

## Practices and Principles of White House Coverage

As members of the White House press corps, we affirm our duty to vigorously protect the public's right to know about the work of their elected and appointed officials, particularly the Office of the President of the United States.

We believe that the public's right to know depends on the broadest possible access by the press to cover the full range of activities that the President and his or her administration undertake in performing the public's business. We believe that limitations on the press to fully report on these activities in conducting the public's business undermine public trust in government.

We therefore embrace, on behalf of all those guided and governed by the First Amendment, our responsibility to demand meaningful and consistent access to the President and his or her aides whenever and wherever they conduct the public's business.

To that end, we have defined a set of Principles and Practices to guide journalists and the White House alike in fulfilling their obligation to inform:

- The press must be able to see, hear, witness and question the President and his or her aides on a routine basis, in addition to the daily White House briefing.
- The press must have the ability to question the President in person on a regular basis, including through a full news conference at least once a month and in response to significant news developments.
- The White House press pool always accompanies the President when he or she travels outside the White House grounds.
- The President's events are by default open to the full press corps and, in the instance of legitimate space constraints, are at minimum open to the full press pool.
- The press has regular access to the President's aides, beyond those in the White House Press Office.
- Briefings by administration officials are on the record, as a general practice. Background briefings where officials are not identified by name are reserved for subjects of special sensitivity.
- The White House discloses the President's and Vice President's daily schedule and informs the press of any changes in a timely fashion.

--The members of the White House Correspondents' Association