

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS



January 13, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

John Greenewald, Jr.

john@greenewald.com

Tracking No: OGE FOIA FY 17/055

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

The U.S. Office of Government Ethics (OGE) is granting in part and denying in part your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, which was received by the OGE FOIA Office on December 14, 2016. In your request, you asked for “all emails to or from the OGE spokesperson Seth Jaffe between September 1, 2016 and December 13, 2016 that contains the word CLINTON.”

In response to your request, we are enclosing 224 pages, 62 pages of which are subject to deletions made in accordance with FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6) as information the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The deletions are each marked with a reference “(b)(6)” in the enclosed copies.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact me by telephone at 202-482-9267. As OGE’s FOIA Public Liaison, I am available for assisting in reducing delays, increasing transparency and understanding of the status of requests, and assisting in the resolution of disputes. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

The OGE official responsible for this FOIA determination is the undersigned. In accordance with the FOIA, as codified at 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(A), and OGE’s updated FOIA regulations, at 5 C.F.R. § 2604.304, you may administratively appeal this



Mr. Greenewald

Page 2

determination to the Program Counsel, U.S. Office of Government Ethics, 1201 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005-3917. Any such appeal must be in writing and must be sent within 90 days of the date you receive this response letter. If you do appeal, you should include copies of your request and this response, together with a statement of why you believe this initial determination is in error. Also, if you appeal, you should clearly indicate on the envelope and in the letter that it is a "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

RACHEL
DOWELL



Digitally signed by RACHEL
DOWELL
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government,
ou=Office of Government Ethics,
cn=RACHEL DOWELL,
0.9.2342.1.19200300.100.1.1=9549
1002670133
Date: 2017.01.13 21:16:47 -0500

Rachel K. Dowell
OGE FOIA Officer

Enclosures

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

Discover the Truth at: <http://www.theblackvault.com>

From: [Meltwater](#)
To: [Seth Jaffe](#)
Subject: [GRAYMAIL] Trump Media Report: 765 New Results
Date: Tuesday, December 13, 2016 8:03:13 AM

Your Contact Person: Meghann Ambrose | (b) (6)
[Help Center](#)

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[@OfficeGovEthics | Social](#) 271
[OGE: Trump Report](#) 494

@OfficeGovEthics | Social



[Back to top ↑](#)

 [ExGOP#TrumpOwnsMedia @KathrynCroft](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 06:49 am

 .@realDonaldTrump The ONLY WAY IS TO Divest .@OfficeGovEthics
#Trump=Nixon=PutinsPuppet <https://t.co/zKKwPjQWq3> 

[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [PlaneJane @planejane36](#) • Dec 13 • 06:35 am

 RT @tweet4civicact: Will our leaders recognize dangers of this? @NancyPelosi
@JohnKerry @TheChrisSuprun @OfficeGovEthics @RepCummings @SenJ... 

[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [Y田貫 @gaming_oldman](#) • JPN • Dec 13 • 06:27 am

 @usoge よくあるよね(笑) 



[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [Mia Massicotte @MiaMassicotte](#) • Dec 13 • 06:20 am

 @isawthesethings @standshadows @OfficeGovEthics 'no new deals' -- only existing ones #divestdonald 



[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [Mia Massicotte @MiaMassicotte](#) • Dec 13 • 06:18 am

 RT @isawthesethings: RT to let @OfficeGovEthics we stand behind them in their #divestdonald demand. Only liquidation will solve #Emoluments... 

[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [Terry Alan McCracken @TerryMcCracken](#) • CAN • Dec 13 • 04:49 am

 RT @MariaShea55: Investigate Comey and start holding people accountable! @OfficeGovEthics @ElectoralCollge <https://t.co/MLLZ2M4MUh> 

[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [BABYDOLL21 @Lovingalaugh](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 03:30 am

 @OfficeGovEthics @kurteichenwald @funder @th3j35t3r 



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 [BABYDOLL21 @Lovingalaugh](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 03:27 am

 RT @Crazieone2750: @OfficeGovEthics Can you subpoena tax returns to verify financial information? 

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 [BABYDOLL21 @Lovingalaugh](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 03:25 am


 RT @OfficeGovEthics: New! OGE profile explains how we prevent #ConflictsOfInterest in the executive branch. <https://t.co/2ZzHknkGWm> <https://t.co/2ZzHknkGWm> 
...



[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [Josh DuBose @JoshDuBose](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 03:17 am


 @realDonaldTrump Maybe you weren't paying attn to @OfficeGovEthics when they said divestiture is the only ETHICAL move. #blindtrust 



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 (((Prog Writer))) [@nowin2613](#) • MAR • Dec 13 • 02:34 am

 RT @Northquahog48: @jbarro @chrislhayes Ask the @OfficeGovEthics ? 

[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [Karen Naumann @naumann_9](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 02:23 am

 RT @OfficeGovEthics: New! OGE profile explains how we prevent #ConflictsOfInterest in the executive branch. <https://t.co/2ZzHknkGWm> https://... 



[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [Hudson @hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 13 • 02:17 am

 @Newsweek @kurteichenwald @OfficeGovEthics @USGAO @GOPoversight @OversightDems @CNN @FoxNews @MSNBC @KellyannePolls @USCongress_GTA 

[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [Shance Ordell @sordell2011](#) • Dec 13 • 02:16 am

 @OfficeGovEthics Read <https://t.co/2XXxnz11Ez>, confused by Trump's conflict of interests and his stance that the law is on his side? 

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 [eileen chengyin chow @chowleen](#) • BRA • Dec 13 • 02:08 am



RT @LetaHong: What do you say now that Trump is not divesting @OfficeGovEthics? <https://t.co/qttkjlCOWJ>



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[Kenya School of Govt @KSGKenya](#) • KEN • Dec 13 • 02:05 am



RT @OfficeGovEthics: Met w/ our peers at @AGOOfficeKenya @PSCKenya @KSGKenya @EACCKenya @KICDKenya to collaborate on training. h/t @USEmbas...



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[Muckmaker @RealMuckmaker](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:56 am



RT @hudsonyes03161: @RealMuckmaker @POTUS @CIA @ElectoralCollge @OfficeGovEthics @GOPoversight @OversightDems @SenSchumer @KellyannePolls...



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[Felicia Gershberg @fbg0811](#) • Dec 13 • 01:51 am



RT @tweet4civicact: Will our leaders recognize dangers of this? @NancyPelosi @JohnKerry @TheChrisSuprun @OfficeGovEthics @RepCummings @SenJ...



[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)



[Silicon Valley dem @aussiepunk](#) • KEN • Dec 13 • 01:29 am



@realDonaldTrump THAT IS NOT DIVESTING. Please listen to @OfficeGovEthics



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[mommysquared @mommysquared](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:24 am



RT @tweet4civicact: Will our leaders recognize dangers of this? @NancyPelosi @JohnKerry @TheChrisSuprun @OfficeGovEthics @RepCummings @SenJ...




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 [Cheryl Springfels @springfels](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:17 am

 Hello...these are "#deals" - continued foreign debt - collecting rent - hiring - hotel guests @OfficeGovEthics... <https://t.co/BbvTDFbGuz> 



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 [Corey B. @Coreybez1](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:17 am

 RT @hudsonyes03161: @epeakin @Coreybez1 @wolfblitzer @BernieSanders @jaketapper @NancyPelosi @CIA @FBI @USGAO @OfficeGovEthics @NBCNews @AB... 



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 [Hudson @hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 13 • 01:09 am

 @epeakin @Coreybez1 @wolfblitzer @BernieSanders @jaketapper @NancyPelosi @CIA @FBI @USGAO @OfficeGovEthics @NBCNews @ABCPolitics @CBSNews 



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 [One United @tweet4civicact](#) • Dec 13 • 01:08 am

 Will our leaders recognize dangers of this? @NancyPelosi @JohnKerry @TheChrisSuprun @OfficeGovEthics @RepCummings... <https://t.co/ostcKngaAB> 



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 [Hudson @hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 13 • 01:07 am

 @epeakin @POTUS @CIA @ElectoralCollge @OfficeGovEthics @GOPOversight @OversightDems @SenSchumer @SenJohnMcCain @LindseyGrahamSC 



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 [Starchild @SpartanBusiBee](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:06 am

 RT *@OfficeGovEthics*: Met w/ our peers at *@AGOfficeKenya @PSCKenya @KSGKenya @EACCKenya @KICDKenya* to collaborate on training. h/t *@USEmbas...* 



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 [Starchild @SpartanBusiBee](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:06 am

 RT *@OfficeGovEthics*: Tomorrow brings the first of three riddles. Our annual #poem on #HolidayGifts may help decode them. <https://t.co/PZ1tj...> 

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 [Starchild @SpartanBusiBee](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:06 am

 RT *@OfficeGovEthics*: An inside look at a virtual session w/ Kenyan officials. OGE's Institute for Ethics in Govt shares training vids at ht... 



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 [Starchild @SpartanBusiBee](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:05 am


 RT *@OfficeGovEthics*: OGE's updated Gifts rules emphasize #ethical decision-making. Read more here <https://t.co/EUrtbVTq7m> 

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 [Starchild @SpartanBusiBee](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:05 am

 RT *@OfficeGovEthics*: Do you know what rules apply to #feds accepting gifts from private parties? OGE just updated its rule: <https://t.co/EU...> 

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 [Hudson @hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 13 • 01:05 am



@dbcidthumper5 @ElectoralCollge @OfficeGovEthics @GOPoversight
 @OversightDems @SenSchumer @KellyannePolls @SenJohnMcCain
 @LindseyGrahamSC



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[Starchild](#) @SpartanBusiBee • USA • Dec 13 • 01:05 am



RT @OfficeGovEthics: As the transition looms, @FedWeek discusses OGE's post-government employment guidance. <https://t.co/fc8Fb9Jf9y>



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[Starchild](#) @SpartanBusiBee • USA • Dec 13 • 01:05 am



RT @OfficeGovEthics: New! OGE profile explains how we prevent #ConflictsOfInterest in the executive branch. <https://t.co/2ZzHknkGWm> https://
 ...



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[Jeff Oster](#) @Jeff_Oster • USA • Dec 13 • 01:01 am



So, @OfficeGovEthics is this enough to avoid conflict of interest and Article 1 Sec 9 Emoluments? We await your gui... <https://t.co/O96ccpxZ4...>



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[just thinking](#) @isawthesethings • USA • Dec 13 • 01:01 am



@MMFlint @realDonaldTrump This "deal" isn't going to close!
 @OfficeGovEthics #EmolumentsClause... <https://t.co/H11C5DeUk>



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[Hudson](#) @hudsonyes03161 • Dec 13 • 12:57 am





@Shareblue @USGAO @usgaolegal @OfficeGovEthics @mitchellreports
 @seanspicer @wolfblitzer @GOPoversight @OversightDems @NancyPelosi
 @ACLU



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 [Susan Woods @EarthAbides](#) • Dec 13 • 12:56 am

 RT @realNikiBowen: .@realDonaldTrump @OfficeGovEthics What do you mean by no NEW deals? There are still EXISTING matters, correct? What abo... 



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 [Hudson @hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 13 • 12:53 am

 @Shareblue @USGAO @ElectoralCollge @OfficeGovEthics @GOPoversight @OversightDems @SenSchumer @KellyannePolls @SenJohnMcCain @LindseyGrahamS... 



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 [Starchild @SpartanBusiBee](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 12:49 am

 RT @PaulBlu: The *Office of Government Ethics* sent out a string of weird tweets today trolling Donald Trump <https://t.co/1B3FLzYi1J> 

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 [Becky B @nidula_b](#) • Dec 13 • 12:46 am


 RT @OfficeGovEthics: New! OGE profile explains how we prevent #ConflictsOfInterest in the executive branch. <https://t.co/2ZzHknkGWm> https://... 

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 [quizquest @quizquest](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 12:44 am

 Seriously. .@OfficeGovEthics <https://t.co/Jy0RgwydE4> 


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 [Hudson @hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 13 • 12:42 am

 @riotwomennn @CIA @ElectoralCollge @OfficeGovEthics @GOPoversight @OversightDems @SenSchumer @KellyannePolls @SenJohnMcCain @LindseyGrahamS...


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 [Vashti Bandy @VashBandy](#) • Dec 13 • 12:27 am


 RT @isawthesethings: RT to let @OfficeGovEthics we stand behind them in their #divestdonald demand. Only liquidation will solve #Emoluments...


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 [Cheryl Springfels @springfels](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 12:22 am

 @cathleendecker @OfficeGovEthics Don't forget the debt they owe to foreign governments. As well Trump brand would be target for terrorism...


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 [patois42 @patois42](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 12:20 am

 .@OfficeGovEthics folks must be highly anticipating a shitload of overtime.

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 [Niki Bowen @realNikiBowen](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 12:17 am

 .@realDonaldTrump @OfficeGovEthics What do you mean by no NEW deals? There are still EXISTING matters, correct? Wha... <https://t.co/mjmQQW865>...

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 [Remember Benghazi! @Kegan05](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 12:12 am

 @OfficeGovEthics @ABC @CBS @CNN @NBC @MSNBC #FNC @SeanHannity @realDonaldTrump @kellyannepolls @SpeakerRyan @Reince

@SenateMajLdr #ConMan



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 [just thinking @isawthesethings](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 12:10 am

 @businessinsider Not enough. Let @OfficeGovEthics know we stand behind them in their call for #divestdonald! #EmolumentsClause 



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 [Remember Benghazi! @Kegan05](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 12:09 am

 explain how he was divesting himself of various business entanglements. #Trump suddenly canceling the event in question." @OfficeGovEthic... 



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 [Marc Bassets @marcbassets](#) • Dec 13 • 12:01 am

 en una serie de provocativos mensajes el 30 de noviembre, el @OfficeGovEthics indicó qué debía hacer DT para deshac... <https://t.co/zwU79Kup7...> 

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 [Sunny @manorvile_sunny](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 11:57 pm


 RT @OfficeGovEthics: Tomorrow brings the first of three riddles. Our annual #poem on #HolidayGifts may help decode them. <https://t.co/PZ1tj...> 



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 [Sarah Bittenwieser @standshadows](#) • Dec 12 • 11:47 pm


 RT @isawthesethings: RT to let @OfficeGovEthics we stand behind them in their #divestdonald demand. Only liquidation will solve #Emoluments... 



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 [Jen Miller @jenbmiller](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 11:45 pm


 Wonder what [@OfficeGovEthics](#) thinks of this? <https://t.co/BC6gyRBESC> 



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 [Zero_Enigma @z3r0_3n16m4](#) • Dec 12 • 11:41 pm


 U.S *Office of Government Ethics*-Public Financial Disclosure Reports: <https://t.co/ISLjFWS6WI> 



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 [just thinking @isawthesethings](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 11:39 pm

 RT to let [@OfficeGovEthics](#) we stand behind them in their #divestdonald demand. Only liquidation will solve... <https://t.co/iH5hA5eonJ> 



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 [Jeanne Azarovitz @Northquahog48](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 11:39 pm

 [@jbarro @chrislhayes](#) Ask the [@OfficeGovEthics](#) ? 

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 [Susan Woods @EarthAbides](#) • Dec 12 • 11:38 pm


 RT [@realNikiBowen](#): [@realDonaldTrump](#) I'm pretty sure [@OfficeGovEthics](#) used the word "divest". Is that what you're doing? <https://t.co/ioKVc...> 



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 [Niki Bowen @realNikiBowen](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 11:36 pm


 [@realDonaldTrump](#) I'm pretty sure [@OfficeGovEthics](#) used the word "divest". Is that what you're doing? <https://t.co/ioKVcA0wyr> 



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 [Evan Posocco](#) [@evanposocco](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 11:31 pm

 @realDonaldTrump you literally are though [@OfficeGovEthics](#) 



[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [Hudson](#) [@hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 12 • 11:05 pm

 @ezraklein [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@ElectoralCollge](#) [@GOPoversight](#)
[@OversightDems](#) [@SenSchumer](#) [@KellyannePolls](#) [@SenJohnMcCain](#)
[@LindseyGrahamSC](#) 



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 [Rooster](#) [@Roostwoodstock](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 11:03 pm


 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): Tomorrow brings the first of three riddles. Our annual #poem on #HolidayGifts may help decode them. <https://t.co/PZ1tj...> 



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 [The Joss Group](#) [@thejossgroup](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 11:02 pm


 Wonder what these guys are saying now: *Office of Government Ethics* gushes over Trump in tweetstorm <https://t.co/xaLuahmtlc> 

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 [Hudson](#) [@hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 12 • 11:01 pm

 @johnpodesta [@CIA](#) [@ElectoralCollge](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@GOPoversight](#)
[@OversightDems](#) [@SenSchumer](#) [@KellyannePolls](#) [@SenJohnMcCain](#)
[@LindseyGrahamS...](#) 

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 [Hudson](#) [@hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 12 • 10:59 pm



@ProudlyLiberal2 @MSNBC @FoxNews @CNN @ABC @NBCNightlyNews
@amjoyshow @AC360 @JasonMillerinDC @OfficeGovEthics @seanspicer
@SenSchumer



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[Hudson](#) @hudsonyes03161 • Dec 12 • 10:58 pm



@ProudlyLiberal2 @ElectoralCollge @OfficeGovEthics @GOPoversight
@OversightDems @SenSchumer @KellyannePolls @SenJohnMcCain
@LindseyGrahamSC



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[gmarie](#) @gmarie55 • Dec 12 • 10:56 pm



DO SOMETHING !! @POTUS @LorettaLynch @TheJusticeDept @DHSgov
@OfficeGovEthics @CIA @SenatorReid @SenWarren
<https://t.co/X3mBk3pbMF>



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[Nasty45](#) @d3andone • USA • Dec 12 • 10:54 pm



@MittRomney Please, don't chose DT as our President, Please talk to
@ElectoralCollge @OfficeGovEthics @POTUS Cross Party lines, create heroes



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[Nick H](#) @nickjames48 • USA • Dec 12 • 10:32 pm



@OfficeGovEthics <https://t.co/A1Re7Kz3Jt>



[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)



[Tone Loc](#) @ToneLocNV • Dec 12 • 10:31 pm





@PropMan_ @justkelly_ok @eclecticbella @OfficeGovEthics
@realDonaldTrump on a government account so they can troll trump? Really?





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 [\(\(\(PropMan\)\)\)](#) [@PropMan_](#) • Dec 12 • 10:27 pm

 @ToneLocNV @justkelly_ok @eclecticbella @OfficeGovEthics @realDonaldTrump oh, so they should lose their job for being on Twitter? 



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 [Sarah S F.MD](#) [@RedRoadRail](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 10:17 pm

 RT @OfficeGovEthics: New! OGE profile explains how we prevent #ConflictsOfInterest in the executive branch. <https://t.co/2ZzHknkGWm> [https://](#)  ...



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 [Cheryl Springfels](#) [@springfels](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 10:10 pm

 RT to keep #fraud & #EmolumentsClause clause at top of news cycles. Stand with @OfficeGovEthics who are cal... <https://t.co/OnT5zJ73yz> 



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 [Tangerine Manchurian](#) [@TAbsurdity](#) • Dec 12 • 10:09 pm

 @OfficeGovEthics @realDonaldTrump DIVEST? AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN. "GUESS WHAT POOT OL'BUDDY? TILLERSON IS IN! DRILL BAB... <https://t.co/w712hrFs8...> 



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 [Paul Pruet](#) [@fessparker1960](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 10:05 pm

 RT @Bwana86: @Green_Footballs pretty sure they are trolling Rump @OfficeGovEthics @realDonaldTrump 



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 [Tone Loc](#) [@ToneLocNV](#) • Dec 12 • 09:56 pm

 [@PropMan_](#) [@justkelly_ok](#) [@eclecticbella](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#)
[@realDonaldTrump](#) being an "asshole on twitter", as someone else said, not their job... 



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 [\(\(\(PropMan\)\)\)](#) [@PropMan_](#) • Dec 12 • 09:55 pm

 [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@realDonaldTrump](#) I sure hope Trump's feelings aren't hurt by this, like when [@ABFalecbaldwin](#) makes fun of him. 



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 [Supreme Court Places](#) [@SCOTUSPlaces](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 09:54 pm

 [@OfficeGovEthics](#) The Plucky Little Agency that they put in place after Watergate! <https://t.co/5SWQdrQSxH...> via [@MSNBC](#) 



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 [\(\(\(PropMan\)\)\)](#) [@PropMan_](#) • Dec 12 • 09:53 pm

 [@ToneLocNV](#) [@justkelly_ok](#) [@eclecticbella](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#)
[@realDonaldTrump](#) it's possible that they're uhhhh doing their job? 


[Tag](#) | [Translate](#) | [Share](#)

 [\(\(\(PropMan\)\)\)](#) [@PropMan_](#) • Dec 12 • 09:52 pm

 [@HouseCracka](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@realDonaldTrump](#) maybe they're just acting, what's the word...ethical? 

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 [Supreme Court Places](#) [@SCOTUSPlaces](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 09:50 pm

[@USOGE](#): The Plucky Little Agency that they put in place after Watergate! 



