets see how it ends????
 - Kimberley Strassel @KimStrassel · Apr 30
 The FBI knew Michael Flynn wasn't colluding with
 Russia, so it plotted to 'get him to lie.' New documents
 reveal that, by the end, the Bureau just wanted a scalp,
 writes @KimStrassel https://wsj.com/articles/the-fbisflynn-outrage-11588288438 via @WSJ"
- May 2: "96% Approval Rating in the Republican Party. Thank you! Also, just out, highest ever Approval Rating overall in the new Gallup Poll, and shows "Trump beating Sleepy Joe Biden."
- May 2: "There is tremendous CoronaVirus testing capacity in Washington for the Senators returning to Capital Hill on Monday. Likewise the House, which should return but isn't because of Crazy Nancy P. The 5 minute Abbott Test will be used. Please inform Dr. Brian P. Monahan. @MarkMeadows"
- May 1: "Don't allow RIGGED ELECTIONS!
 Mollie @MZHemingway · Apr 30
 Nearly one in five of all absentee and mail-in-ballots between 2012 and 2018 remain unaccounted for, according to data from the federal Election Assistance Commission.

- May 1: "Senator Shelley Moore Capito (@CapitoforWV)
 is doing a tremendous job for the great people of West
 Virginia! She strongly defends our Second Amendment,
 Supports our Veterans and is Strong on Life and the
 Border...."
- May 1: "....Together we will Fight for Small Businesses and Protect American Energy workers! Shelley has my Complete and Total Endorsement!"
- May 1: "Concast (@NBCNews) and Fake News @CNN are going out of their way to say GREAT things about China. They are Chinese puppets who want to do business there. They use USA airwaves to help China. The Enemy of the People!"

Daily Public Policy Group Report

For additional global public policy insights related to COVID-19, please contact us to receive our daily public policy group report (see the latest edition here).

Capital Thinking Blog

In the coming weeks, we will unveil a blog dedicated to global public policy focused contents. Follow us on Twitter @SPB_CapThinking for the launch announcement.