PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

SECRETARY STEVEN T. MNUCHIN
U.S. Department of the Treasury

Steven Terner Mnuchin was sworn in as the 77th Secretary of the Treasury on February 13, 2017.

As Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Mnuchin is responsible for the executive branch agency whose mission is to maintain a strong economy, foster economic growth, and create job opportunities by promoting the conditions that enable prosperity and stability at home and abroad. He is also responsible for strengthening national security by combating economic threats and protecting the integrity of our financial system as well as managing the U.S. government’s finances.

Prior to his confirmation, Secretary Mnuchin was finance chairman for Donald J. Trump for President. In this role he spent the last year traveling with the president. He met with hundreds of business leaders. He also served as a senior economic advisor to the president in crafting his economic positions and economic speeches.

Prior to his confirmation he also served as founder, chairman, and chief executive officer of Dune Capital Management. He also founded OneWest Bank Group LLC and served as its chairman and chief executive officer until its sale to CIT Group Inc., which was the first bank merger over $50 billion post financial crisis.

Earlier in his career, Secretary Mnuchin worked at The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. where he was a partner and served as chief information officer. He has extensive experience in global financial markets and oversaw trading in U.S. government securities, mortgages, money markets, and municipal bonds.

Secretary Mnuchin is committed to philanthropic activities and previously served as a member of the boards of the Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles (MOCA), the Whitney Museum of Art, the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden on the Mall, the UCLA Health System Board, the New York Presbyterian Hospital Board, and the Los Angeles Police Foundation. He was born and raised in New York City. Secretary Mnuchin holds a bachelor’s degree from Yale University.

JOSHUA BOLTEN
President and Chief Executive Officer, Business Roundtable

Joshua Bolten is president and chief executive officer of the Business Roundtable (BRT), an association of CEOs of leading U.S. companies that generate $6 trillion in annual revenues and employ nearly 15 million people.

Before joining the BRT in January 2017, Bolten was managing director of Rock Creek Global Advisors, an international economic and regulatory policy consulting firm, which he co-founded in July 2011. Bolten
spent the preceding two years at Princeton University as a visiting professor at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

Bolten served in the White House under President George W. Bush as chief of staff (2006–09), director of the Office of Management and Budget (2003–06), and deputy chief of staff for policy (2001–03). For the preceding two years, he was policy director of the Bush 2000 presidential campaign.

In his nearly 20 years of government service, Bolten also held positions as general counsel to the U.S. Trade Representative, chief trade counsel to the U.S. Senate Finance Committee, and an attorney at the U.S. State Department. Bolten’s previous private sector experience includes work at Goldman Sachs in London and O’Melveny & Myers in Washington, D.C.

Bolten received his undergraduate degree from Princeton (1976) and his law degree from Stanford (1980). He is a member of the board of Emerson Electric Co. In the non-profit sector, he serves on the boards of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and the ONE Campaign.

He is married to Ann Kelly Bolten, and they live in Chevy Chase, MD, with their sons, Gage and Eli.

**REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN BRADY**

(R-TX) Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means and Joint Committee on Taxation

Kevin is chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee—considered by many to be the most powerful committee in Congress, with jurisdiction over taxes, health care, Social Security, Medicare, international trade, and welfare.

A champion of free enterprise and American-made energy, Kevin’s focus is creating jobs, reducing Washington spending, and sunsetting obsolete federal agencies.

Kevin previously served as chairman of the influential Health Subcommittee for the House Ways and Means Committee. As chairman, he focused on ensuring a strong, free market in the nation’s health care industry and looking for ways to increase the quality of health care, while keeping costs low.

And as the former chairman and vice chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, Kevin has been a GOP leader on economic issues—opposing President Obama’s stimulus and fighting White House efforts to raise taxes on families, small businesses, and American energy producers.

Until 2013, Kevin was the leader of the Trade Subcommittee and led the successful effort to pass new sales agreements with Panama, South Korea, and Colombia—and he served as the White House point man on the successful passage of the Central American Free Trade Agreement. On the Social Security Subcommittee, Kevin fought to preserve this important program for future generations once and for all.

Prior to his election to Congress, Kevin worked as a chamber of commerce executive for 18 years and served six years in the Texas House of Representatives where he was named one of the Ten Best Legislators for Families & Children. In 1994 he was named one of Five Outstanding Young Texans.

In order to stay close to the people he represents, Kevin never moved to Washington. He lives in Montgomery County with his wife Cathy and his two sons Will (18) and Sean (15)—and has logged nearly two million miles commuting to Congress each week.