<https://t.co/WeFY4kzJe6> via @msnbc

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[Kate Krival @Kate_Krival](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 09:46 pm



RT @OfficeGovEthics: An inside look at a virtual session w/ Kenyan officials. OGE's Institute for Ethics in Govt shares training vids at ht...



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[Hudson @hudsonyes03161](#) • Dec 12 • 09:45 pm



@chicagotribune @IvankaTrump #womenthatwork @realDonaldTrump @OfficeGovEthics @#grabyourwallet @NBCNightlyNews @KellyannePolls @GOPoversigh...



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[Aymee @hernanaym](#) • Dec 12 • 09:42 pm



.@johnpodesta @CIA @OfficeGovEthics @OversightDems @GOPoversight @LorettaLynch @ForeignAffairs @DHSgov... <https://t.co/aqXunlhKRn>



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[TLD @TinaDuryea](#) • Dec 12 • 09:32 pm



RT @LetaHong: What do you say now that Trump is not divesting @OfficeGovEthics? <https://t.co/qttkjLCOWJ>



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[Performance Poets @perfpoets](#) • GBR • Dec 12 • 09:30 pm





RT @OfficeGovEthics: Tomorrow brings the first of three riddles. Our annual #poem on #HolidayGifts may help decode them. <https://t.co/PZ1tj...>





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 [Lisa Watson @Millenniumistic](#) • Dec 12 • 09:28 pm


 [@OfficeGovEthics @realDonaldTrump](#) He's nto going to divest, he's a crook! 



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 [Leta Hong Fincher洪理达 @LetaHong](#) • HKG • Dec 12 • 09:27 pm

 What do you say now that Trump is not divesting [@OfficeGovEthics](#)? <https://t.co/qttkjLCOWI> 



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 [Queen of Sheba @Mona21411](#) • Dec 12 • 09:25 pm

 [@OfficeGovEthics](#) Read Newsweek tomorrow. Trump cancels his press conf on his business dealings. OGE must investigate this fully before 1/2... 



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 [IdahoIndependent @IdahoIndependen](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 09:20 pm


 RT [@Myrddn](#): The reasons why Trump should NEVER be inaugurated onJan20. [@CIA](#) [@HouseGOP](#) [@SenateGOP](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@HillaryClinton](#) [@POTUS](#) J... 

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 [Neil Martis @neilmartis17](#) • CAN • Dec 12 • 09:18 pm

 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): Tomorrow brings the first of three riddles. Our annual #poem on #HolidayGifts may help decode them. <https://t.co/PZ1tj...> 

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 [theshex @theshex](#) • Dec 12 • 09:14 pm

[@Only4RM](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@Lawrence](#) u tweeted it! Own it. Don Henley



is amazing!!



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[theshex](#) [@theshex](#) • Dec 12 • 09:13 pm



RT [@Only4RM](#): [@theshex](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@Lawrence](#) I can't take credit for that brilliance. Don Henley & Bruce Hornsby.



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[Only4RM](#) [@Only4RM](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 09:10 pm



[@theshex](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@Lawrence](#) I can't take credit for that brilliance. Don Henley & Bruce Hornsby.



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[Carla#DTNotMyPrez](#) [@CarlaMoulton3](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 09:08 pm



RT [@redbird45](#): [@Only4RM](#) [@CarlaMoulton3](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@Lawrence](#) ha no Melania since the election,she wont even move to the white



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[redbird45](#) [@redbird45](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 09:08 pm



[@Only4RM](#) [@CarlaMoulton3](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@Lawrence](#) ha no Melania since the election,she wont even move to the white



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[LD](#) [@Rustigger](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 09:07 pm





[@kurteichenwald](#) [@Newsweek](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) Some loving for OGE courtesy of the Newsweek gang!






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 [CarbonTaxIn2017](#) [@CarbonTaxIn2017](#) • BRA • Dec 12 • 09:06 pm


 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): New! OGE profile explains how we prevent #ConflictsOfInterest in the executive branch. <https://t.co/2ZzHknkGWm> <https://t.co/2ZzHknkGWm> 


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 [theshex](#) [@theshex](#) • Dec 12 • 09:02 pm


 [@Only4RM](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@Lawrence](#) u my dear are intelligent!!!! 



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 [JWis](#) [@chicawis](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 09:02 pm

 [@only4rm](#) [@lawrence](#) [@officegovethics](#) 

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 [dorelita](#) [@doreli12](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 08:58 pm

 Too late ... looks like [@OfficeGovEthics](#) got played <https://t.co/T4hZ1ZDuxe> 

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OGE: Trump Report

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 [Newsradio WOOD](#) ([5 other sources](#)) • USA • Dec 13 • 05:16 am

[Trump says his two oldest sons, other executives will handle his businesses during presidency](#)





Trump to make a clean break. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, a vice chairman of *Trump's* transition team, has said voters knew *Trump* wa...

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[True Viral News \(1 other source \)](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 02:28 am

[Why All Billionaire Politicians Are Not Created Equal](#)



Trump Tower), but the president cannot, however, recuse himself from interactions with foreign governments that may have dealings with *Trum...*



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[True Viral News \(65 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 02:28 am

[Donald Trump faces 3 possible conflicts if he keeps businesses, say ethics experts](#)



monitoring ethics is pushing for far more. The *Office of Government Ethics* tweeted recently about *Trump*, “We can’t repeat enough how good



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[News Radio WGMD 92.7 \(5 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 02:00 am

[STAYING IN THE FAMILY Trump says he will hand business off to eldest sons](#)



monitoring ethics is pushing for far more. The *Office of Government Ethics* tweeted recently about *Trump*, “We can’t repeat enough how good



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[Yahoo! News \(305 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 13 • 01:04 am

[Trump invites trouble if he keeps businesses: ethics experts](#)



ventures. Newt Gingrich, a vice chairman of *Trump's* transition team, said voters knew *Trump* was a billionaire businessman when they electe...

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 [Mic](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 10:39 pm

[Donald Trump defies promise to resolve conflicts of interest before electors vote](#)



unethical behavior. After *Trump* tweeted the press conference plans, the executive branch's *Office of Government Ethics* trolled him in a



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 [ThinkProgress](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 10:36 pm

[Trump postpones press conference on business conflicts until after Electoral College meets](#)



avoid an illegal conflict has also endorsed by the *Office of Government Ethics*. *Trump* is actively seeking money from foreign governments,



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 [MSN.com](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 10:36 pm


[Donald Trump's Wealthy Cabinet Picks to Undergo Financial Scrutiny He Didn't Face](#)



from both the federal *Office of Government Ethics* and the ethics officer of the agency a nominee would lead. Even as Mr. *Trump* resists a



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 [Long Beach City College Viking \(1 other source \)](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 08:51 pm



[Donald Trump Delays Plans To Resolve His Conflicts Of Interest](#)





as he had promised. *Trump* said on Nov. 30 that he would hold “a major news conference in New York City” to explain how he’d leave his *Trump*

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 [The Advertiser \(AP\) \(26 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 07:32 pm



[Trump postpones decision on business dealings](#)

 . " USA TODAY *Office of Government Ethics* gushes over *Trump* in tweetstorm
Ethics watchdogs have repeatedly called on *Trump* to divest his 

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 [New York Post](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 07:10 pm



[Trump delays news conference about his vast business ties](#)

 . The *Office of Government Ethics* has publicly pressed the president-elect for a
“total divestiture” from his businesses. *Trump* announced 


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 [MiamiHerald.com \(25 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 06:56 pm



[Trump postpones announcement on how he will handle his businesses, reports say](#)

 U.S. *Office of Government Ethics* sent out a string of tweets praising *Trump*’s
decision to divest from his business interests, though *Trump* 

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 [Greensboro News & Record \(12 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 06:38 pm

[Donald Trump invites trouble if he keeps businesses: ethics experts](#)

 a condo in a *Trump* building put the president in violation? What if a foreign
government official greenlighted one of *Trump*'s projects in 

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 [CBS 58 News \(30 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 05:53 pm

[Trump says He's Turning Away 'Billions' but has 'The Right' to Do Business Deals](#)



full divestiture is *Trump's* best decision, too. Last month, the *Office of Government Ethics* sent a burst of tweets cheering *Trump* should he



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 [Yahoo! Finance](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 02:25 pm



[How Trump's wealthy cabinet picks can avoid a massive tax bill ... for now](#)



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 [AP \(Hosted\)](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 01:15 pm

[THE RACHEL MADDOW SHOW for December 9, 2016, MSNBC - Part 2](#)



a cabinet position in the new *Trump* administration, get offered a cabinet position in the new *Trump* administration once *Trump* was elected.



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 [AP \(Hosted\) \(2 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 12 • 01:15 pm

[Trump's Cabinet Picks Draw Controversy; Interview with Rep. Marsha Blackburn; Interview with Janet Napolitano. Aired 8-8:30a ET](#)



- *TRUMP*: Do you like it so far, everybody? (APPLAUSE) SERFATY: -- president-elect Donald *Trump* defending his cabinet appointments. *TRUM...*



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To: [Seth Jaffe](#)
Subject: [GRAYMAIL] Trump Media Report: 1297 New Results
Date: Monday, December 05, 2016 7:46:51 AM

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[OGE: Trump Report](#) 175


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 [Amelia Gibson @AmeliaNGibson](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 06:58 am

 RT @Khanoisseur: Whoever's behind these @OfficeGovEthics tweets trolling Trump's "divestiture" deserves a raise <https://t.co/bPRQvosRAR> 



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 [Rhae Marie @ginou1010](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 06:53 am

 RT @ANN35744238: @USGAO @usgaolegal @OfficeGovEthics @attorneygeneral Unacceptable behavior/actions. <https://t.co/OAMuQXhxV8> 

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 [Elfi Chmela @EChmela](#) • Dec 5 • 05:42 am

 @OfficeGovEthics @realDonaldTrump 15th is too late HELP 

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 [terra @heylika](#) • Dec 5 • 04:39 am



RT @12thCup: @OfficeGovEthics @realDonaldTrump oh, come off it. Applauding the man for doing what's right is lowering the bar.



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[Cindy Abouhalawa @cindila2009](#) • EGY • Dec 5 • 02:52 am



RT @OfficeGovEthics: @realDonaldTrump OGE is delighted that you've decided to divest your businesses. Right decision!



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[Edward J. M. @iolk888](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 02:45 am



via @npr: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump <https://t.co/MUmOCHJG0u>



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[Adeliyn 林麗暉 @Adeliyn](#) • MYS • Dec 5 • 02:41 am



RT @OfficeGovEthics: @realDonaldTrump - we told your counsel we'd sing your praises if you divested, we meant it.



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[gudr doc @gudr123](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 02:31 am



Via @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump <https://t.co/IHt7TzVFAT>



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[NGO News @_ngoo](#) • PHL • Dec 5 • 02:13 am





#WVIAPublicMedia Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump. Read Blog: <https://t.co/68yGJDFbWi>





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 [Richard Gibney @ragtaggiggagon](#) • Dec 5 • 01:57 am


 RT [@JosephSteinberg](#): Was the *Office of Government Ethics* hacked, or did [@OfficeGovEthics](#) suddenly change its style of tweeting? #CyberSecur... 



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 [SOS Art Gallery @SOSArtGallery](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 01:34 am

 RT [@JosephSteinberg](#): Was the *Office of Government Ethics* hacked, or did [@OfficeGovEthics](#) suddenly change its style of tweeting? #CyberSecur... 



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 [James Aston @jaston9](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 01:18 am

 Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump - SuTip <https://t.co/yZWqNaCK9H> 

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 [Country @Countrypunkins](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 01:09 am

 RT [@Countrypunkins](#): Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump - SuTip(liar) people better watch this man <https://t.co/1...> 

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 [Country @Countrypunkins](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 12:53 am

 Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump - SuTip(liar) people better watch this man <https://t.co/IHExbgAtyE> 

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 [Joan Stikes-Jenkins @Joanpoignard](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 12:50 am

Via [@NPR](#): Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump



<https://t.co/YApSMLx65V>



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[twolittlestars](#) [@twolittlestars](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 12:49 am



RT [@brrbach](#): And [@OfficeGovEthics](#) [@SpeakerRyan](#) are ok with this?
<https://t.co/yguzXGrZWN>



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[Russell Nelson](#) [@touch128](#) • Dec 5 • 12:36 am



Via [@NPR](#): Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump
<https://t.co/CWHfPGdarA>



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[liz.naz](#) [@lznaz253](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 12:31 am



RT [@twolittlestars](#): [@LindseyGrahamSC](#) [@SenatorTimScott](#) [@RepJoeWilson](#)
[@jasoninthehouse](#) [@GOPoversight](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) Daily Reminder <https://>
...



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[Deb Weston](#) [@dr_weston_PhD](#) • CAN • Dec 5 • 12:28 am



Via [@NPR](#): Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump
<https://t.co/OLoBUdJwPJ>



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[HJKlein](#) [@100dayslove](#) • Dec 5 • 12:28 am



RT [@twolittlestars](#): [@LindseyGrahamSC](#) [@SenatorTimScott](#) [@RepJoeWilson](#)
[@jasoninthehouse](#) [@GOPoversight](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) Daily Reminder <https://>
...





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 [twolittlestars](#) [@twolittlestars](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 12:26 am

 @LindseyGrahamSC @SenatorTimScott @RepJoeWilson @jasoninthehouse @GOPoversight @OfficeGovEthics Daily Reminder <https://t.co/owKCh1O68k> 

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 [Justin Yost](#) [@justinyost](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 12:20 am

 RT @JZdziarski: Irony of the day: It's probably ethically wrong and a conflict of interest for @OfficeGovEthics to be singing the praises o... 

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 [twolittlestars](#) [@twolittlestars](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 12:13 am

 @jasoninthehouse @GOPoversight @OfficeGovEthics Time to #DoYourJob <https://t.co/u15DtnUxJ0> 



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 [twolittlestars](#) [@twolittlestars](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 12:11 am

 @jasoninthehouse @GOPoversight @OfficeGovEthics What's it going to take for our Reps to protect our country?... <https://t.co/ITadJRjKj6> 



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 [Cherie Burbach](#) [@brrbach](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 12:08 am

 And @OfficeGovEthics @SpeakerRyan are ok with this? <https://t.co/yguzXGrZWN> 



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 [Sherry Rudman](#) [@sherryrudman1](#) • Dec 4 • 11:49 pm

 Why do they get by with this ? @ananavarro @CNN @SenSanders @timkaine @SenWarren @GOP @OfficeGovEthics <https://t.co/BPBoNkVWbJ> 



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 [creatingmeaningmk](#) @makingmeaningmk • Dec 4 • 11:41 pm


 @OfficeGovEthics Does the OGE have the ability to investigate if Oversight Committee fails its responsibilities? 



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 [miss_placed](#) @Miss_Placed_ • Dec 4 • 10:45 pm

 @OfficeGovEthics @doj @FBI @TheDemocrats <https://t.co/T4X9T6MVBj> 



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 [Red the Bum](#) @toothlessbum • USA • Dec 4 • 10:41 pm

 RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump OGE is delighted that you've decided to divest your businesses. Right decision! 



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 [brenda_anderson](#) @brendaa10088381 • Dec 4 • 10:20 pm


 RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump OGE is delighted that you've decided to divest your businesses. Right decision! 



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 [ANN](#) @ANN35744238 • Dec 4 • 10:06 pm

 @USGAO @usgaolegal @OfficeGovEthics @attorneygeneral Unacceptable behavior/actions. <https://t.co/OAMuQXhxV8> 



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 [Fred Orth @FredOrth](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 10:01 pm


 Via [@NPR](#): Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump 
<https://t.co/FCJEXdphZE>



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 [Kevin Macklin @NotMuchFunToday](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 09:29 pm


 RT [@MPRnews](#): The *U.S. Office of Government Ethics* had a strange day on the internet earlier this week <https://t.co/TheW7AssGI> 



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 [Elizabeth Pendleton @bettyp711](#) • Dec 4 • 09:22 pm

 Via [@NPR](#): Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump 
<https://t.co/oCVNvH5XW1>



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 [_April_ @April_lotus19](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 09:12 pm

 [@ElectoralCollge](#) [@OfficeGovEthics](#) <https://t.co/fHIXiJd3QJ> 



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 [carol denny @ragdog1](#) • Dec 4 • 09:11 pm

 RT [@CREWcrew](#): .[@NoahBookbinder](#) on [@OfficeGovEthics](#) Trump tweets: "Just because you say something on Twitter doesn't make it so" <https://t.c...> 



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 [My Political Sanity @mypoliticsanity](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 09:09 pm

 [@OfficeGovEthics](#) <https://t.co/60cHd4vxs8> 



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 [Patrick Emerton @egregiousknave](#) • Dec 4 • 09:05 pm


 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): [.@realDonaldTrump](#) - we told your counsel we'd sing your praises if you divested, we meant it. 



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 [Matthew Maxon @MaxonMS](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 09:04 pm

 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): [.@realDonaldTrump](#) - we told your counsel we'd sing your praises if you divested, we meant it. 



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 [#Deplorable Dan @insuradude](#) • Dec 4 • 08:56 pm

 RT [@AGuyNSun](#): *Office of Government Ethics?* Where the hell has this office been for year? Someone in government with ethics? I have to ca... 


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 [SEAScape @GradSEAS](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 08:54 pm

 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): [.@realDonaldTrump](#) As we discussed with your counsel, divestiture is the way to resolve these conflicts. 


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 [SEAScape @GradSEAS](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 08:54 pm

 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): [.@realDonaldTrump](#) this aligns with OGE opinion that POTUS should act as if 18 USC 208 applies. <https://t.co/T6nNUPxFwp> 

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 [D.B Sports @AGuyNSun](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 08:50 pm

Office of Government Ethics? Where the hell has this office been for year? 



Someone in government with ethics? I... <https://t.co/GtL6vS8ZH4>

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[Bill Both @BCISLEMAN](#) • CAN • Dec 4 • 08:45 pm



Via @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump
<https://t.co/jbtu2HRURe> Trump Ethics Snarked On Twitter



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[twolittlestars @twolittlestars](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 08:42 pm



RT @KathyNeeds: #Republicans @TheJusticeDept @HouseDemocrats
@SenateDems @HouseGOP @SenateGOP @realDonaldTrump
@OfficeGovEthics WE NEED TR...



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[ANN @ANN35744238](#) • Dec 4 • 08:35 pm



@fshakir @OfficeGovEthics @NancyPelosi @SenatorBoxer @SenatorCardin
<https://t.co/6YyevaN4tL>



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[Rick Cooley @cooleyrij](#) • Dec 4 • 08:34 pm



The *Office of Government Ethics* is messaging Trump on his 'total' divestiture ...
via Twitter? <https://t.co/StqVpXWAXi>



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[kolleenwilson @kolleenwilson](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 08:15 pm





RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump As we discussed with your counsel,
divestiture is the way to resolve these conflicts.





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 [Davy Crockett @realBissell2](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 08:12 pm


 @twinlet133 @realgmake74 @Frankenstein68 He's already broken numerous laws. Just a matter of time. *Office of Government Ethics* may get him. 



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 [Janey Mitchell @janeannpeach123](#) • Dec 4 • 08:09 pm


 “*Office of Government Ethics* epically trolls Donald Trump” by @AdamReports 
<https://t.co/ppvQ2adSjz>



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 [Suzanne Skadowski @SSkadowski](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 08:00 pm

 -> @nprpolitics @asmank @samsanders @DomenicoNPR Ditto @tamarakeithNPR can't let it go: those baffling @OfficeGovEthics tweets this week! 



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 [Discoverer @EnergyIngenuity](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 07:59 pm

 RT @EnergyIngenuity: @OfficeGovEthics <https://t.co/Awnjta0KE6> IF you don't TWEET this who will? UR children need to KNOW! #FREE alternative... 



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 [Monique Aziza @MoniqueAziza](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 07:58 pm

 RT @kylegriffin1: Someone at the *Office of Government Ethics* seems to be throwing some seriously sarcastic shade at Trump over news he's le... 



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 [Yivian McAdams @bicka](#) • Dec 4 • 07:46 pm

 Via @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump 
<https://t.co/Vw9gSNZqw8>



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 [Keary Hanan Marcum @kearyhanan](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 07:45 pm

 RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump OGE is delighted that you've decided to divest your businesses. Right decision! 



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 [Sunny @manorvile_sunny](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 07:43 pm


 RT @OfficeGovEthics: New rule on gifts incorporates a values-based approach to make the #ethics program stronger. <https://t.co/4Lh1u6xnWO> 



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 [Sunny @manorvile_sunny](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 07:43 pm


 RT @OfficeGovEthics: Do you know what rules apply to #feds accepting gifts from private parties? OGE just updated its rule: <https://t.co/EU...> 



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 [Sunny @manorvile_sunny](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 07:39 pm


 RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump We can't repeat enough how good this total divestiture will be 

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 [Sunny @manorvile_sunny](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 07:38 pm

 RT @OfficeGovEthics: OGE publishes 2017 ethics dates and deadlines, supporting a strong, uniform executive branch ethics program. <https://...> 



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 [Kate @katekate2late](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 07:31 pm

 @justkelly_ok @eclecticbella @OfficeGovEthics @realDonaldTrump Sadly, they're being literal. 