Kevin is an original Hometown Hero of the Woodlands, a Paul Harris Fellow in Rotary, and a distinguished alumni of the University of South Dakota. He and his family attend Saints Simon and Jude Catholic Church.
SYLVIA MATHEWS BURWELL
President-Designate, American University; 22nd U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services

Sylvia Mathews Burwell is American University’s 15th president and first woman president.

Burwell served as the 22nd secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from 2014 until the conclusion of President Obama’s second term. Before that, she was the director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Her prior government experience includes deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget, deputy chief of staff to the president, chief of staff to the secretary of the Treasury, and special assistant to the director of the National Economic Council.

Burwell served 11 years at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, including roles as the chief operating officer and president of global development. After the Gates Foundation, Burwell was the president of the Walmart Foundation and ran their women’s economic empowerment efforts.

She earned a bachelor’s degree in government from Harvard University and a BA in philosophy, policy, and economics from the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar.

JAMES C. CAPRETTA
Resident Fellow and Milton Friedman Chair, American Enterprise Institute

James C. Capretta is a resident fellow and holds the Milton Friedman chair at the American Enterprise Institute, where he studies health care, entitlements, and U.S. budgetary policy, as well as global trends in aging, health, and retirement programs.

Mr. Capretta spent more than 16 years in public service before joining AEI. As an associate director at the White House’s Office of Management and Budget from 2001 to 2004, he was responsible for all health care, Social Security, welfare, and labor and education issues. Earlier, he served as a senior health policy analyst at the U.S. Senate Budget Committee and at the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means.

He has been widely published in newspapers, magazines, and trade journals.

Mr. Capretta has an MA in public policy studies from Duke University and a BA in government from the University of Notre Dame.

REPRESENTATIVE CHARLIE DENT
(R-PA) Chairman, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, U.S. House Committee on Appropriations

Congressman Charlie Dent has served Pennsylvania’s 15th Congressional District since 2005.

Congressman Dent chairs the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and was named chairman of the House Ethics Committee. Charlie was appointed to the Appropriations Committee in 2011. The committee establishes the funding levels for numerous activities, including, national defense, education, federal law enforcement, homeland security, federal biomedical and health-related research, and other government operations.

The Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee is responsible for providing funding to support military base construction, operation, maintenance, and troop training. The subcommittee also ensures funding for the Veterans Administration.

The Ethics Committee is tasked with ensuring members of Congress and congressional staff comply with House rules.
Congressman Dent serves as the vice chairman of the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee. He is a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies.

Charlie serves as a co-chair of the Tuesday Group, a caucus of center-right Republican members focused on fiscal responsibility, a strong national defense, and an affirmative obligation to govern.

Charlie earned a degree in foreign service and international politics from Pennsylvania State University in 1982 and a master’s degree in public administration from Lehigh University in 1993. Before entering public service, he worked as a development officer for Lehigh University and as an industrial electronics salesman. He lives in Allentown with his family: his wife, Pamela, and children—Kathryn, William, and Jack.

JASON FURMAN
Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics
28th Chair, Council of Economic Advisers

Jason Furman joined the Peterson Institute for International Economics as senior fellow in January 2017. He served as a top economic adviser to President Barack Obama during the previous eight years, including as the 28th chair of the Council of Economic Advisers from August 2013 to January 2017, acting as both Obama’s chief economist and a member of the cabinet. Furman played an important role in most of the major economic policies of the Obama administration. In addition, Furman helped make the Council of Economic Advisers a thought leader on a wide range of topics including labor markets, competition policy, and macroeconomics.

Prior to joining the Obama administration, Furman held a variety of public policy and research posts. In public policy, Furman worked at both the Council of Economic Advisers and National Economic Council during the Clinton administration and at the World Bank. In research, Furman was a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. He has served in visiting positions at various universities, including New York University’s Wagner Graduate School of Public Policy, and has conducted research in a wide range of areas, such as fiscal policy, tax policy, health economics, Social Security, and domestic and international macroeconomics. Furman has authored numerous articles in scholarly journals and periodicals and is the editor of two books on economic policy. He holds a PhD in economics from Harvard University.

ATUL GAWANDE, MD, MPH
Executive Director, Ariadne Labs

With four best-selling books—including Complications; Better; The Checklist Manifesto; and Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End—Atul Gawande, MD, MPH, is an accomplished surgeon, writer, and public health researcher who inspires clinicians, patients, families, and policy makers to re-examine their understanding of medicine.