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 [Matt Collin @mattdcollin](#) • Dec 4 • 06:59 pm


 RT @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump 
<https://t.co/WsuXBnEAmP>

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 [L Latimer @ourBooksLuvUs](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 06:44 pm

 Via @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump 
<https://t.co/JbK94SzyZX>



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 [Michael R. Barnard @mrbarnd1](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 06:38 pm


 Follow the US *Office of Government Ethics*. With American despot Donald Trump taking power, news about ETHICS will b... 
<https://t.co/2jEzaslQ9...>


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 [Albertha Mccalop @Albertha_8993](#) • Dec 4 • 06:37 pm

 RT @BraddJaffy: Shade from the person who runs the verified *U.S. Office of Government Ethics* account ↓ 
<https://t.co/Y6Flvp8LWs>

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 [Hannah! Luu @HannahLuu](#) • Dec 4 • 06:25 pm

RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump Brilliant! Divestiture is good for 



you, very good for America!

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[Sami @msnaydani](#) • CAN • Dec 4 • 06:17 pm



RT @KathyNeeds: #Republicans @TheJusticeDept @HouseDemocrats @SenateDems @HouseGOP @SenateGOP @realDonaldTrump @OfficeGovEthics WE NEED TR...



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[Elizabeth Henry @HenryLeerhenry](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 06:01 pm



Via @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump <https://t.co/O53WDwSRLq>



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[Boycott Trump/Scion! @KathyNeeds](#) • Dec 4 • 05:55 pm



#Republicans @TheJusticeDept @HouseDemocrats @SenateDems @HouseGOP @SenateGOP @realDonaldTrump @OfficeGovEthics WE NEED TRUMP TAXES B4OATH



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[Linda Bryan @stompintexan](#) • Dec 4 • 05:55 pm



<https://t.co/aCMt5Fcw6V> @jasoninthehouse @realDonaldTrump @OfficeGovEthics



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[Linda Bryan @stompintexan](#) • Dec 4 • 05:52 pm





<https://t.co/uB3GIfEp6h> #nevertrump @jasoninthehouse @OfficeGovEthics #StillWithHer




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 [Ed Pollio @edpollio](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:50 pm

 RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump this divestiture does what handing over control could never have done. 

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 [Michael K. Durand @mdurand1949](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:47 pm


 RT @mdurand1949: @jasoninthehouse @OversightDems @RepDuckworth @SenWarren @OfficeGovEthics @CIA @FTC @DHSgov @FEC @KamalaHarris @tribelaw... 



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 [Michael K. Durand @mdurand1949](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:47 pm


 @jasoninthehouse @OversightDems @RepDuckworth @SenWarren @OfficeGovEthics @CIA @FTC @DHSgov @FEC @KamalaHarris... <https://t.co/hatkNnJmGx> 

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 [Universo @Guiller91337849](#) • Dec 4 • 05:35 pm


 Via @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump <https://t.co/viuVwyd3FH> 



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 [Universo @Guiller91337849](#) • Dec 4 • 05:35 pm


 Via @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump <https://t.co/e81XVZFLfO> 



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 [Michael K. Durand @mdurand1949](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:31 pm

 RT @mdurand1949: @tribelaw @OfficeGovEthics @CIA @SenWarren @OversightDems @FTC @maddow @JoyAnnReid @RBReich @CatherineForNV @KamalaHarris... 



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 [Michael K. Durand @mdurand1949](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:31 pm


 @tribelaw @OfficeGovEthics @CIA @SenWarren @OversightDems @FTC @maddow @JoyAnnReid @RBReich @CatherineForNV... 
<https://t.co/0NHrraOdT5>



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 [Bobby Copeland @bobby_copeland](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:30 pm


 @MarableRandy the @OfficeGovEthics is in charge of keeping POTUS ethical & they know more & disagree with you & trump on this 



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 [washumom @washumom](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:21 pm

 RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump - we told your counsel we'd sing your praises if you divested, we meant it. 



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 [Nate... @TheNATEion](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:17 pm


 RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump As we discussed with your counsel, divestiture is the way to resolve these conflicts. 



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 [Adolfo Pesquera @Adolfo_Pesquera](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:14 pm


 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): [.@realDonaldTrump](#) - we told your counsel we'd sing your praises if you divested, we meant it. 



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 [1ST PantsuitNation](#) [@1PantsuitNation](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 05:09 pm


 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): [.@realDonaldTrump](#) - we told your counsel we'd sing your praises if you divested, we meant it. 



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 [Erin @EOConnell55](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 04:58 pm


 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): [.@realDonaldTrump](#) Bravo! Only way to resolve these conflicts of interest is to divest . Good call! 



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 [Erin @EOConnell55](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 04:58 pm


 RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#): [.@realDonaldTrump](#) - we told your counsel we'd sing your praises if you divested, we meant it. 



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 [T. Stark @poodlepingpong](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 04:54 pm

 [@OfficeGovEthics](#) Trump must be held to standards & forced to divest all his holdings into blind trust (not his chi... <https://t.co/> 

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 [Randall G. @RGtweets510](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 04:48 pm


 Snark snark—Hilarious RT [@OfficeGovEthics](#) /.[@realDonaldTrump](#) OGE is delighted that you've decided to divest your businesses. Right decision... 



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 [Charles Ray @charlieray45](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 04:41 pm

 Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump 
<https://t.co/dp8QW76VEM>



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 [Dave Hunter @hypnocoach183](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 04:23 pm


 Via @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump 
<https://t.co/ientPI9Gyg>

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 [Dan_ @dannett9](#) • Dec 4 • 04:17 pm

 RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump Bravo! Only way to resolve these 
conflicts of interest is to divest . Good call!



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 [BlueHat @BlkHat](#) • MWI • Dec 4 • 04:13 pm

 @OfficeGovEthics @realDonaldTrump Ethics Idiocy 101 - paying foolish 
retarded idiots to not work, Judgment IS Comin... <https://t.co/Maj768zRs...>



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 [Aaron Frost @MSOWolf](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 04:10 pm


 Via @NPR: Not A Hack: *U.S. Office Of Government Ethics* Tweets At Trump 
<https://t.co/EUPcPjwUWQ>

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 [Charmaine Saunders @Mainie59](#) • Dec 4 • 04:01 pm

 @LisaBloom @OfficeGovEthics @realDonaldTrump <https://t.co/8G3GV6Ydkf> 



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 [BlueHat @BlkHat](#) • MWI • Dec 4 • 03:59 pm

 *@OfficeGovEthics* @realDonaldTrump You people are retards, Judgment Is Coming Soon, Repent To GOD & Ask JESUS CHRIST... <https://t.co/> 



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 [Philip Glick MD MBA @glicklab](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 03:49 pm

 *.@officegovethics* Not A Hack:US Office Of Government #Ethics Tweets
.@realDonaldTrump #OMG #OGE #divest #bravo... <https://t.co/hGhZ6jv89w> 



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 [ANN @ANN35744238](#) • Dec 4 • 03:48 pm

 @nytimes @maggienyt @1MrChris @realDonaldTrump @funder
@puppymnkey #GrabYourWallet *@OfficeGovEthics* She has no reas...
<https://t.co/qgkFbO1Zf...> 



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 [Peter Miskelly @ylleksim](#) • Dec 4 • 03:37 pm

 RT *@OfficeGovEthics*: *.@realDonaldTrump* - we told your counsel we'd sing
your praises if you divested, we meant it. 

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 [Anton Schwartz @antonjazz](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 03:36 pm


 RT *@OfficeGovEthics*: *.@realDonaldTrump* As we discussed with your counsel,
divestiture is the way to resolve these conflicts. 

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 [Wendy @wendydshaffer](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 03:34 pm

 RT @the2wunders: #BANKRUPT @GOP @MIGOP @StateDept @USTreasury @USDOL @DHgovuk @OfficeGovEthics @davidaxelrod @PaulBegala BUDGET PLZ! https:...


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 °Wunder°Woman° @the2wunders • USA • Dec 4 • 03:33 pm

 #BANKRUPT @GOP @MIGOP @StateDept @USTreasury @USDOL @DHgovuk @OfficeGovEthics @davidaxelrod @PaulBegala BUDGET PLZ! <https://t.co/VAvr5Sg0rU>

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 Benjamin Darfler @bdarfler • USA • Dec 4 • 03:25 pm

 RT @OfficeGovEthics: .@realDonaldTrump Brilliant! Divestiture is good for you, very good for America!


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OGE: Trump Report

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 [Junior College](#) • USA • Dec 5 • 06:32 am

 [Trump Announces He Will Leave Business World to Focus on Presidency](#)

far, there is little indication that *Trump* wants to keep his children at considerable distance. Kelly, wearing a *Trump* hat, cited the deal

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Tri-County Sun Times • USA • Dec 5 • 04:29 am

[Trump leaving businesses to avoid conflicts](#)



an all-around weird day at the U.S. *Office of Government Ethics*. Mr *Trump's* inaugural committee is offering elaborate presidential perks -



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 [Daily Kos](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 10:22 pm

[Trump's Businesses Are A Huge Source Of Ethical Conflict](#)



why their presence is required. The *Office of Government Ethics* took the unusual decision to tweet at Donald *Trump*, delete its tweets then



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 [True Viral News \(2 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 08:36 pm


[Donald Trump may keep his D.C. hotel despite alleged conflict of interest](#)



President-elect Donald *Trump* leases the *Trump* International Hotel Washington, a palatial offering in the Old Post Office Building located



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 [The Augusta Chronicle](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 06:04 pm

[Now the watchdogs bark](#)



Times reported recently, “The *Office of Government Ethics* has informed lawyers for President-elect Donald J. *Trump* that only a divestiture



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 [True Viral News \(2 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 12:59 pm

[Five ways Trump could address his business conflicts](#)



TrumpFive ways *Trump* could address his business conflicts *Trump* adviser: Sanders would have made for tougher race as Clinton's VP *Trump*



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[Tri-County Sun Times](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 06:30 am

[Trump vows to put aside doubts over business empire](#)



negotiations with *Trump's* team to keep some jobs IN the state. I don't care about my business ... President-elect Donald *Trump* tweeted



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[Junior College \(1 other source\)](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 04:27 am

[The US Office Of Government Ethics Is Really \(Really\) Happy With Trump](#)



nine tweets, the U.S. *Office of Government Ethics* tweeted directly to President-elect Donald *Trump*, praising his recent announcement that h...



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[Junior College](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 03:57 am

[US Ethics Office Tweets Sarcasm at Trump on Business Conflicts](#)



Michigan Republican primaries, *Trump* used his victory speech to talk about *Trump* steaks, *Trump* wine, *Trump* water and *Trump* Magazine which



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[The San Diego Union-Tribune](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 03:00 am

[Covering Trump and his tweets](#)



businesses included perspective from legal and ethics experts weighing in on what *Trump* would have to do to avoid conflict of interest.His



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 [Tri-County Sun Times](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 02:28 am

[Voters leery that Trump will mix business with governing](#)



Trump, unlike Romney did. The nonpartisan *Office of Government Ethics* said in a statement it applauded *Trump's* aims, and recommended *Trump*



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 [CelebCafe.org](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 02:23 am

[Trump leaving business empire to avoid conflicts](#)



is exempt from its hate-speech rules – not even President-elect Donald *Trump*. *Trump* did say on Wednesday that he will hold “a major news



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 [Junior College](#) • USA • Dec 4 • 01:37 am

[U.S. Office Of Government Ethics Tweets At Trump](#)



. The tweets lavished sarcastic praise upon *Trump* for his decision to divest from his own companies, except *Trump* has done nothing of the



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 [Tri-County Sun Times](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 11:38 pm

[Trump to Launch Thank You Tour in Ohio](#)



that make up his global *Trump* Organization, as the U.S. *Office of Government Ethics* subsequently acknowledged. *Trump* has previously said



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 [Tri-County Sun Times](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 09:36 pm

[Trump says to leave business 'in total'](#)

. If *Trump* simply hands over to his children, "it is not a blind trust" (blind trust to look) contrary to what the president says. *Trump's*

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[Standard-Times \(2 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 08:03 pm

[Congress must act on Trump's business conflicts](#)

Farage, *Trump* urged opposition to unsightly wind farms near his golf course in Scotland. A Filipino developer who is partnering with *Trump*

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[True Viral News \(1 other source \)](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 07:04 pm

[Trump's tax nightmare](#)

of highly skilled executives," a *Trump* Organization spokeswoman said. Yet, even the step-back arrangement *Trump* seems to be favoring could

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[AP \(Hosted\) \(5 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 11:30 am

[Final Moments of Flight 2933 Captured on Air Traffic Controller Audio: Chapeco Fans Pay Tribute to Fallen Players: Midway Islands: World's](#)

(voice-over): The *Office of Government Ethics* sending out an unusual series of tweets applauding *Trump's* pledge and encouraging the

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[The New Civil Rights Movement](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 11:04 am

[Trump's Billionaire Cabinet Members To Receive Massive Tax Breaks For Serving](#)



, and *Trump* hasn't committed to divesting his fortune — the size of which is unknown since he won't release his tax returns. But if *Trump*

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[Tri-County Sun Times](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 10:33 am

[President-elect Trump leaving his "great businesses"](#)



, adviser to the *Trump* transition team, walks with former USA vice- president Dan Quayle at *Trump* Tower in NY. *Trump* spokespeople did not

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[Telegram.com \(5 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 09:18 am

[Trump's Cabinet picks to save millions in taxes thanks to ethics rules](#)



the time shows. That could mean big tax benefits for *Trump's* financial leaders. Steven Mnuchin, *Trump's* pick for treasury secretary, is a

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[Equities.com](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 09:00 am

[It's Trump's America now. Time to get over our attachment to facts](#)



, just before the *Trump* Organization cut a new deal in Kolkata. That Hindu-loving *Trump* should talk to the Pakistani-loving *Trump* about the

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[Tri-County Sun Times](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 08:30 am

[President-Elect Trump to Kick Off 'Thank You' Tour](#)



But *Trump's* announcement did inspire a lengthy, freaky Twitter response from the *Office of Government Ethics*, the federal agency in charge



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 [PennLive.com](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 08:00 am

[Just like GE - is what's good for Trump good for America?: Tony May](#)



of licensing or leasing the *Trump* name and brand. (Who, really, is in a rush to stay at "the palace formerly owned by *Trump*?" Especially if



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 [Tri-County Sun Times](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 08:00 am

[Federal Ethics Agency Spent the Afternoon Sarcastically Praising Donald Trump](#)



. But the official Twitter account of the *Office of Government Ethics* responded to *Trump* by congratulating him for something he didn't say



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 [CNET.com](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 08:00 am

[Twitter was the place to be in 2016. Is that enough to save it?](#)



woke up, *Trump*'s exclamation point-laden outbursts were all anyone was talking about. "I don't think you would see a Donald *Trump* candidac...



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 [Politico.com \(18 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 07:46 am

[Trump could keep D.C. hotel despite conflict of interest](#)





experts — and even the nonpartisan *Office of Government Ethics* — say that won't fix the problem unless *Trump* stops owning the properties to...



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 [Tri-County Sun Times \(8 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 07:33 am



[Trump's Options for Separating From His Businesses](#)

 . On Tuesday, *Trump* dined at a Michelin-starred restaurant with Mitt Romney, former MA governor and private equity baron. *Trump* has moved 

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 [Tri-County Sun Times](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 07:30 am



[Trump to Nominate Gen. Mattis to Lead Pentagon](#)

 -elect. "It's not going to happen", *Trump* thundered. A phone call to the *Office of Government Ethics* was not returned. Martha Joynt Kumar... 

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 [Junior College](#) • USA • Dec 3 • 07:28 am

[Donald Trump's Washington Hotel Is About To Violate Its Government Lease](#)

 the *Trump* International Hotel - such as guests staying there as a way to curry favor with *Trump*. However, the *Office of Government Ethics* 


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 [WBAL Radio 1090 AM \(20 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 06:32 pm

[Inside the Potential Conflict Posed by Trump's DC Hotel](#)

 ,” a GSA spokesperson told ABC News. How could *Trump* resolve the situation? Even if *Trump* fully transfers the management of his business 

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 [Jezebel](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 05:45 pm

[This Shade Court Almost Ended Me](#)



Brzezinski was spotted at *Trump* Tower to meet with President-elect Donald *Trump* — on the same elevator with former *Trump* campaign manager



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[International Business Times](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 05:29 pm

[Donald Trump Pentagon Pick Mattis Made Nearly \\$1,000,000 On Board Of Defense Contractor](#)



in a *Trump* administration, Mattis will be obligated to sign an ethics agreement that the federal *Office of Government Ethics* approves.



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[ArcaMax](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 04:23 pm

[Trump's already told us all he has to about his finances until after 1st year in office](#)



form until May 2018, according to the U.S. *Office of Government Ethics*. *Trump* said this week that he would step away from his businesses



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[Sun Herald \(26 other sources\)](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 03:43 pm

[Trump's already told us all he has to about his finances till after 1st year in office](#)



form until May 2018, according to the U.S. *Office of Government Ethics*. *Trump* said this week that he would step away from his businesses



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[True Viral News](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 03:30 pm

[Will Donald Trump actually be able to avoid conflicts of interest?](#)





taking gifts from foreign governments. *Trump* has framed his stated intention to step back from the *Trump* Organization as something he is

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[Smithsonian](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 03:24 pm

[There's a Department of Government Ethics? What Does it Do?](#)



that a few hours later, the United States *Office of Government Ethics* (OGE) began tweeting back at *Trump*, congratulating him on his “total...



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[MSN.com \(1 other source \)](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 02:34 pm

[Op-Ed: Why Trump should keep tweeting when he is president](#)



Microsoft. Donald *Trump's* words as president-elect matter a great deal now because those words suggest future policy decisions. Mr. *Trump'*...



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[FCW](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 02:23 pm

[Senators press GSA on Trump hotel lease](#)



"since President-elect *Trump* announced his candidacy for president in August2015." What steps GSA will take if *Trump* does not "divest his



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[AP \(Hosted\) \(1 other source \)](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 01:55 pm

[Fifty-one days before he becomes President, Donald Trump says he will take steps to distance himself from the business empire that bears h...](#)



for Mister *Trump* to violate our Constitution. MAJOR GARRETT: After Mister *Trump'*s announcement, the *Office of Government Ethics* tweeted, "



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 [AP \(Hosted\)](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 01:55 pm

[Trump Team Pushes Ahead with Cabinet Picks as Trump Begins "Thank You" Tour; Sanders: Trump Deal Endangers U.S. Jobs; Carrier:](#)



say about *Trump* and Pence and why he believes this is happening. Take a listen. (BEGIN VIDEO CLIP) MALVEAUX: And, Chuck, you were no *Trum...*



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 [AP \(Hosted\)](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 01:50 pm

[Jury Deciding Fate Of SC Officer; Trump Vows To Leave His Business To Focus On Presidency; Early Trump Backers: Still On Board](#)



Scott. *Trump* vows to stay out of business operations because for him, becoming the President is far more important task. *Trump* supporters w...



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 [Kobe 1450 \(21 other sources\)](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 01:06 pm

[Donald Trump's Options for Separating from His Businesses](#)



, but put it in a blind trust. Alternatively, *Trump* could place the *Trump* Organization and all other business interests into a blind trust...



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 [Tri-County Sun Times](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 12:10 pm


[Federal ethics watchdog tweaks Trump with tweets about his business deals](#)





The *Office of Government Ethics* has informed lawyers for President-elect Donald *Trump* that only a divestiture of his financial stake in his



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 [News-Talk 1110 & 99.3 WBT \(8 other sources \)](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 11:31 am



[Donald Trump's Options for Separating from His Businesses](#)

 not communicate with *Trump* about business or investments. Experts say that while this is the most ethical course of action, *Trump* would 

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 [Daily Kos](#) • USA • Dec 2 • 10:36 am



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 past 2,500,000 while *Trump's* 'mandate' disappears Walter Einenkel 19:31 42 60 
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or capacity". *Trump*, in fact, has not said whether he will sell the hotels, golf courses and other businesses that make up his global *Trum...*



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complete picture of *Trump's* businesses. "They are the very, very tip of the iceberg," said Richard W. Painter, an outspoken critic of *Trump...*



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[Today: Trump kicks off "Thank You" tour with Carrier visit and rally in Cincinnati](#)



count on *Trump* to keep tweeting. Wall Street links, conflicts of interest swirl around *Trump* Count Elizabeth Warren as displeased by *Trum...*

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 [FOX 28 Spokane](#) • USA • Nov 30 • 03:59 pm

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reporters at *Trump* Tower that the country needs infrastructure that's "built for the 21st century." President-elect Donald *Trump* emphasized

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From: [Walter M. Shaub](#)
To: [Seth Jaffe](#); [David J. Apol](#)
Subject: FW: Hatch Act Complaint -- FBI
Date: Monday, October 31, 2016 4:06:44 PM
Attachments: [Hatch Act Complaint -- FBI.docx](#)

From: Richard Painter [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2016 5:56 PM
To: (b) (6); Walter M. Shaub
Subject: Hatch Act Complaint -- FBI

Walter and Carolyn:

I attach as a Word document and paste in below, my complaint about apparent Hatch Act violations and violations of OGE ethics rules by officials at the FBI.

sincerely,

Richard W. Painter

Richard W. Painter

University of Minnesota Law School

229 19th Avenue South

Minneapolis MN 55455

(b) (6)

October 29, 2016

To the Office of Special Counsel and the Office of Government Ethics:

I write to request investigation of apparent violations of the Hatch Act by the Director and perhaps other officials in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in connection with highly unusual public statements while voting is underway about the status of an investigation concerning a political candidate, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. I also request that the Office of Government Ethics ask the FBI to conduct an internal investigation of whether there has been misuse of official position, 5 CFR 2635.702. Violations of the Hatch Act and of this ethics rule are not permissible in any circumstances, including an executive branch official

acting under pressure from persons such as the president and politically motivated members of Congress. Such violations are of even greater concern when the executive branch agency is the FBI.

Some facts are public with respect to the FBI communication this week with certain members of Congress concerning the investigation of emails sent and received by Secretary Clinton and certain of her aides. Those facts will not be recited here, and I am not personally familiar with any nonpublic facts concerning this matter.

I do not know whether the Director of the FBI personally wanted to influence the outcome of an election, although the content and wording of this week's letter is of concern. I am also concerned about the highly unusual public statements he made expressing his personal opinion about Secretary Clinton's actions, when he announced this past summer that the FBI was concluding its investigation of her email. But even absent a specific intent – or desire – of an official to influence an election, I believe that the Hatch Act and ethics rule are violated if it is obvious that the official's actions could influence the election, there is not another good reason for taking those actions, and the official is acting under pressure from persons who obviously do want to influence the election. To this last point, the fact that such other persons exerting pressure on the official, including members of Congress or the president or political operatives, are not subject to the Hatch Act or the OGE ethics rule, is irrelevant. The official still can violate the Hatch Act and the ethics rule in this situation.

Absent extraordinary circumstances justifying it, a public communication about a pending FBI investigation involving a candidate for public office that is made on the eve of an election or, as in this case, while voting is in progress, is very likely to be a violation of the Hatch Act. It is also a misuse of official position. The fact that politically motivated members of Congress want the communication to be made publicly only enhances the seriousness of the violation; it is not an excuse.

This is clearly distinguishable from politically motivated policy decisions in particular matters, such as decisions to spend government money to create jobs in an election year. Such decisions, even if they influence elections, are not generally violations of the Hatch Act. Official actions specifically intended to communicate publicly a connection between policy decisions and a candidate – such as a Department of Transportation announcement of a major project in a Congressman's district on the eve of an election, at a ceremony attended by the Congressman and Department officials – would be highly problematic and border on violations of the Act depending upon proximity to the election. Decisions about particular party matters including investigations and litigation, in which candidates are the particular parties, are even more problematic. These particular party matters must be handled with considerable care in order not to violate the Hatch Act or the ethics rule. That clearly was not done here.

Director Comey's actions in communicating about the investigation the way he did, appear to put him and others at the FBI in a position of violating the Hatch Act. Various members of Congress may be complicit in these actions, but the actions are still those of officials at the FBI. Unless remedial action is taken, there is likely to be a continuing violation of the Hatch Act up through Tuesday November 8.

The same is true with respect to the OGE ethics rule prohibiting misuse of official position. The misuse of position might be at the behest of or because of pressure exerted by members of Congress who are using their office for partisan political gain, but it is still a misuse of position at the FBI.

This is no trivial matter -- the Department of Justice reports to the President. Both the Attorney General and the FBI Director are appointed by the President. They also report to Congress in its oversight function. We cannot allow these officials, absent a compelling reason, to publicize pending investigations concerning candidates of either party while an election is underway. That is an abuse of power. Although there is no evidence of abuse of presidential power here, this precedent will invite such abuse in the future. Your offices should take appropriate action without delay.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Richard W. Painter

From: [Rodgers, Janice \(JMD\)](#)
To: [Seth Jaffe](#)
Subject: Re: Hatch Act Complaint
Date: Monday, October 31, 2016 4:41:24 PM

Seth, thank you-

Janice M. Rodgers, Director
Departmental Ethics Office
Department of Justice
(b) (6)

On Oct 31, 2016, at 4:27 PM, Seth Jaffe <sjaffe@oge.gov<<mailto:sjaffe@oge.gov>>> wrote:

Janice,

Per you request.

Thanks,
Seth

Seth H. Jaffe
Chief, Ethics Law & Policy Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
(202) 482-9303

From: Richard Painter [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2016 5:56 PM
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Very truly yours,

/s/

Richard W. Painter

OGE Confidential Notice: This email, including all attachments, may constitute a Federal record or other Government property that is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This email also may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the transmission to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or use of this email or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender by responding to the email and then immediately delete the email.

<Hatch Act Complaint -- FBI.docx>

From: [The Washington Post](#)
To: [Seth Jaffe](#)
Subject: [GRAYMAIL] The Daily 202: Trump leaning on TV analysts as he staffs the government
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 8:15:19 AM

The first cable news president

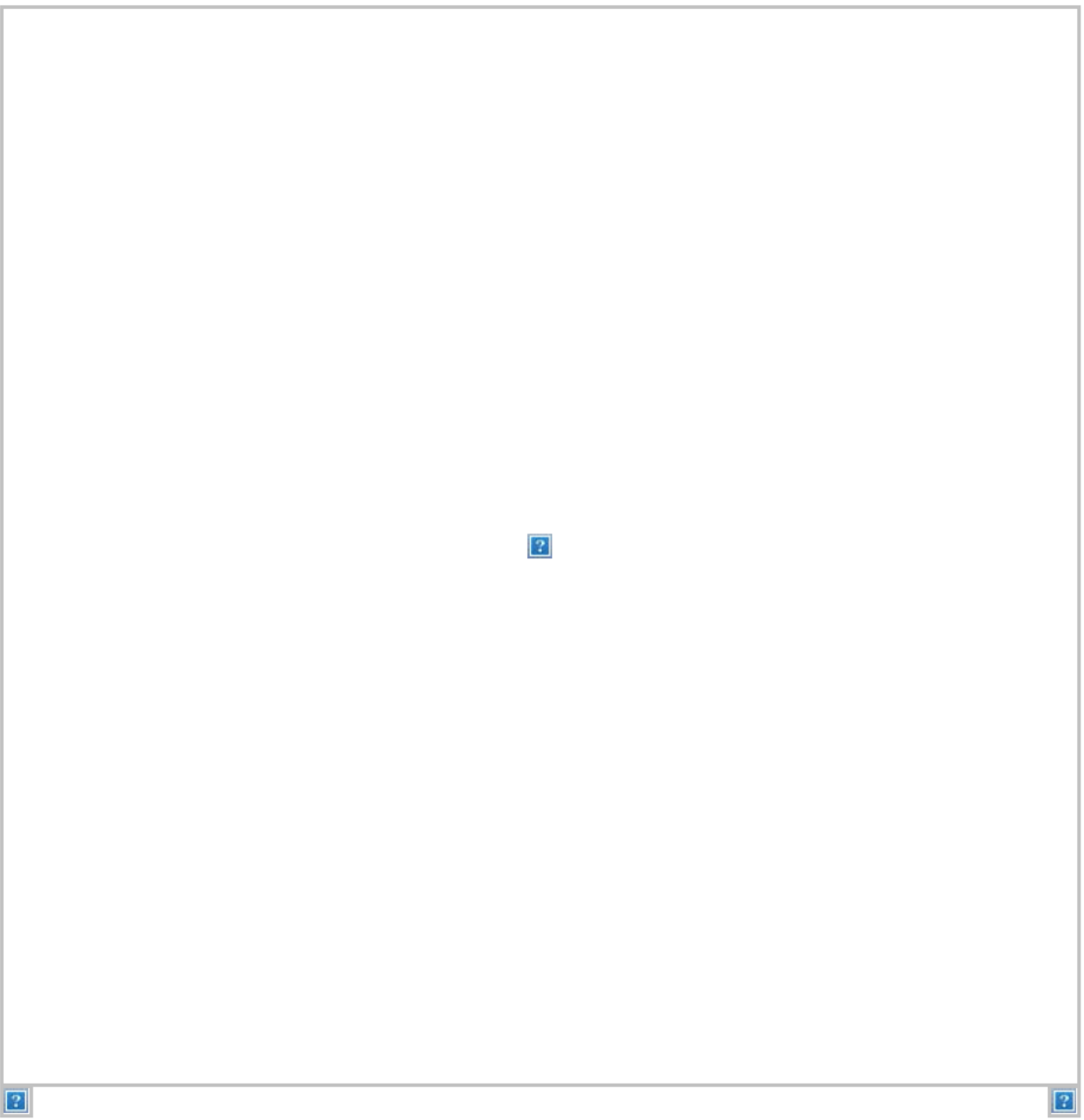
If you're having trouble reading this, [click here](#).

The Daily 202



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[Trump leaning on TV analysts as he staffs the government](#)

Donald Trump campaigns earlier this month. (Evan Vucci/AP)</p></p>



Donald Trump campaigns earlier this month. (Evan Vucci/AP)



BY JAMES HOHMANN
with Breanne Deppisch

THE BIG IDEA: The Trump revolution won't just be televised. It will be led by television talking heads.

In August 2015, Chuck Todd asked Donald Trump on “Meet the Press” who he talks with for military advice. “Well, **I watch the shows,**” said the former star of “The Apprentice,” another NBC franchise. “I mean, I really see a lot of great— you know, **when you watch your show and all of the other shows, you have the generals and you have certain people that you like.**”

So it should come as no surprise that **the president-elect is now stocking the federal government with these generals and other people that he's seen on TV and likes.**

Trump and Mike Pence have now met with 70 individuals about potential positions within the administration. The visitors to Trump Tower, Mar a Lago and the Bedminster golf club in New Jersey can almost all be grouped into just a handful of food groups: Current or former members of Congress. CEOs/rich

tycoons. Pillars of the Republican establishment. And, last but not least, cable pundits.

Frances Townsend exits Trump Tower yesterday. (Drew Angerer/Getty Images)</p></p>



Frances Townsend exits Trump Tower yesterday. (Drew Angerer/Getty Images)

Yesterday, Trump sat down with [CBS News analyst Frances Townsend](#), a former counterterrorism adviser to George W. Bush.

Today, he will meet with [Fox News contributor Pete Hegseth](#). After serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, Hegseth tried to run for U.S. Senate in Minnesota against Amy Klobuchar. His campaign went so poorly that he lost the GOP nomination to a random Ron Paul supporter, who went on to lose by 35 points. Afterward, Hegseth was hired to lead a Koch-funded group focused on veterans' issues and then picked up by Fox in 2014. Now, at just 36, he's being considered as a potential secretary of veterans affairs.

Scott Brown arrives to meet with Trump last week. (Brendan McDermid/Reuters)</p>□



Scott Brown arrives to meet with Trump last week. (Brendan McDermid/Reuters)

Scott Brown also came to Trump Tower last week to talk with Trump about the V.A. job. The former Massachusetts senator served just half of one term before losing to Elizabeth Warren. Then he moved to New Hampshire so he could run for Senate again – and lost. He served 35 years in the Army National Guard, but he’s never managed a large bureaucracy. **Since his 2014 comeback bid failed, he’s [worked at a bike shop](#) and [hawked dubious dietary supplements](#) (which he claimed allowed him to lose 15 pounds in 24 days).** **But, much more importantly than that, he’s a Fox contributor and on-call guest host. He’s on “Fox & Friends” a fair amount, which Trump keeps on in the mornings.**

After his meeting with the president-elect, **the onetime male model told reporters that he thinks he is “the best person” for the V.A. job,** which would require him to oversee a staff of 345,000 and a budget of more than \$100 billion.

Trump is looking to all of these folks largely because he’s never forged deep relationships with the Republican establishment, and he has a greater sense of familiarity with them – even if many are not anywhere near the most qualified options for the jobs they’re being considered for.

Ironically, even as he derides the press, Trump is making these institutions more powerful since he relies on them so much and pays such close attention to what they’re saying.

Kathleen "KT" McFarland at her home in 2006. (Jason DeCrow/AP/File)



Kathleen "KT" McFarland at her home in 2006. (Jason DeCrow/AP/File)

At the end of last week, Trump nominated Kathleen T. McFarland to serve as the deputy national security adviser under Mike Flynn. She has appeared frequently on Fox News and Fox Business as [an analyst](#). She anchors a program called "DEFCON3." But **the last time she worked in government was more than three decades ago, as a Pentagon spokeswoman and speechwriter.** McFarland tried to [run against](#) then-Sen. Hillary Clinton in 2006, but she too lost in the Republican primary.

In the spring of 2011, then-Fox News chairman Roger Ailes (forced out this year after female employees accused him of sexual harassment) used McFarland as the go-between to encourage David Petraeus to turn down Barack Obama's offer to run the CIA. [Bob Woodward obtained the audio tape of a 90-minute meeting](#) in Afghanistan, during which she told Petraeus that Ailes thought he should accept nothing less than the chairmanship of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. And, if Obama did not offer that job, Petraeus should resign from the military and run for president. "McFarland also said that Ailes ... might resign as head of Fox to run a Petraeus presidential campaign," Woodward reported. "At one point, McFarland and Petraeus spoke about the possibility that Rupert Murdoch, the head of News Corp., which owns Fox News, would 'bankroll' the campaign. 'Rupert's after me as well,' Petraeus told McFarland."

Yesterday, perhaps not coincidentally, Petraeus met with Trump about possibly becoming secretary of state or taking another top job in the new administration.

Fox News contributor John Bolton, who is [routinely](#) on the air, was also mentioned early on as a possible pick for State, though that buzz died down when key people expressed their displeasure to Trump.

Trump is considering Laura Ingraham and Monica Crowley, both on the Fox payroll, for the role of White House press secretary, according to [several published reports](#). Ingraham, best known for her radio show, addressed the speculation on, where else, Fox News. “It’s a big decision, but I’m at the point where, if my country needs me, and if I can do something to actually advance the Trump agenda ... then I obviously have to seriously consider that,” she told Tucker Carlson.

It typically works the other way around. Someone like Dana Perino earned her coveted Fox hosting gig after serving as White House press secretary.

Stephen Bannon, who will be the chief strategist in the White House, is not a cable talking head, but he ran Breitbart until August and he had his own radio show. And don’t forget all the pre-election chatter that Trump might launch an anti-establishment cable network of his own had he lost, with Bannon playing some role. (There was even at least one meeting with a financier.)

Jeanine Pirro arrives at Trump Tower on Nov. 17. (Eduardo Munoz Alvarez/AFP/Getty Images)</p>□

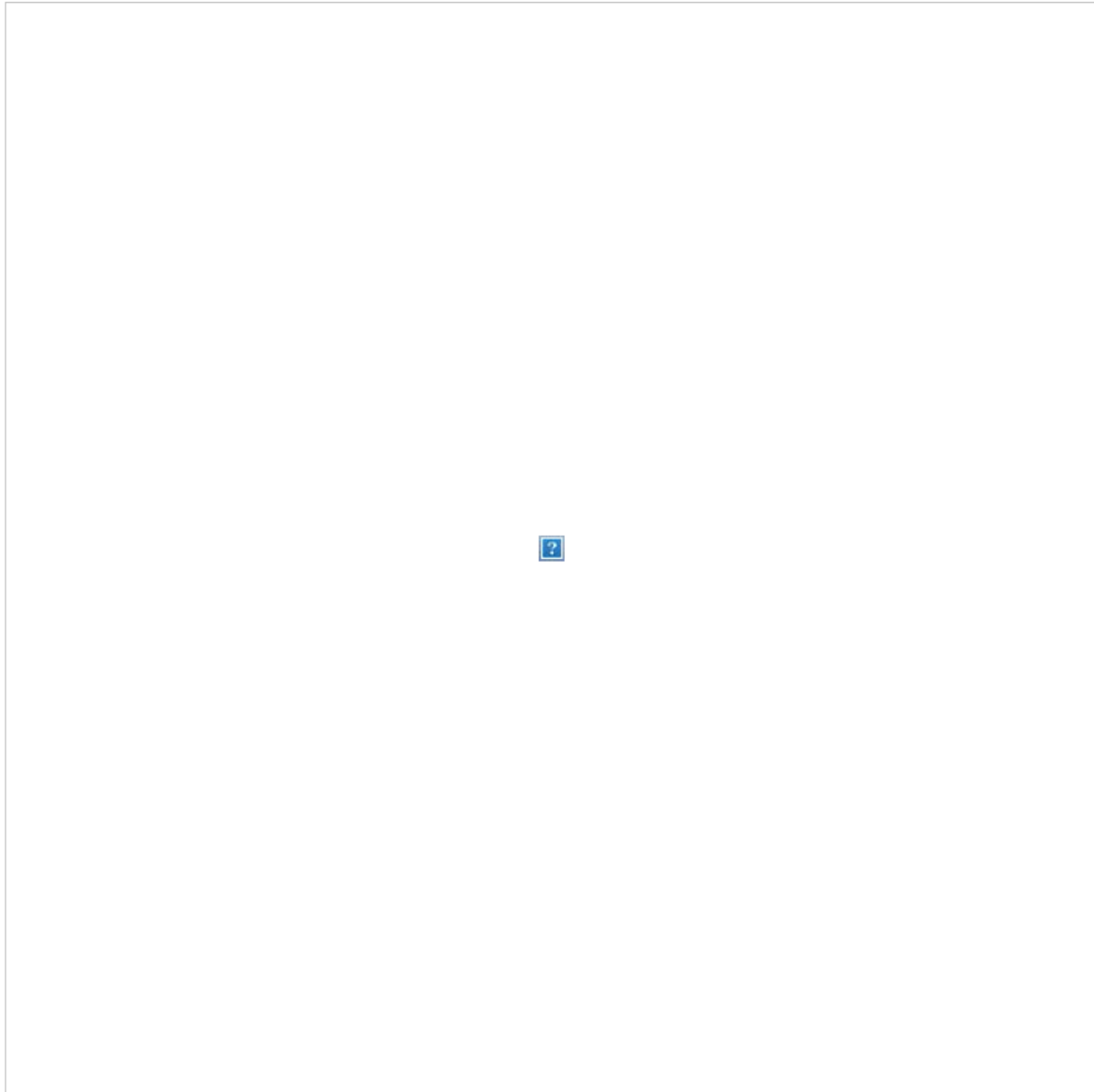


Jeanine Pirro arrives at Trump Tower on Nov. 17. (Eduardo Munoz Alvarez/AFP/Getty Images)

The list goes on and on. Donald huddled with Jeanine Pirro (the host of Fox News’s [“Justice with Judge](#)

[Jeanine](#)”), as well as (less surprisingly) **Mike Huckabee**, whose Saturday night show was canceled when he ran for president but who was [re-signed](#) as a contributor in April after he dropped out. Former Fox contributor [Elaine Chao](#), the former Labor secretary and wife of Mitch McConnell, met with Trump last Monday afternoon.

Trump has also been meeting with people who are not employed by Fox or other channels but appear regularly. Last night, for instance, he sat down with Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke – who is often on Fox in primetime. He’s ubiquitous enough on cable (and recognizable because he wears a cowboy hat) that a New York fire department captain, helping with security in the lobby of Trump Tower, fist bumped him on his way out the door.



Fox News President Bill Shine departs after meeting with Trump at Trump Tower last week. (Lucas Jackson/Reuters)

The president-elect’s focus on cable talent has become so blatant in recent days that it’s become a punch line. On Fox News’s “The Five” last night, Greg Gutfeld joked that the new administration is emptying out the green rooms. “I’m looking at the roster so far,” Gutfeld told his co-hosts, scanning a list of who Trump has been meeting with. “You’ve got K.T. McFarland, Ben Carson, Bolton, Crowley, Huckabee [and] Scott Brown. These are all [Fox News Channel] mainstays. Are they going to replace the Supreme Court with ‘Outnumbered’? Does that make Clarence Thomas ‘one lucky guy’? I’m worried. We’re not going to have

anybody here anymore. ... I'll be hosting every show!" He added, "What becomes of Fox News?"

The office he's about to assume has not changed the man, at least not yet. People who have been around Trump say he watches cable as much as ever. During his off-the-record meeting with 25 TV executives and anchors last week, he outlined grievances with coverage about him. Among them: he asked the president of NBC's news division why the network only uses unflattering pictures of him, according to [Politico's Hadas Gold](#). Last night, he retweeted anti-CNN messages posted by random people online.