Gawande practices general and endocrine surgery at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) and is a professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (HSPH) and the Samuel O. Thier Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School. He is the founder and executive director of Ariadne Labs, a joint center for health systems innovation at BWH and HSPH dedicated to reducing suffering worldwide through scalable solutions that drive better care at the most critical moments in people’s lives. Gawande is also the chair of Lifebox, a nonprofit organization focused on making surgery safer globally.
A staff writer for *The New Yorker* magazine since 1998, Gawande is the winner of two National Magazine Awards, AcademyHealth’s Impact Award for highest research impact on healthcare, a MacArthur Fellowship, and the Lewis Thomas Award for writing about science. He serves on the board of directors of the New America Foundation.

**REPRESENTATIVE JIM HIMES**

(D-CT) Chair, New Democrat Coalition; U.S. House Committee on Financial Services; Ranking Member, NSA and Cybersecurity Subcommittee, U.S. House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

Jim Himes represents Connecticut’s 4th District in the United States House of Representatives, where he is serving his fifth term. He is a member of the House Committee on Financial Services, serves as the ranking member of the NSA and Cybersecurity Subcommittee of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Rep. Himes also serves as chair of the New Democrat Coalition, a group of 61 forward-thinking Democrats who are committed to pro-economic growth, pro-innovation, and fiscally responsible policies. New Democrats are a solutions-oriented coalition serious about working on policies so that all Americans have the opportunity to compete in the changing economy.

**HOUSE DEMOCRATIC WHIP STENY H. HOYER**

(MD-05)

As House Democratic Whip since 2011, Congressman Hoyer is the second-ranking member of the House Democratic Leadership. He is charged with mobilizing the party vote on important legislation, shaping House Democrats’ legislative priorities, and delivering the Democratic message. Congressman Hoyer previously served as House Majority Leader from 2007 to 2011, and as House Democratic Whip from 2003 to 2007.

Congressman Hoyer has helped lead efforts in Congress to invest in job creation and make our economy more competitive. Since 2010, he has spearheaded the bipartisan “Make It In America” plan, which is focused on creating the conditions that encourage businesses to create jobs in the United States.

Congressman Hoyer believes that fiscal responsibility is critical to ensuring that we have the resources to invest in our future and restore certainty to businesses and workers. To that end, he helped lead the restoration of the pay-as-you-go law, ensuring that our country pays for what it buys, and has been an advocate for a big and balanced approach to putting our nation on a sound fiscal path.

Congressman Hoyer and his wife, the late Judith Pickett Hoyer, have three daughters: Susan, Stefany, and Anne; son-in-law Loren Taylor; grandchildren Judy, James Cleveland, and Alexa; and great-grandchildren Ava, Braedon, and Brooklyn.

**MITCH LANDRIEU**

Mayor of New Orleans; Vice President, U.S. Conference of Mayors

Mitch Landrieu was sworn in as the 61st mayor of New Orleans on May 3, 2010, with a clear mandate to usher in a new era of peace and prosperity in New Orleans. On February 1, 2014, Mayor Landrieu was overwhelmingly reelected to a second term. He is the first mayor in the city to be elected by majorities of both white and African-American voters, a feat he accomplished twice.
Under Landrieu, New Orleans has become America’s best comeback story and one of the fastest-growing major cities in America. Since 2010, New Orleans has been ranked as the #1 metropolitan area for overall economic recovery by the Brookings Institution and as America’s Best City for School Reform by the Fordham Institute. Now, the city is continuing to progress toward its 300th anniversary in 2018.

As mayor, Landrieu committed to increase public safety by reforming the New Orleans Police Department and launching NOLA FOR LIFE, a comprehensive strategy to tackle the city’s historically high murder rate. There are early signs of progress—violent crime is trending down, and 2014 saw the lowest number of murders in 43 years.

Landrieu took office facing a nearly $100 million mid-year budget hole, about 20 percent of City Hall’s overall budget, that he closed by cutting smart and reorganizing city services. Today, the city is seeing unprecedented sales and property tax growth. The city has also leveraged over $100 million in private, philanthropic, and federal grant funds for key priorities. Under his leadership, the city also secured over a billion new dollars from FEMA for critical infrastructure and capital improvements to get New Orleans’s recovery going, including new funds for road and drainage projects, park and playground renovations, and new criminal justice facilities.

Prior to becoming mayor, Landrieu served as Louisiana’s lieutenant governor for six years and represented the Broadmoor neighborhood in the Louisiana House of Representatives for 16 years.

**SENATOR JOHN S. MCCAIN**

(R-AZ) Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services


He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Arizona in 1982 and elected to the United States Senate in 1986.

He was the Republican Party’s nominee for president in the 2008 election.

He currently serves as chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services.