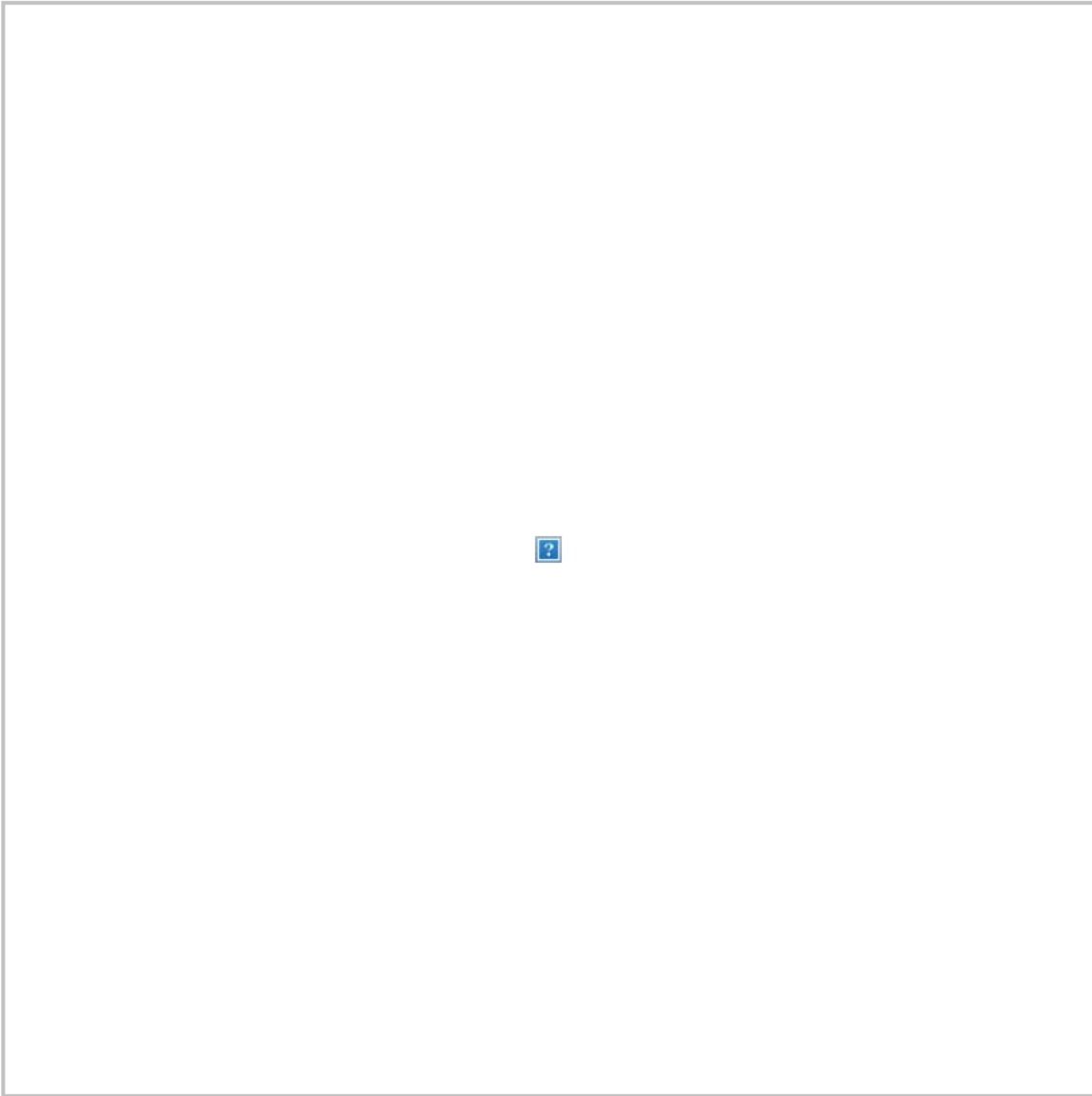


Finally, Fox briefly suspended Newt Gingrich as a contributor after it became clear he was a finalist to be Trump's running mate. But he was quickly re-activated after Trump picked Pence. The former Speaker says he will not take a formal position in the new administration, but his stock has certainly risen because of his closeness with the incoming commander-in-chief. As has his number of television hits. Newt was on Sean Hannity's show last night to again decry Mitt Romney, who crushed his presidential dreams in 2012, as a bad choice for secretary of state. With the backdrop of the Capitol, Gingrich said: "There is an enormous base that wanted to drain the swamp, and they see Romney as the swamp."

-- **More palace intrigue: Trump released a statement yesterday saying that he green-lighted former campaign manager [Kellyanne Conway's broadsides against Mitt Romney on the Sunday shows](#).** "Kellyanne came to me and asked whether or not she could go public with her thoughts on the matter," he said in an email to the [New York Times](#). "I encouraged her to do so. Most importantly she fully

acknowledged there is only one person that makes the decision."

-- **Amid the scrutiny of her influence, Conway posted this photo from Trump's office last night:**



Welcome to the Daily 202, **PowerPost's** morning newsletter.
With contributions from **Elise Viebeck (@eliseviebeck)**.

[Sign up to receive the newsletter.](#)

Tom Price holds a press conference on Capitol Hill. (Joshua Roberts/Reuters)</p></p>



Tom Price holds a press conference on Capitol Hill. (Joshua Roberts/Reuters)

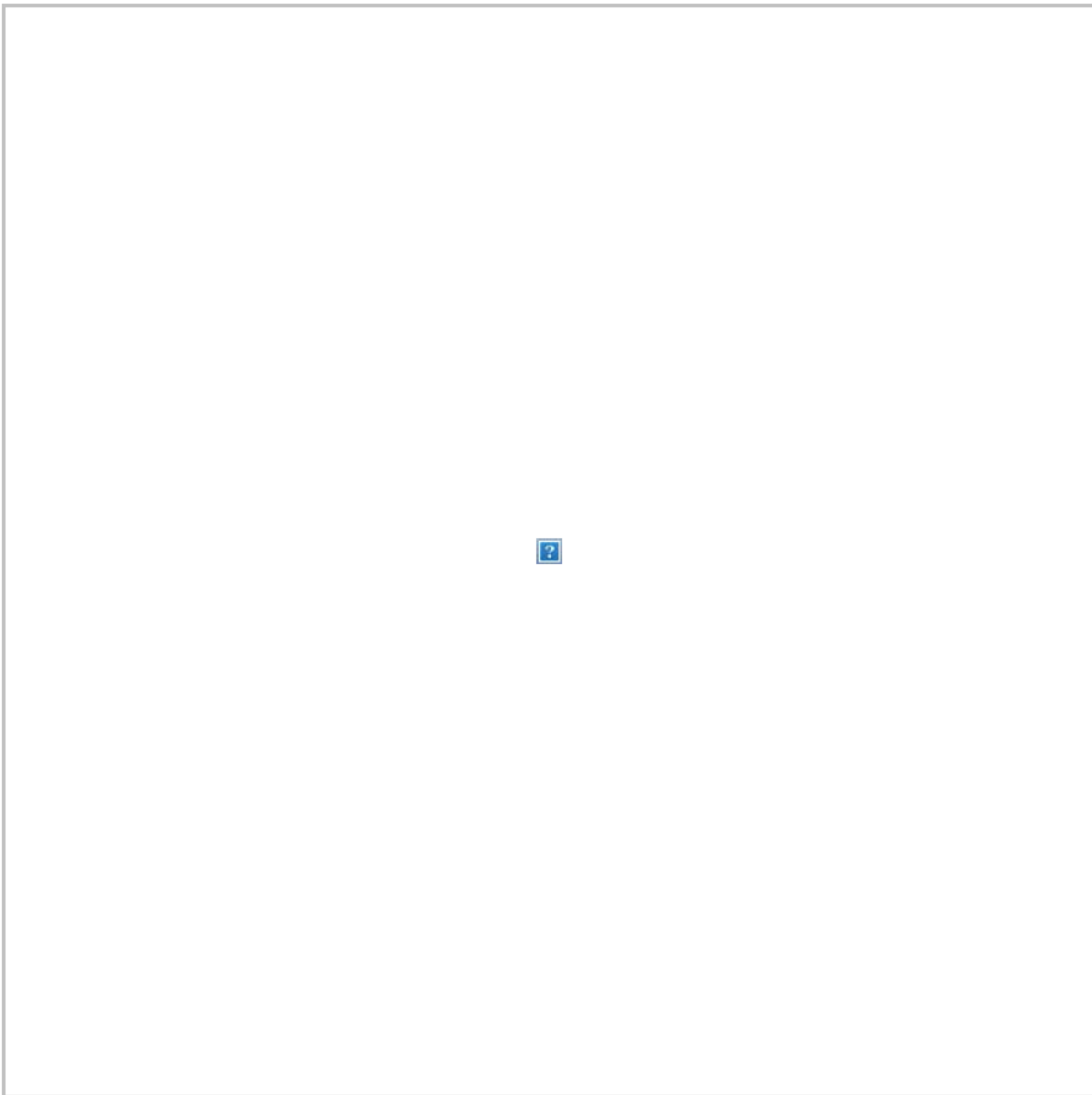
WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING:

-- **Trump tapped Tom Price, a six-term Georgia congressman and outspoken Obamacare critic, as health and human services secretary.** From [Philip Rucker](#): Trump's selection of Price, who chairs the House Budget Committee, is expected to be publicly announced as early as today. "As HHS secretary, Price would become the Trump administration's point person on dismantling and replacing the Affordable Care Act, one of Trump's major campaign promises ... But after meeting with Obama in the Oval Office shortly following the election, he was convinced to perhaps keep some of the more popular elements of the law intact and amend the law rather than repeal it. In picking Price to fill a key Cabinet position, Trump will add to his team a veteran lawmaker who is close to [Paul Ryan]."

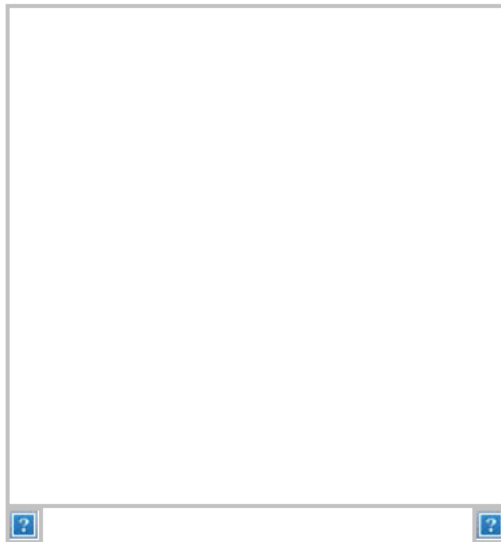


Plane carrying Brazilian team to Copa Sudamericana finals crashes

-- **A charter plane carrying 81 people, including players from a rising Brazilian soccer team headed for a championship match, crashed en route to Medellín's airport in Colombia Monday night.** [From Fred Barbash, Samantha Schmidt and Dom Phillips:](#) "At least five passengers survived and the rest were killed, Colombia's aviation authority confirmed this morning. It was uncertain whether that was a final count, however, as the figures had fluctuated during the night. General José Acevedo, commander of Medellín police, told a Colombian radio station that 75 people had been killed at the site of the crash and six others had been injured and rescued from the scene. One of the rescued passengers died on the way to the hospital, Acevedo said. A local television station, [Telemedellin](#), reported that a sixth survivor was rescued from the crash at about 5 a.m. Tuesday morning."



Abdul Razak Artan, a third-year student in logistics management, is seen in an August 2016 photo provided by The Lantern, the student newspaper of OSU. (Kevin Stankiewicz for The Lantern/Handout via Reuters)



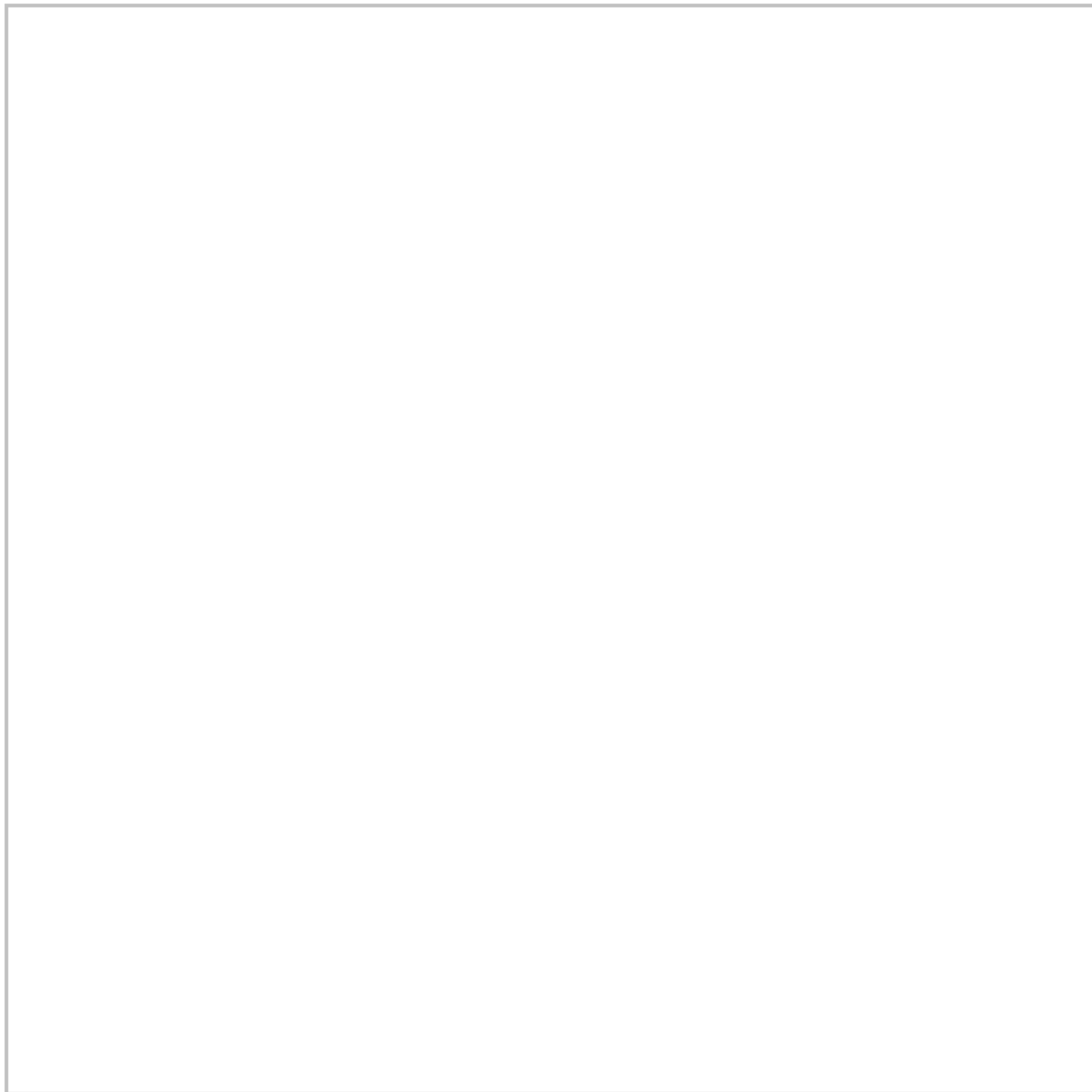
-- **The Ohio State University student who injured 11 in a knife attack on campus before being fatally shot by police had written in a Facebook post shortly before the rampage that the abuse of a little-known Muslim community in Burma drove him to the “boiling point.”** From [Annie Gowen](#): More than 1 million Rohingya Muslims live in Burma, but they have long been denied citizenship and other basic rights. And in recent weeks, thousands of Rohingya Muslims have been fleeing into the forests and neighboring Bangladesh on the heels of a brutal military crackdown that followed a terror attack on police posts. Earlier this week, a U.N. refugee agency official was in the Bangladesh region of Cox’s Bazar — where more than 30,000, many of them Rohingya, have fled — and told the BBC that Burmese troops were "killing men, shooting them, slaughtering children, raping women, burning and looting houses, forcing these people to cross the river" into Bangladesh. He said that the "ultimate goal" of the Burma government is "ethnic cleansing of the Muslim minority." The attacker has been identified as 18-year-old Abdul Artan. ([Kathy Lynn Gray](#), [Susan Svruga](#), [Mark Berman](#) and [Matt Zapotosky](#) have much more on what happened in Columbus.)

GET SMART FAST:

1. **A federal judge ruled that Dylann Roof, the 22-year-old accused of killing nine black parishioners at a Charleston church last year, can represent himself at a federal hate-crimes trial.** The decision means that Roof could potentially confront directly survivors of the attack if they are called to testify in the case. ([Mark Berman](#) and [Matt Zapotosky](#))
2. **Texas officials confirmed the first case of the locally-transmitted Zika virus in Brownsville,** making the border town the second place in the continental U.S. to have the virus spread directly by mosquitos. ([Lena H Sun](#))
3. **The Lone Star State also announced it is requiring all fetal remains be “properly buried or cremated” regardless of the period of gestation** – garnering an intense outcry from pro-choice advocates, grieving mothers who lost children in utero or through miscarriages, and from medical providers, who have questioned who will foot the costly bill. ([Texas Tribune](#))
4. **The Department of Education released new rules on how to judge schools in accordance with the “Every Student Succeeds Act,”** the federal education law that replaced No Child Left Behind in 2015. It is unclear, however, whether a President Trump plans to abide by the contentious new set of regulations. ([Emma Brown](#))
5. **Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Calif.) has officially won reelection,** narrowly edging out Democratic challenger Doug Applegate in a race that took weeks to tally. ([AP](#))
6. **Democrats will have supermajorities in both chambers of the California legislature, after a Democratic candidate very narrowly won a tight state Senate race.** That will let liberals push through big tax hikes, enact a far-reaching social agenda under an “emergency clause” and override Jerry Brown's vetoes. ([LA Times](#))
7. **South Korean President Park Geun-hye issued a third national apology for her role in an influence-peddling scandal, saying she would resign if lawmakers vote to impeach her.** The unexpected announcement means Park could step down from her post as early as this Friday, [Anna Fifield](#) reports.
8. **Jimmy Carter is urging Obama to grant diplomatic recognition to Palestine before his term ends,** stressing the importance of securing a two-state solution because of continued settlement activity.

"I am convinced that the United States can still shape the future of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict before a change in presidents, but time is very short," the former president writes [in a New York Times op-ed today](#).

9. **Britain's pro-Brexit party picked Paul Nuttall as its new leader**, selecting the former top deputy to replace firebrand and Trump ally Nigel Farage as he seeks to carve out influence in the president-elect's budding administration. ([Brian Murphy](#))
10. **Italians are voting on a Constitutional amendment this weekend to help smooth gridlock in parliament and increase the rate of government efficiency**. But unlike U.S. elections, voters won't be compulsively refreshing polls or forecasting sites all day -- in Italy, it's illegal to publish polls during the final two weeks before a vote. ([Anna Momigliano](#))
11. **A headless corpse served as a most unlikely arbitrator in a years-long land dispute between the Netherlands and Belgium**, which was finally resolved on Monday after a tense, years-long dispute. ([New York Times](#))
12. **Police are investigating the death of a Good Samaritan who was gunned down while trying to help a woman being beat in the parking lot of a San Antonio Walmart**. The 39-year-old had braved the Black Friday crowds to help his wife find a holiday outfit, she said, before attempting to step in and help the ailing woman. ([Cleve R. Wootson Jr.](#))
13. **A Japanese amusement park drew swift condemnation after unveiling its new ice-skating rink – which featured some 5,000 dead fish frozen into the ice**. Photos of the now-shuttered exhibit showed some of the fish displayed with their heads *partially protruding* from the ice, while others were laid out in whimsical patterns (one spelled out the word 'hello'!) ([Amy B Wang](#))



Trump gives the thumbs-up as Romney leaves Trump National Golf Club Bedminster. (AP/Carolyn Kaster)

TRUMP TRANSITION:

-- **The president-elect remains “unswayed” by the public revolt over the possible choice of Mitt Romney for the State Department and continues to see his foe as a serious contender for the diplomatic post,** [Philip Rucker and John Wagner report](#).