**MICHAEL G. MULLEN, USN (RET.)**

17th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; President, MGM Consulting LLC; Chairman, Coalition for Fiscal and National Security

Considered perhaps one of the most influential chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in history, Admiral Mike Mullen takes a fresh approach to the most important geopolitical issues of the 21st century including America’s position in the world and how economic health directly impacts our national security. Admiral Mullen believes our “national debt” is our greatest security threat.

Mullen is the kind of broad-minded, intellectually curious leader, widely recognized as an “honest broker” as the top military advisor to Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama. He brought bold and original thinking to the work of strengthening the U.S. military and advocating for those who serve.

Admiral Mullen oversaw the end of the combat mission in Iraq and the development of a new military strategy for Afghanistan, while promoting international partnerships, new technologies and new counter-terrorism tactics culminating in the killing of Osama bin Laden.

A 1968 graduate from Annapolis, Mullen sought high-risk positions to develop his leadership skills. He was the chief of Naval Operations prior to assuming duties as chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. In an
unprecedented in-depth feature article, Fast Company called Mullen “not just a new model for military officers—and a new kind of business titan—but also a case study in 21st-century leadership.”

Since retiring from the Navy, Mullen serves on the boards of General Motors, Sprint, and the Bloomberg Family Foundation, and teaches at the Wilson School at Princeton. He is known for his honesty and candor, and for his efforts on behalf of service members, veterans, and their families. He is renowned for his role in dismantling “don’t ask, don’t tell” and allowing gay service members to serve openly.

Today he shares with audiences his deep experience in leading change in complex organizations, his assessment of geopolitical relationships and service, diversity implementation, crisis management, economic policy, risk management, and the growing and existential threat of cyber security.

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER NANCY PELOSI
[D-CA]

Nancy Pelosi is the Democratic Leader of the House of Representatives in the 115th Congress. From 2007 to 2011, she served as the first woman Speaker of the House. Leader Pelosi has led House Democrats for more than 12 years and has represented San Francisco, California’s 12th Congressional District, for 29 years. As the Democratic Leader, Pelosi is fighting for bigger paychecks and better infrastructure for America’s middle-class families. In 2013, she was inducted into the National Women’s Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Seneca Falls, the birthplace of the American women’s rights movement.

Under Pelosi’s leadership, the 111th Congress was heralded as “one of the most productive Congresses in history” by congressional scholar Norman Ornstein.

Pelosi brings to her leadership position a distinguished record of legislative accomplishment. Pelosi spearheaded passage of historic health insurance reform legislation in the House which establishes a Patients’ Bill of Rights and will provide insurance for tens of millions more Americans while lowering health care costs over the long term. Other accomplishments include the passage of historic investments in college aid, clean energy and innovation, and initiatives to help small businesses and veterans. She has been a powerful voice for civil rights and human rights around the world for decades.

Pelosi comes from strong family tradition of public service in Baltimore. Married to Paul Pelosi, she is a mother of five and grandmother of nine.

SENATOR MARK WARNER
[D-VA] Vice Chairman, U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence; U.S. Senate Committee on Finance; U.S. Senate Committee on Banking; U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget

Senator Warner was elected to the U.S. Senate in November 2008 and reelected to a second term in November 2014. He serves on the Senate Finance, Banking, Budget, and Rules Committees as well as the Select Committee on Intelligence, where he is the vice chairman. During his time in the Senate, Senator Warner has established himself as a bipartisan leader who has worked with Republicans and Democrats alike to cut red tape, increase government performance and accountability, and promote private sector innovation and job creation. Senator Warner has been recognized as a national leader in fighting for our military men and women and veterans, and in working to find bipartisan, balanced solutions to address our country’s debt and deficit.
From 2002 to 2006, he served as governor of Virginia. When he left office in 2006, Virginia was ranked as the best state for business, the best managed state, and the best state in which to receive a public education.

The first in his family to graduate from college, Mark Warner spent 20 years as a successful technology and business leader in Virginia before entering public office. An early investor in the cellular telephone business, he co-founded the company that became Nextel and invested in hundreds of start-up technology companies that created tens of thousands of jobs.

Senator Warner, his wife Lisa Collis, and their three daughters live in Alexandria, Virginia.
MODERATOR BIOGRAPHIES

DANA BASH
Chief Political Correspondent, CNN

Dana Bash is CNN’s chief political correspondent based in Washington, D.C., and serves as the network’s lead reporter covering both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. She was the primary reporter covering the 2016 Republican field of presidential candidates and also continues to regularly serve as a moderator for CNN’s political town hall specials.