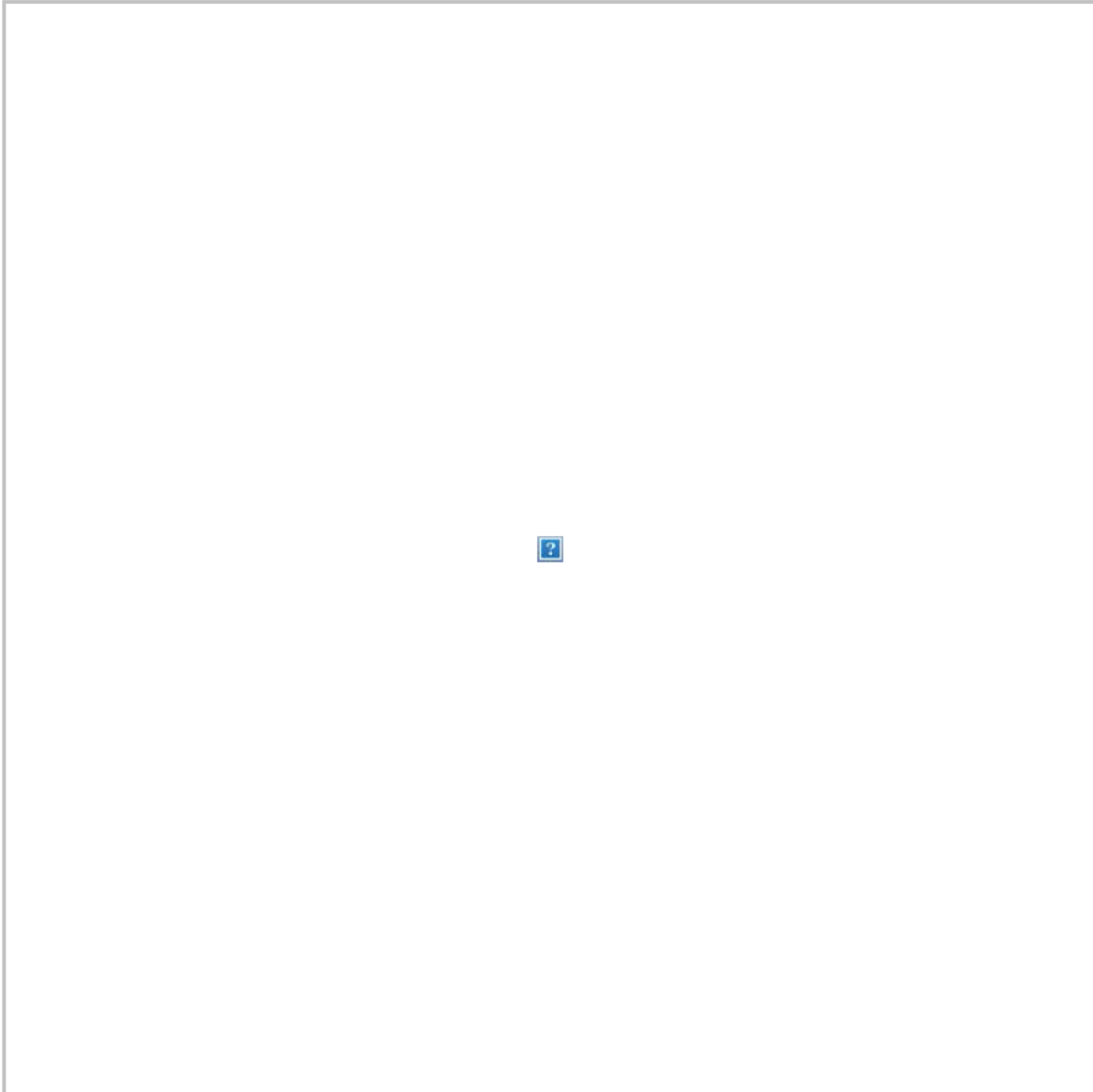
Romney plans to have a private dinner tonight with Trump, who is said to be “intrigued” by the notion of reconciling with one of his fiercest Republican antagonists. But he wants assurances that Romney could be trusted to defend and promote Trump’s markedly different worldview.

More people in Trump’s orbit came out against Mitt. Rep. Chris Collins (R-N.Y.) blasted Romney as “a self-serving egomaniac who puts himself first, has a chip on his shoulder, and thinks that he should be president of the United States” on CNN.

Mike Pence is viewed as a Romney supporter, “believing that he has a steady hand that would benefit Trump in the turbulent world of diplomacy.”

Romney and Rudy Giuliani were seen previously as “co-favorites,” but Trump officials now say that Giuliani’s international business ties and consulting could prevent him from winning Senate

confirmation.



Petraeus describes 'very good' meeting with Trump

-- **Petraeus, who has emerged as a possible alternative for secretary of state, and whose tenure as CIA director ended amid revelations that he had an affair with his biographer, said he is taking a “wait and see” approach on serving in Trump’s administration.** “I was with him for about an hour,” Petraeus told reporters after the meeting. “He basically walked us around the world. Showed a great grasp of a variety of the challenges that are out there and some of the opportunities as well. Very good conversation and we’ll see where it goes from here.” ([Jerry Markon and Paul Kane](#))

Transition officials said Trump has long admired Petraeus and described his candidacy as formidable, despite the baggage he would carry into any confirmation hearings because of his 2015 conviction for mishandling classified information. (Remember when Trump made Hillary Clinton's mishandling of classified information, for which she was never charged with a crime, a central issue in the presidential campaign? That was earlier *this month*.)

-- **A wrinkle: Just as the former CIA director met with Trump in New York yesterday, Defense Department officials [confirmed to the AP](#) that they are conducting a new leaks investigation related to the sex scandal that led to his resignation.** "Investigators are trying to determine who leaked personal information about Paula Broadwell, the woman whose affair with Petraeus led to criminal charges against him

and his resignation. The latest twist in the case could [resurface] details of the extramarital affair and FBI investigation that ended his career at the CIA."

-- **Pence: "It's going to be a busy week. Get ready. Buckle up."** Among those scheduled to drop by Trump Tower today: House Homeland Security Committee chair Michael McCaul.

West Virginia residents hold signs supporting coal in Cleveland. (Reuters/Aaron P. Bernstein)</p>□



West Virginia residents hold signs supporting coal in Cleveland. (Reuters/Aaron P. Bernstein)

TRUMP TAKES WASHINGTON:

-- **Trump son-in-law Jared Kushner could face serious conflict-of-interest questions of his own – even if he only takes a role as an unpaid adviser to the president-elect.** From the [Wall Street Journal's Peter Grant](#) on A1: "The real-estate company [Kushner controls] ... has hundreds of millions of dollars in loans outstanding from domestic and foreign financial institutions, markets condominiums to wealthy U.S. and foreign buyers and has obtained development financing through a controversial U.S. program that sells green cards. The president himself isn't subject to the conflict-of-interest law, but all other government employees must follow it. Even if Mr. Kushner were to serve in the new administration as an unpaid adviser, his potential influence on policy would invite scrutiny, legal experts said." Some wealthy individuals and business people who have joined previous administrations have sold stocks, bonds and a wide range of other assets to comply with conflict laws. **"It's a criminal statute so you don't want to get too close to the line," said former**

White House ethics lawyer Richard Painter.

-- **Democrats on the House Oversight Committee called on Jason Chaffetz to launch a formal probe into Trump's finances**, asking (futilely) that the GOP's top investigator request copies of Trump's income tax returns and to invite Trump aides to brief lawmakers on "their plans for protecting against conflicts of interest." ([Mike DeBonis](#))

-- **White House officials urged Trump not to reverse Obama's policies on Cuba, after Trump said in a tweet that he would "terminate" newly-thawed U.S.-Cuba policy unless Havana is willing to make a "better deal" for Cubans and Americans. (He did not specify what he wanted or what he would do.)** "It's just not as simple as one tweet might make it seem," said White House press secretary Josh Earnest, noting that Monday marked the resumption of direct commercial flights between the U.S. and Havana for the first time in half a century. "There are significant diplomatic, economic [and] cultural costs that will have to be accounted for if this policy is rolled back." ([The Hill](#))

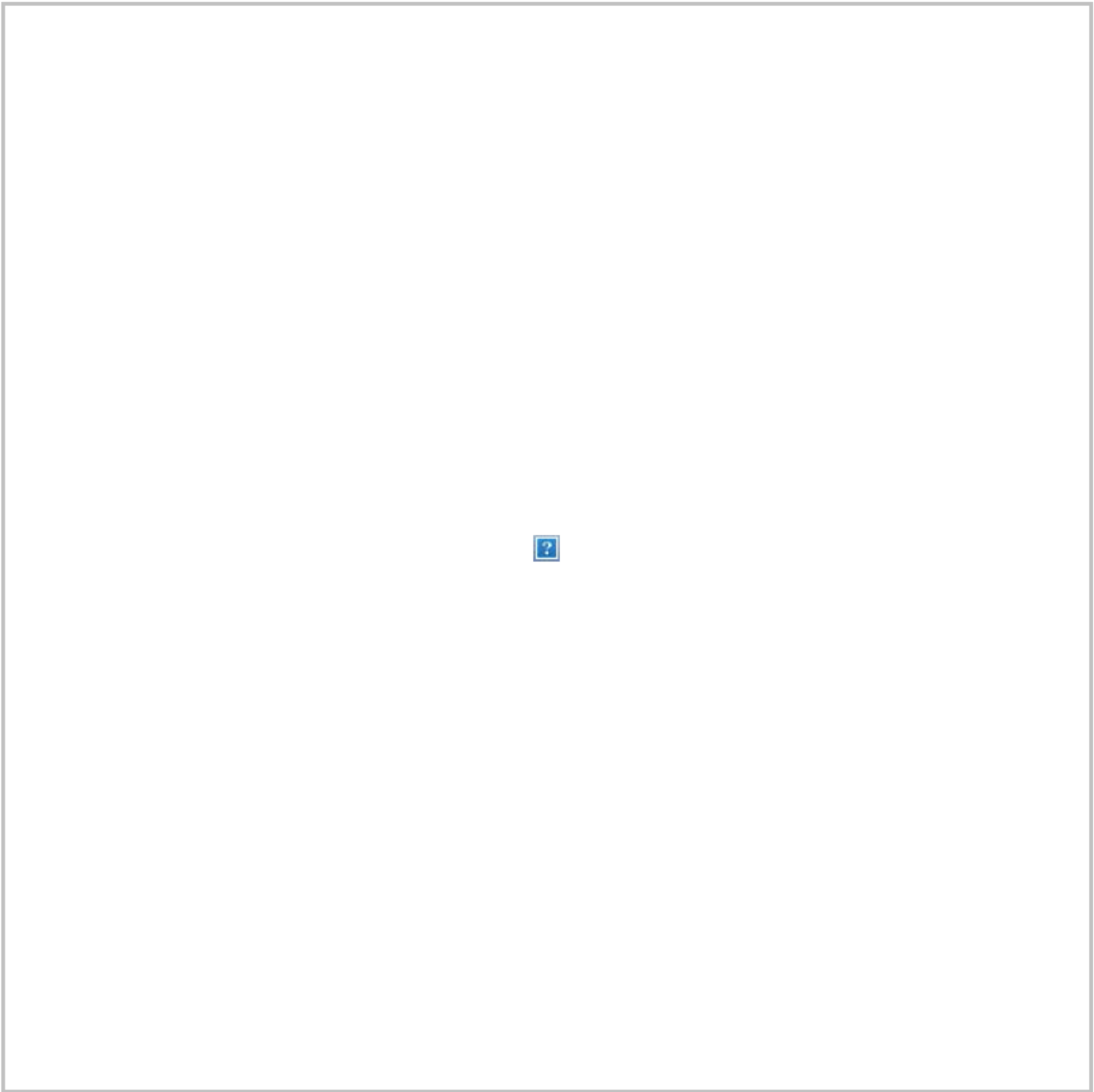
-- **"Trump's election suddenly created an awful lot of international Trump-branded targets for terrorists," Philip Bump writes.** "Protecting Trump Tower is relatively easy. Protecting a Trump-branded resort in Indonesia is something else entirely, and raises a slew of questions. How? Who?"

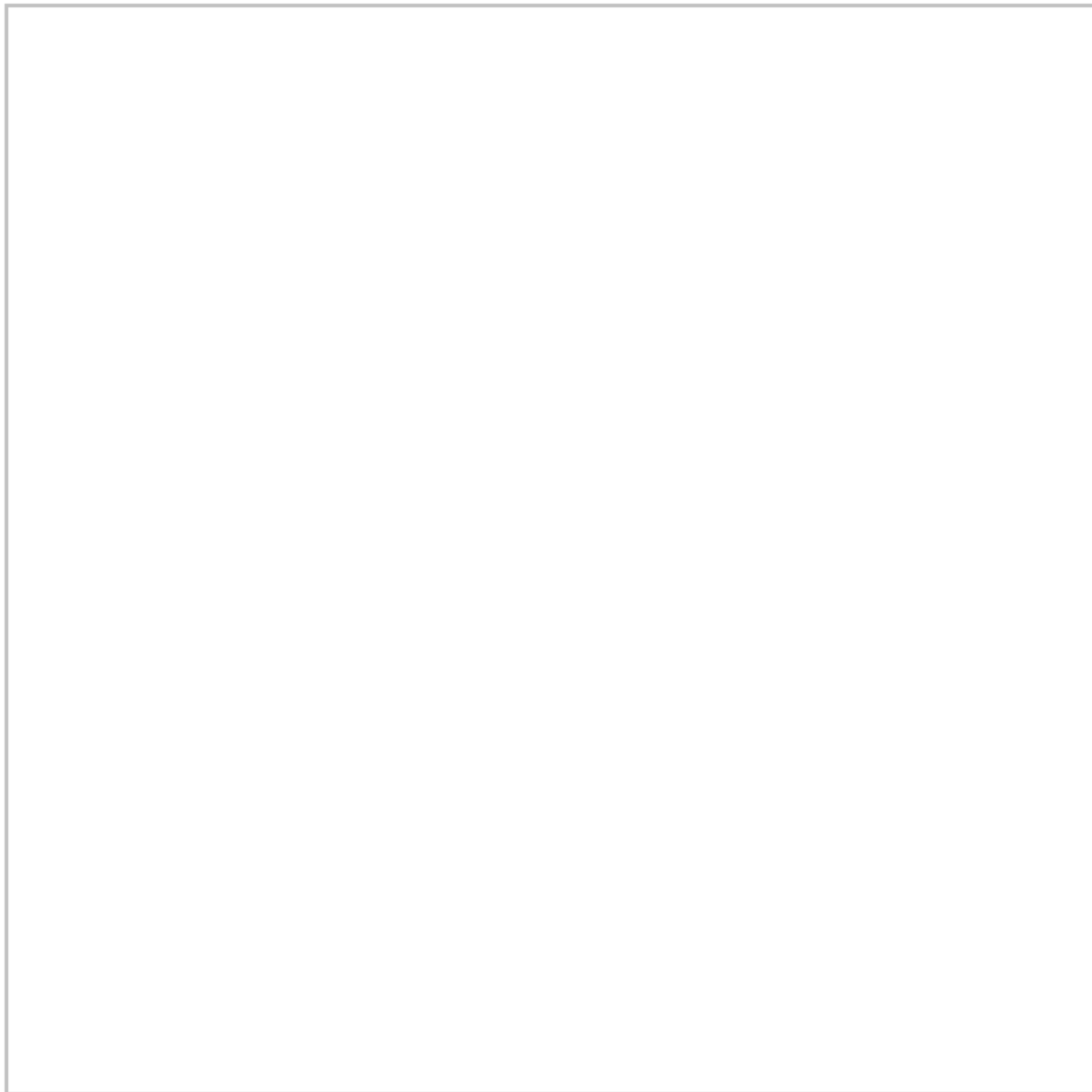
-- **Wall Street Journal, "Will Political Reality Derail Markets' Bet on Donald Trump?," by Gerald F. Seib:** "So far, the financial markets love the coming Trump presidency, and why not? They look at the combination of a big tax cut, big infrastructure spending and lower regulations ... Less obvious is the implicit assumption the markets are making that two looming problems with all this stimulation won't short-circuit the good times. But are the markets making a safe bet? Let's look at each element in turn":

- **TAX CUTS:** "Republicans have a working majority in the House, but barely hung on to their majority in the Senate. Still, with likely across-the-board Democratic opposition, it also leaves little margin for error ..."
- **INFRASTRUCTURE SPENDING:** In theory, everybody in Washington loves more infrastructure spending. In reality, there are enormous differences, between parties and within the GOP ... Can Mr. Trump use Republican votes to pass a big tax cut and then Democratic votes to get a big infrastructure plan through? **Perhaps that is what an unorthodox president who essentially ran as an independent can do. But it will be trickier than it looks on the potholed surface.**"
- **TRADE WARS:** "Trade tensions still lie ahead, and China is stepping into the free-trade void in Asia quite nicely, to the potential detriment of American companies. But visions of an all-out trade war aren't as vivid as some feared ..."
- **DEFICITS:** "This is the big potential showstopper ... Look for a moment of truth in mid-2017, when a Republican president and a Republican Congress have to agree on a plan to raise the federal debt ceiling or face a market-rattling default ..."

-- **New York Times, "Trump's Promises Will Be Hard to Keep, but Coal Country Has Faith," by Sheryl Gay Stolberg:** "Appalachians are eyeing Washington with a feeling they have not had in years: hope. It is difficult for outsiders to fathom how deeply faith and work are intertwined here, or the economic and psychological depression that sets in when an entire region loses the only livelihood many of its people have ever known. Coal has always been boom and bust ... But in West Virginia alone, 12,000 coal industry jobs have been lost during (Obama's) tenure. In this land of staggering beauty and economic pain, Trump backers said over and over again that while coal might never be what it once was, the businessman they helped send to the White House could indeed put them back to work."

-- **Some perspective on the favorability ratings of presidents-elect at this point in the past:**





Former Michigan Democratic Party chair Mark Brewer testifies on the side of Jill Stein and promises a formal demand for a recount as members of the Michigan Board of Canvassers meet to certify the presidential election and consider a recount yesterday in Lansing. Michigan officials yesterday certified that Trump won the state by 10,704 votes out of nearly 4.8 million to claim all of its 16 electoral votes. (Dale G. Young/Detroit News via AP)

AMERICA, DIVIDED:

-- **Trump and Jill Stein continued to raise competing doubts about the election results on Monday, with Trump's transition team voicing more unsubstantiated concerns about "voter fraud" and the Green Party candidate taking legal action to trigger a recount in Pennsylvania.** From [Sean Sullivan](#): "Trump was also officially declared the winner in Michigan by a slim margin. (Stein's team said it plans to demand a statewide hand-recount on Wednesday, in accordance with the 48-hour deadline to do so.) In Wisconsin, where Stein asked for a recount last week, elections officials on Monday announced a timeline and procedure for it." In Pennsylvania, Stein's campaign said requests had been filed by voters in more than 100 precincts already.

"I really do think it's ridiculous that so much oxygen has been given to recount efforts when there is absolutely no chance of the election results changing," said Trump spokesman Jason Miller. "This election has been decided. It's a conceded election." (The Trump camp continues to dubiously cite two sources to back up

its claims on voter fraud. Post Fact Checker Michelle Ye Hee Lee explains why neither [actually backs up their argument.](#))

-- **An airline passenger who went on an expletive-laden, pro-Trump rant has been banned from flying Delta for life.** The incident is the latest in a string of political disputes to break out among passengers mid-air including one United Airlines flight in which a pilot was forced to ban all talk of politics completely.

-- **A Texas Republican presidential elector resigned his post, saying he could not vote for a man who he does not believe is “biblically qualified” to serve in the White House.** “I will sleep well at night knowing I neither gave in to their demands nor caved to my convictions,” welding supply salesman Art Sisneros wrote in a blog post. (Fort Worth [Star-Telegram](#))

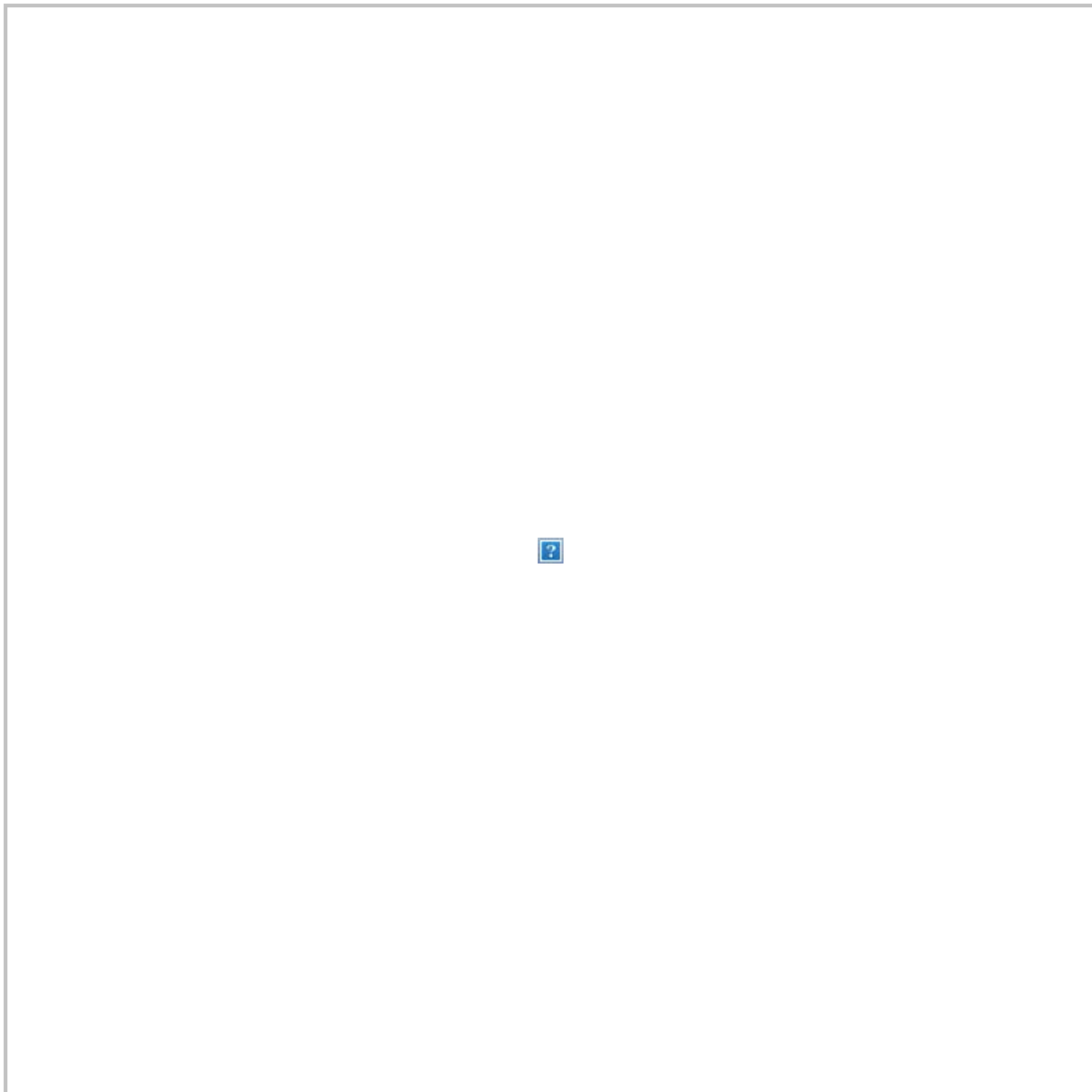
-- **Evansville, Indiana, police are investigating racist threats that were spray painted onto a black church last week,** as the congregation hosted and fed nearly 300 people during its annual Thanksgiving feast for the needy. ([Cleve R. Wootson Jr.](#))

-- **Hundreds of flag-waving veterans gathered at Hampshire College to protest the school’s decision to remove all flags, including the U.S. flag.** ([Peter Holley](#))

-- **Former students at a North Dallas prep school have started an online petition protesting their ex-classmate Richard Spencer,** a white nationalist who coined the term “alt-right” and who last week led a D.C. conference advocating for a whites-only state. **Proceeds from the effort will benefit refugee resettlement efforts.** ([Amy B Wang](#))

-- **Rolling Stone, “‘Radically Mainstream’: Why the Alt-Right Is Celebrating Trump’s Win,”** by Sarah Posner: “[Richard Spencer] says he sees Trump as a symbol, a vehicle for white aspirations, in much the same way so many projected their hopes and dreams onto Obama. What has been “legitimized,” in the Alt-Right view, is the movement’s central creation myth: that white people are being “dispossessed” in contemporary America. As he hungrily eats an omelet ... Spencer begins to dream out loud. The Alt-Right ‘can plausibly say we are influencing Breitbart,’ he says – but now, in the wake of the Trump win, he can imagine, even predict, that Fox News will develop a show speaking directly to the movement. He imagines producing a series of white papers that would trickle up into conversations inside the White House ... **‘That is influence, where people are thinking things that they had no idea who planted this in their head,’** he says. **‘It’s planting ideas. People will come to the conclusions themselves, but the true influencer is the one who kind of helps them, that kind of leads them there.’**”

-- **“Angry Woman at Michaels Store Cries Discrimination for Being White, Voting Trump,”** from [Chicago Patch](#): “The offer of a \$1 reusable bag erupted into a meltdown by a woman who proclaimed she had voted for [Trump] and was being discriminated against by African-American employees at a Chicago arts and crafts store. According to [a bystander,] the woman, who is white, went into a “30-minute racist rant complete with yelling and cursing and repeated references to the fact that both employees were African-American.” “Yes, I voted for Trump, so there. You want to kick me out because of that? And look who won,” the customer yelled. The bystander and her son watched the scene for several minutes before she began recording the yelling customer, which she wanted to document to ensure store employees would not get in trouble.



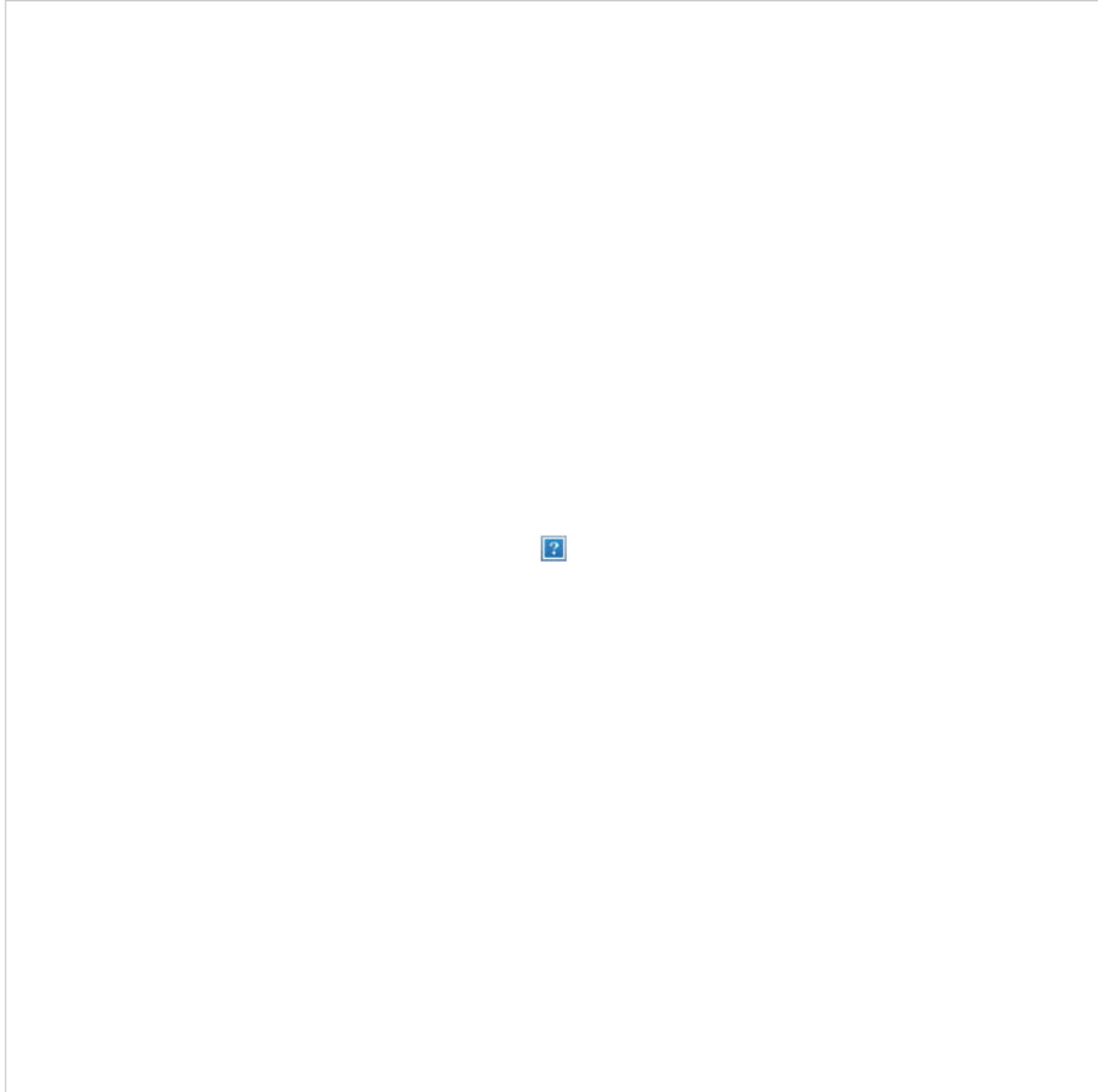
Abu Mohammed al-Adnani, ISIS's chief strategist, who laid out the blueprint for the extremist group's attacks against the West, was killed this summer while overseeing the group's operations in northern Syria. (Militant Photo via AP)

WAPO HIGHLIGHTS:

-- If you read one thing --> [Joby Warrick has an awesome piece on the rise and fall of a top Islamic State leader](#): “For a man given to fiery rhetoric and long-winded sermons, Abu Muhammad al-Adnani became oddly quiet during his last summer as the chief spokesman for the Islamic State. **The Syrian who exhorted thousands of young Muslims to don suicide belts appeared increasingly obsessed with his own safety ... He banished cellphones, shunned large meetings and avoided going outdoors in the daytime. He began sleeping in crowded tenements ... betting on the presence of young children to shield him from the drones prowling the skies overhead.** But in late August, when a string of military defeats suffered by the Islamic State compelled Adnani to briefly leave his hiding place, the Americans were waiting for him. The Aug. 30 missile strike was the culmination of a months-long mission targeting one of the Islamic State’s most prominent [and] most dangerous — senior leaders. At least six high-level Islamic State officials have died in U.S. airstrikes in the past four months ... all but erasing entire branches of the group’s leadership chart. ... The loss of senior leaders does not mean that the Islamic State is about to collapse, [U.S. officials caution]. ... But the deaths point to the growing sophistication of a targeted killing campaign built by the CIA and the Defense Department over the past two years for the purpose of flushing out individual leaders who are

working hard to stay hidden.”

-- **[“The mounting death toll in Mosul forces questions about the battle plan,”](#)** by Kareem Fahim, Missy Ryan and Mustafa Salim: “Civilian and military casualties are mounting as misery spreads in Mosul six weeks after the Iraqi army launched an offensive to capture the city from the Islamic State. Nearly 600 civilians have been killed, according to one estimate, along with dozens of Iraq’s elite, U.S.-trained special forces soldiers ... The carnage has slowed the army’s advance and revived debate about the wisdom of the battle plan, which envisioned Mosul’s residents sheltering in their homes — a means, it was hoped, of staving off a mass dislocation and the city’s destruction. They also say their U.S. allies are urging them to consider steps that could ease the civilian toll but also hasten a shared victory [in the waning days] of the Obama administration ... **But with the Islamic State intentionally targeting civilians, any plan to evacuate them was fraught with risk. ‘If they suffer, it will be on us,’**” said Maj. Gen. Sami al-Aridhi.



People stand in line yesterday to pay tribute to Cuba's late President Fidel Castro in Revolution Square in Havana. (Alexandre Meneghini/Reuters)

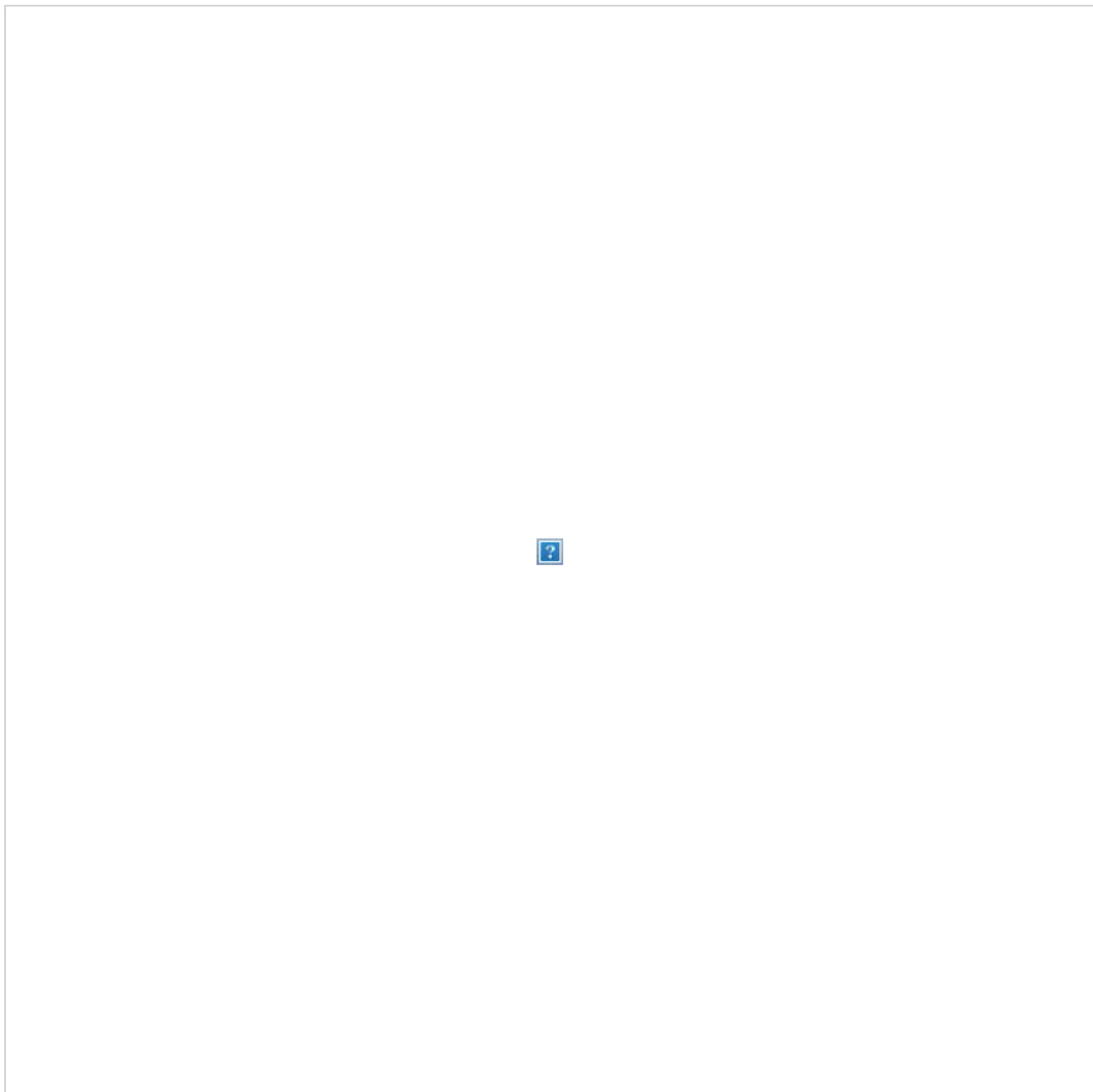
-- **“Out of loyalty, obligation, or perhaps a bit of both, Cubans lined up for hours Monday to pay respects to Castro in a hushed procession that was tightly choreographed by their government,”** **[Nick Miroff files from Havana.](#)** “Shuffling forward in three columns ... the tribute had a dutiful feel, with nothing left to chance. Castro evolved over his half-century in power, and the swaggering, infallible figure he

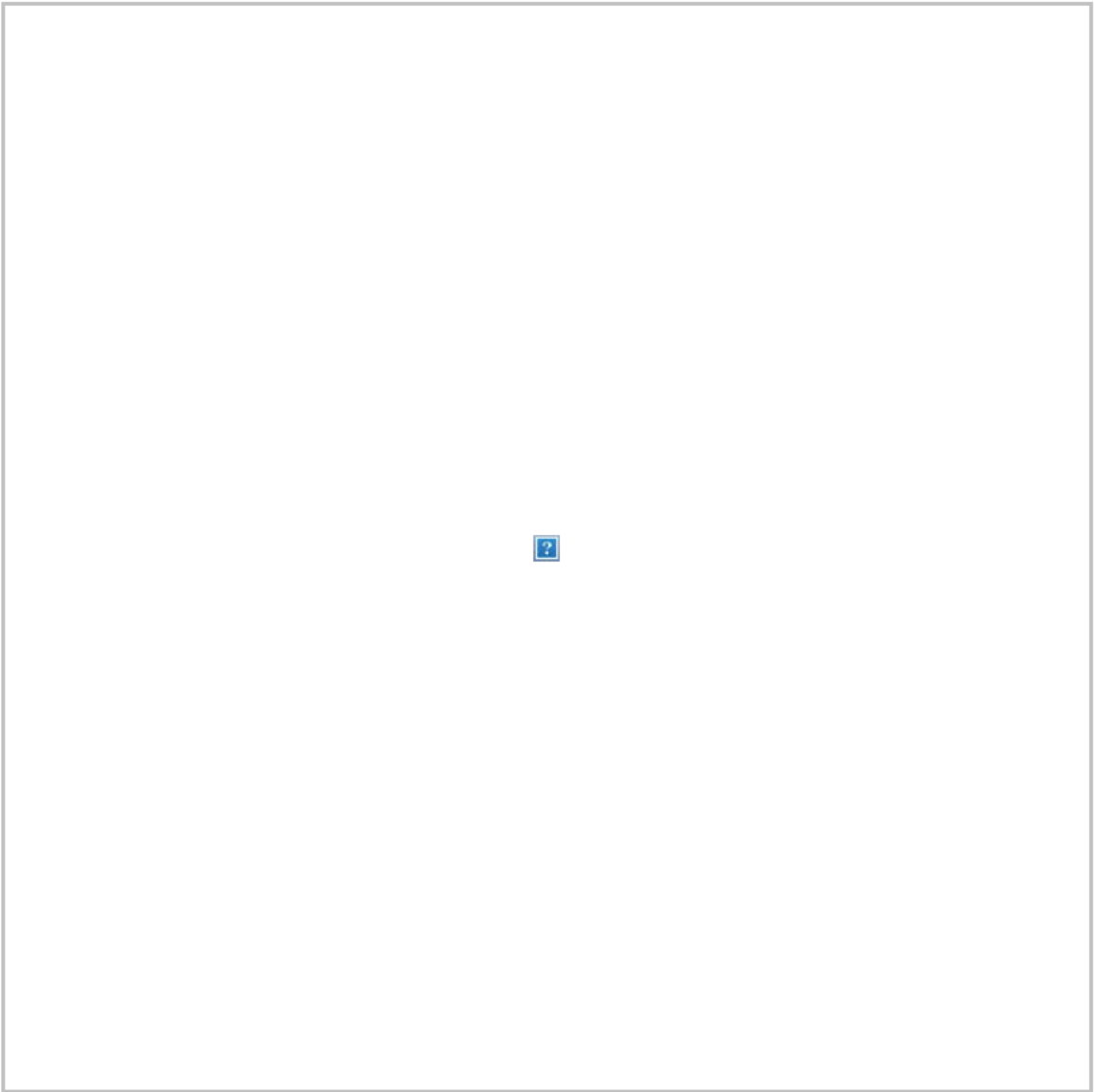
projected as a younger man gave way to something less imposing as he went gray and his lofty socialist ideals crashed into economic ruin. Over the years, many younger Cubans came to see him like a stubborn, grandfatherly figure whose musings on history and geopolitics were divorced from the grinding struggles of their daily lives. [And] just as Castro's one-party state imposed ideological and political conformity, the public response to his death on Friday night at age 90 has been a kind of state-directed emotional uniformity."

-- "[How the far right is trying to woo an unlikely ally — Jews,](#)" by **Anthony Faiola**: "Attendees gathered this month inside Vienna's opulent Grand Hotel for an extraordinary event billed as the 'New Anti-Semitism Conference.' The Israeli superspy who hunted down war criminal Adolf Eichmann flew in for the occasion, timed to commemorate the 1938 night when the Nazis stormed Jewish synagogues and businesses. What made the event truly remarkable, however, was its sponsor: Austria's Freedom Party — a far-right movement founded in part by former Nazis and now on the cusp of capturing this nation's presidency. 'They are one of the most pro-Israel parties in Europe,' insisted Michael Kleiner, ... a former member of the Israeli parliament. Newly energized by the presidential victory of Trump, far-right and anti-establishment forces are pushing into the mainstream on both sides of the Atlantic. As they do, many are seeking to neutralize one of their oldest and most debilitating labels: as anti-Semites ..."