Additionally, as the network’s chief political correspondent, Bash played a key role in CNN’s 2016 presidential primary debates, serving as a questioner in six of the network’s seven primetime primary debates on both sides of the aisle. Bash also serves as a co-anchor on set in the CNN Election Center for all election night specials and is the primary fill-in anchor for Jake Tapper on CNN’s premier political show, State of the Union.

As part of her coverage of the 2016 presidential campaigns, Bash has conducted sit-down interviews with majority of the candidates including Donald Trump, Senators Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio, and Bernie Sanders, and Governors Jeb Bush and John Kasich. In addition, Bash secured several extensive interviews with the candidates’ families and spouses including the first interview with Kasich’s wife and daughters; Heidi Cruz, exploring her role in her husband’s campaign; Governor Scott Walker’s two sons before announcing his presidential bid; and Frank Fiorina, husband of the only woman who ran for the Republican nomination.

Bash also continues to be instrumental to the network’s Capitol Hill coverage. In 2015, she broke news on live television that House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy would not be running for Speaker of the House and also conducted Speaker John Boehner’s final interview on his last day in office. Bash also served as the lead correspondent covering former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s 11-hour testimony before the House Select Committee on Benghazi.

Bash graduated cum laude with her bachelor’s degree in political communications from The George Washington University.

Follow Dana on Twitter: @DanaBashCNN.

LISA DESJARDINS
CORRESPONDENT, PBS NEWSHOUR

Lisa Desjardins has covered national politics and Capitol Hill for over a decade, with a particular love for following and engaging on large fiscal issues. As a correspondent for PBS NewsHour, Desjardins covered the Trump campaign during the 2016 election cycle and has reported on opportunity and struggle in rural America as part of the broadcast’s “Chasing the Dream” series. Prior to joining NewsHour in October of 2014, Desjardins worked for CNN on Capitol Hill for nearly ten years. Early in her career at WIS-TV, she broke news of the compromise to bring down the Confederate flag from the South Carolina State House dome. Desjardins is the recipient of a Peabody Award for CNN’s coverage of the 2008 election and a Society of Professional Journalists’ Sigma Delta Chi award for national breaking news for coverage of the Haiti earthquake.
JOHN HARWOOD
Editor at Large, CNBC

John Harwood is editor at large for CNBC covering Washington and hosts the CNBC Digital original video series “Speakeasy with John Harwood.”

Harwood was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and grew up in the Maryland suburbs outside of the nation’s capital. He has been around journalism and politics all his life; his first trip on a presidential campaign press plane came when he was 11 years old and accompanied his father, then a political reporter for The Washington Post.

While still in high school, he began his journalism career as a copy boy at The Washington Star. He studied history and economics at Duke University and graduated magna cum laude in 1978. Harwood subsequently joined The St. Petersburg Times, reporting on police, investigative projects, local government and politics. Later he became state capital correspondent in Tallahassee, Washington correspondent and political editor. While covering national politics, he also traveled extensively to South Africa, where he covered deepening unrest against the apartheid regime.

In 1989, Harwood was named a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University, where he spent the 1989–90 academic year. In 1991, he joined The Wall Street Journal as White House correspondent, covering the administration of George H. W. Bush. Later Harwood reported on Congress. In 1997, he became The Wall Street Journal’s political editor and chief political correspondent.


In addition to CNBC, Harwood offers political analysis on NBC and NPR, among others. Harwood has covered each of the last nine presidential elections.

Follow John Harwood on Twitter: @johnjharwood.

JULIE ROVNER
Chief Washington Correspondent, Kaiser Health News

Julie Rovner is the chief Washington correspondent for Kaiser Health News. She joined KHN in 2014 after 16 years as health policy correspondent for NPR, where she helped lead the network’s coverage of the passage and implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

A noted expert on health policy issues, Rovner is the author of a critically-praised reference book Health Care Politics and Policy A-Z, now in its third edition. In 2005, she was awarded the National Press Foundation’s Everett McKinley Dirksen Award for distinguished reporting of Congress for her coverage of the passage of the Medicare prescription drug law and its aftermath.

She has appeared numerous times on the PBS Newshour, C-SPAN, and many other national broadcasts.

Prior to NPR, Rovner covered health policy for National Journal’s CongressDaily and for Congressional Quarterly, among others. She has a degree in political science from University of Michigan–Ann Arbor.
RICHARD RUBIN  

Richard Rubin is the U.S. tax policy reporter for The Wall Street Journal in Washington, focusing on the intersection of taxes, politics and economics. Before joining the Journal in 2015, he covered tax policy for Bloomberg News and Congressional Quarterly. He also wrote about local government and transportation policy for The Charlotte Observer. He is a native of New Jersey, a graduate of Duke University, and a resident of Washington.