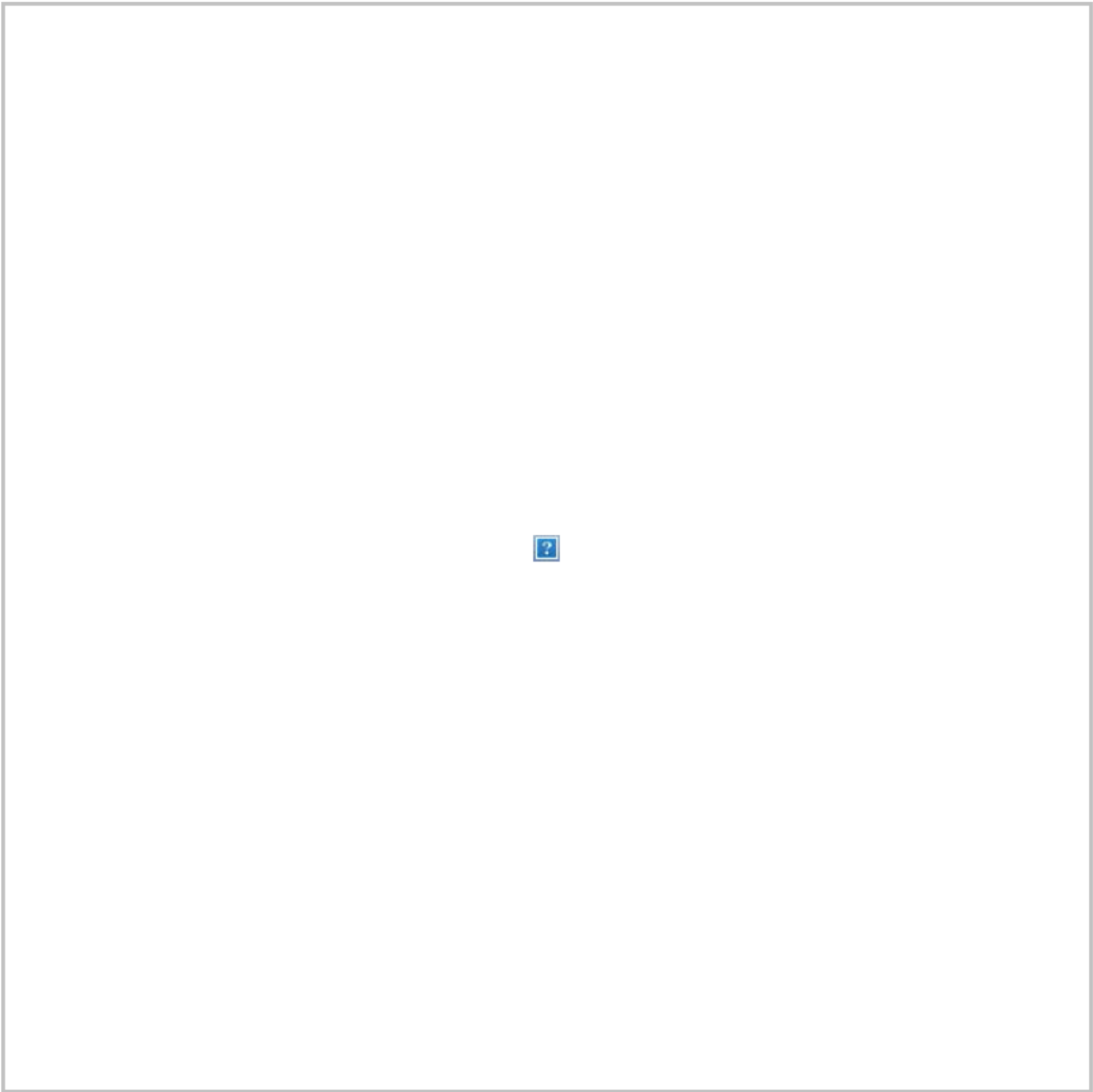
SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:

Here's an update from Trump's Twitter feed, starting with this threat to the Cuban regime:

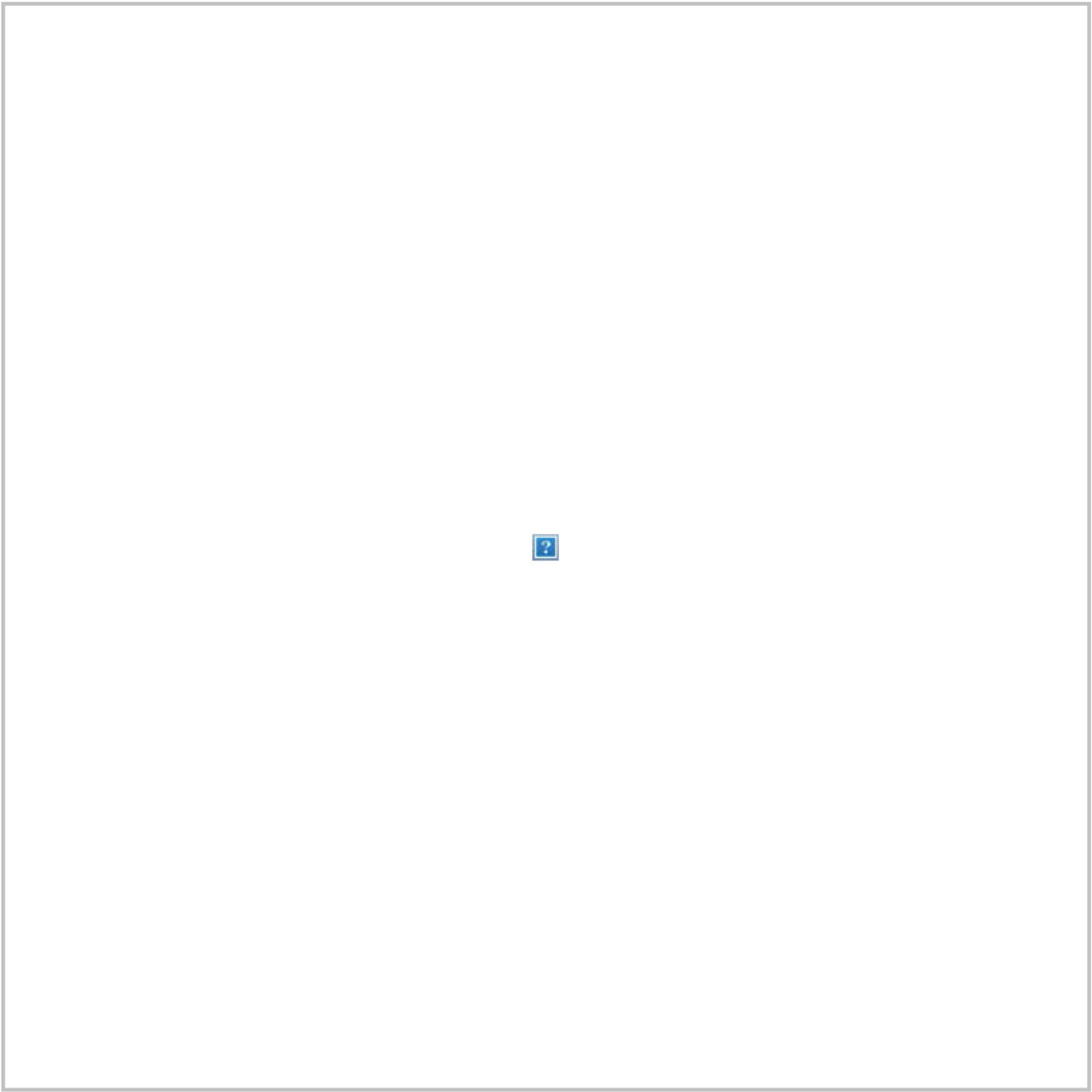


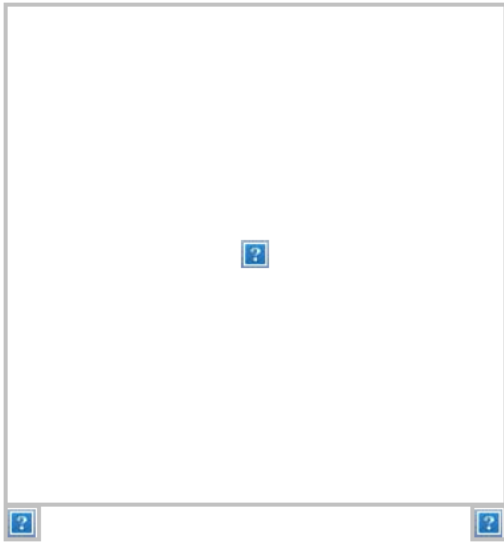
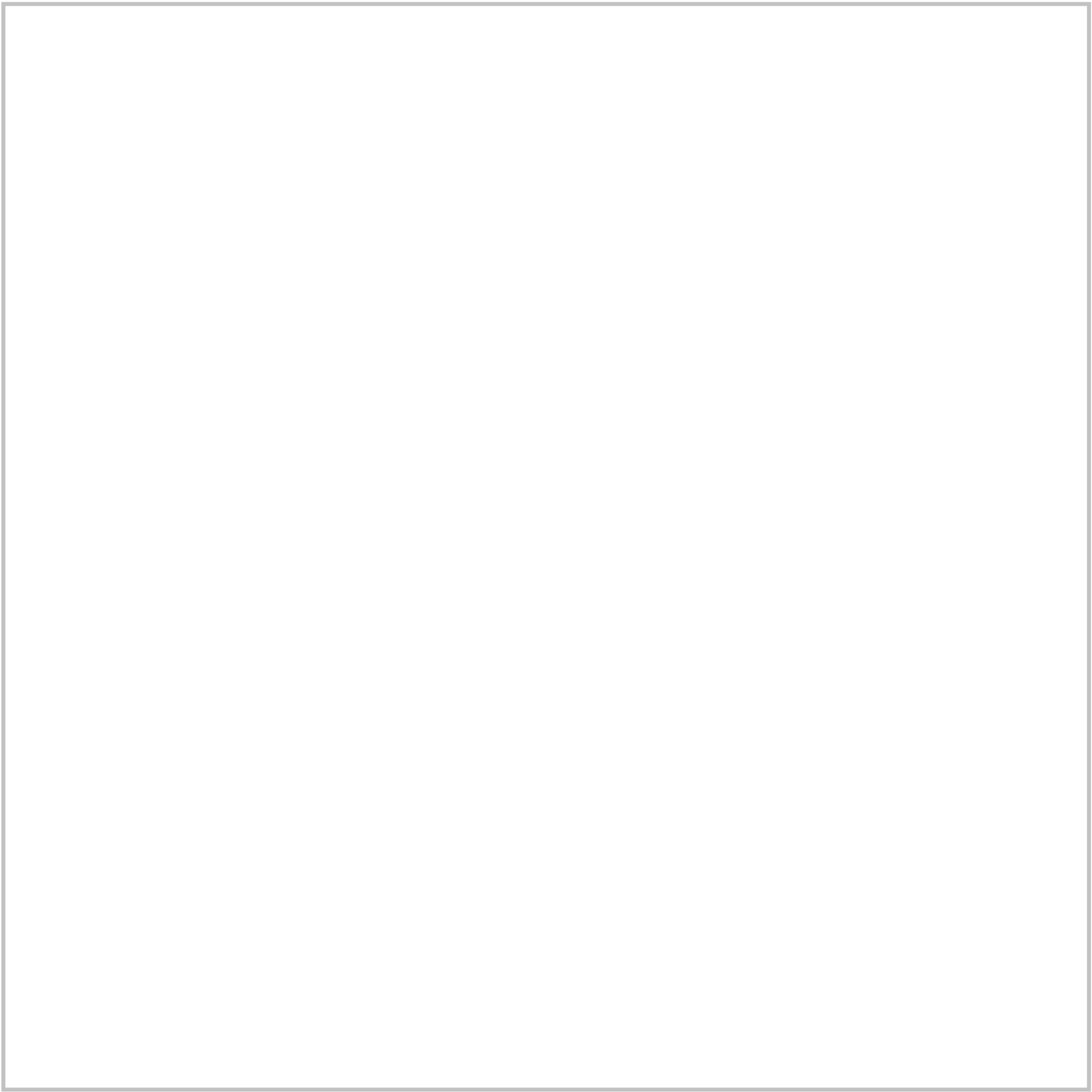


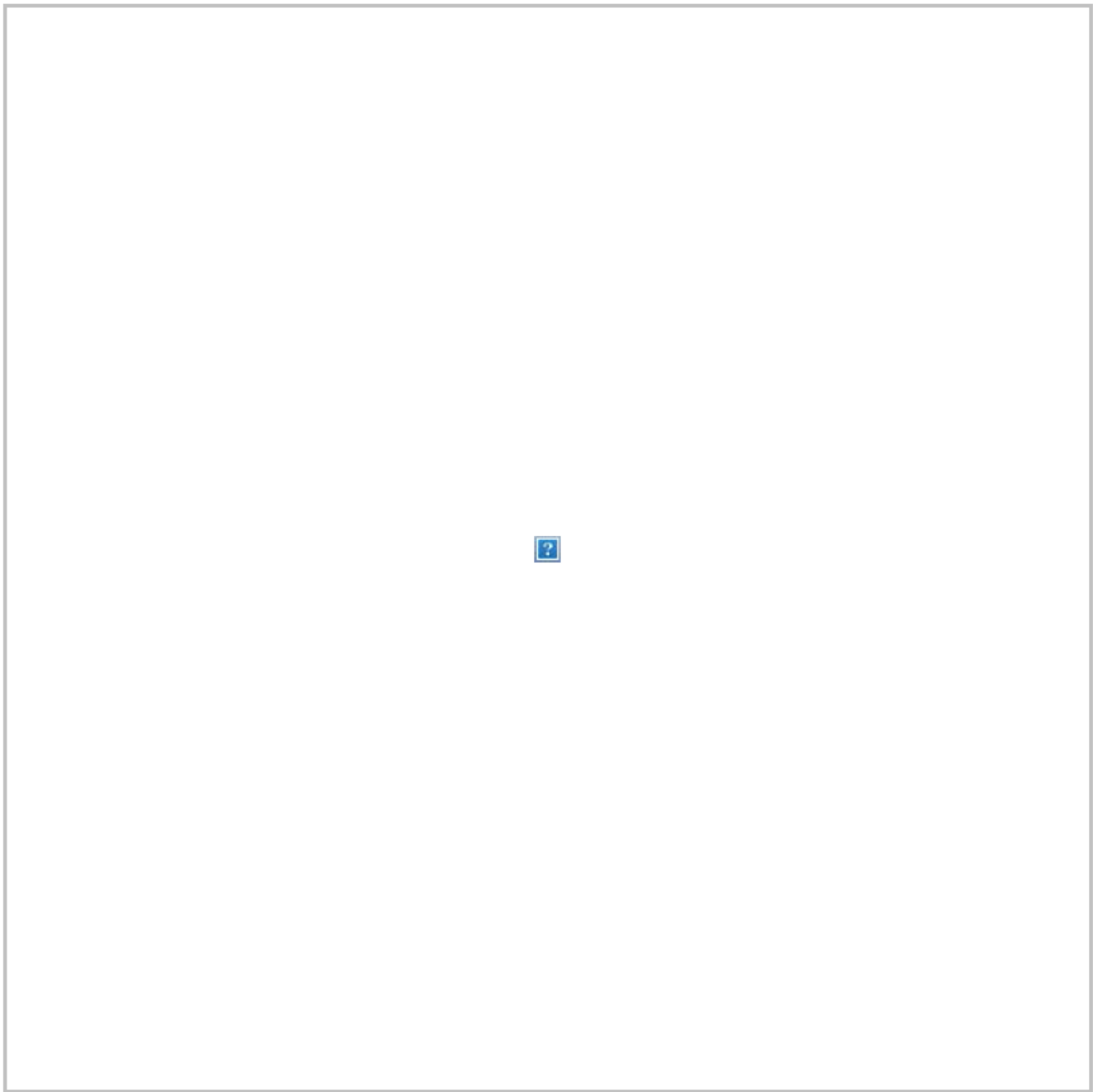
Trump complimented David Petraeus after their meeting at Trump Tower:



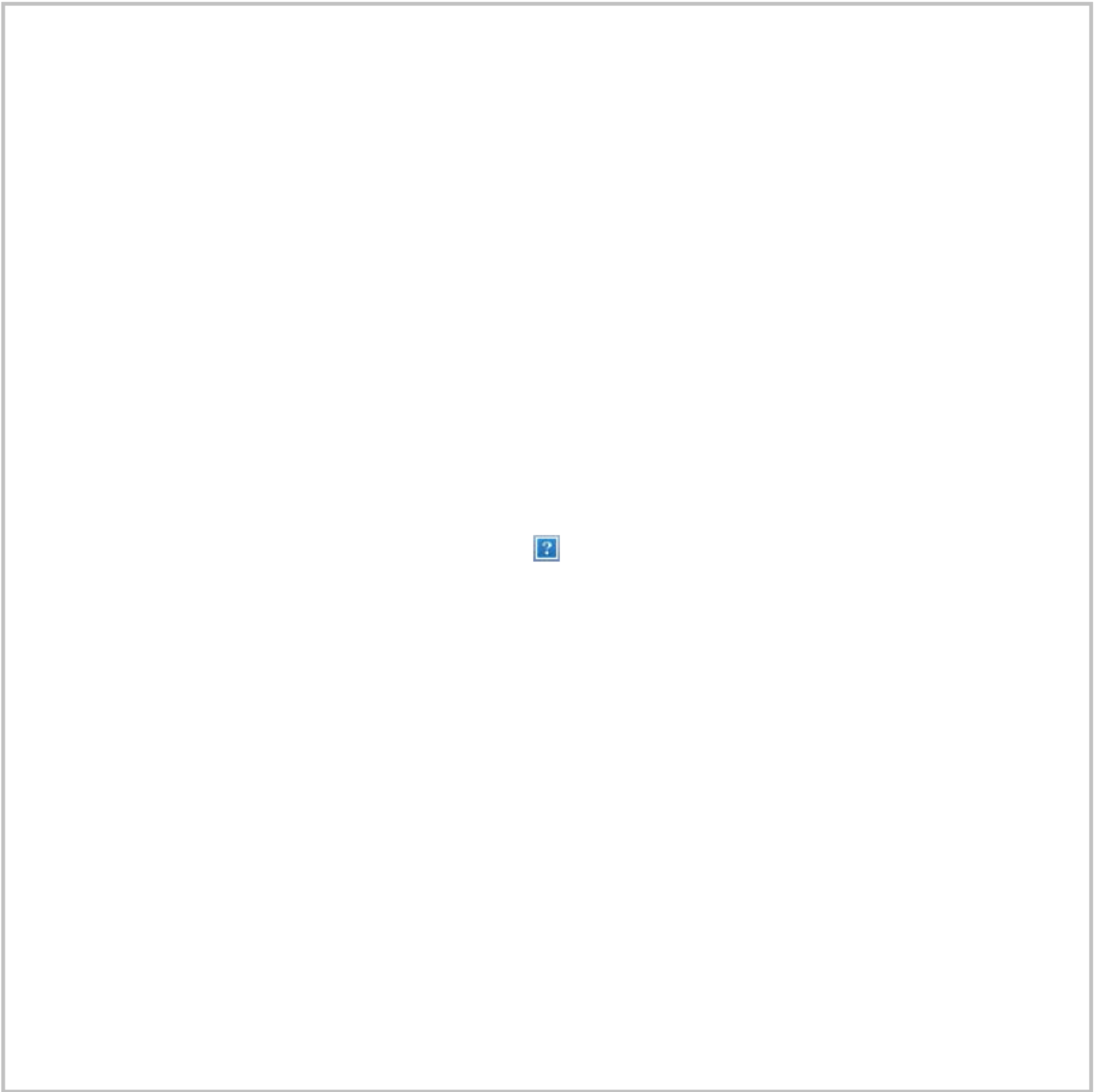
He then proceeded to go after CNN by retweeting random people's attacks on correspondent Jeff Zeleny (including a teenage kid's):



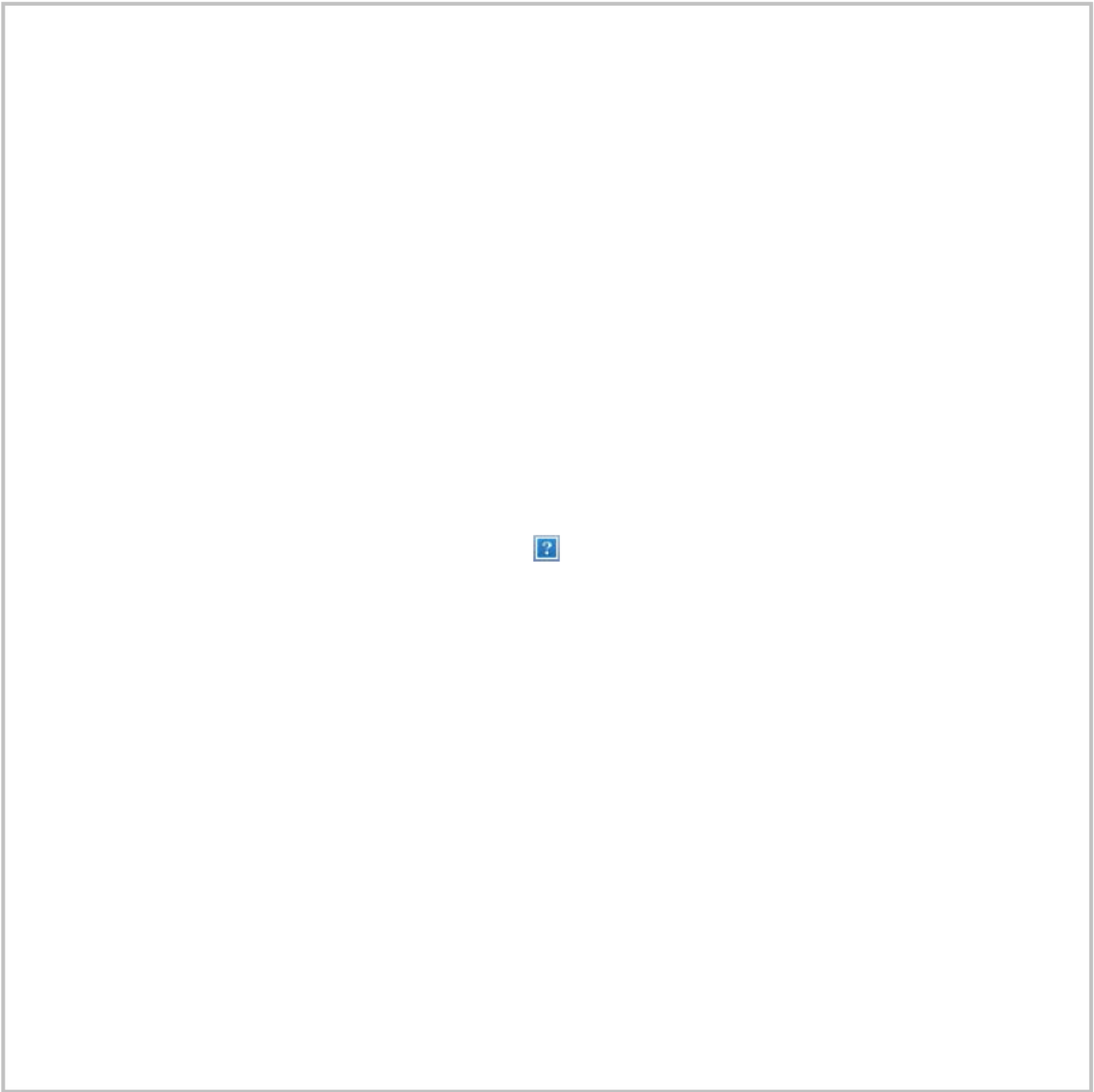




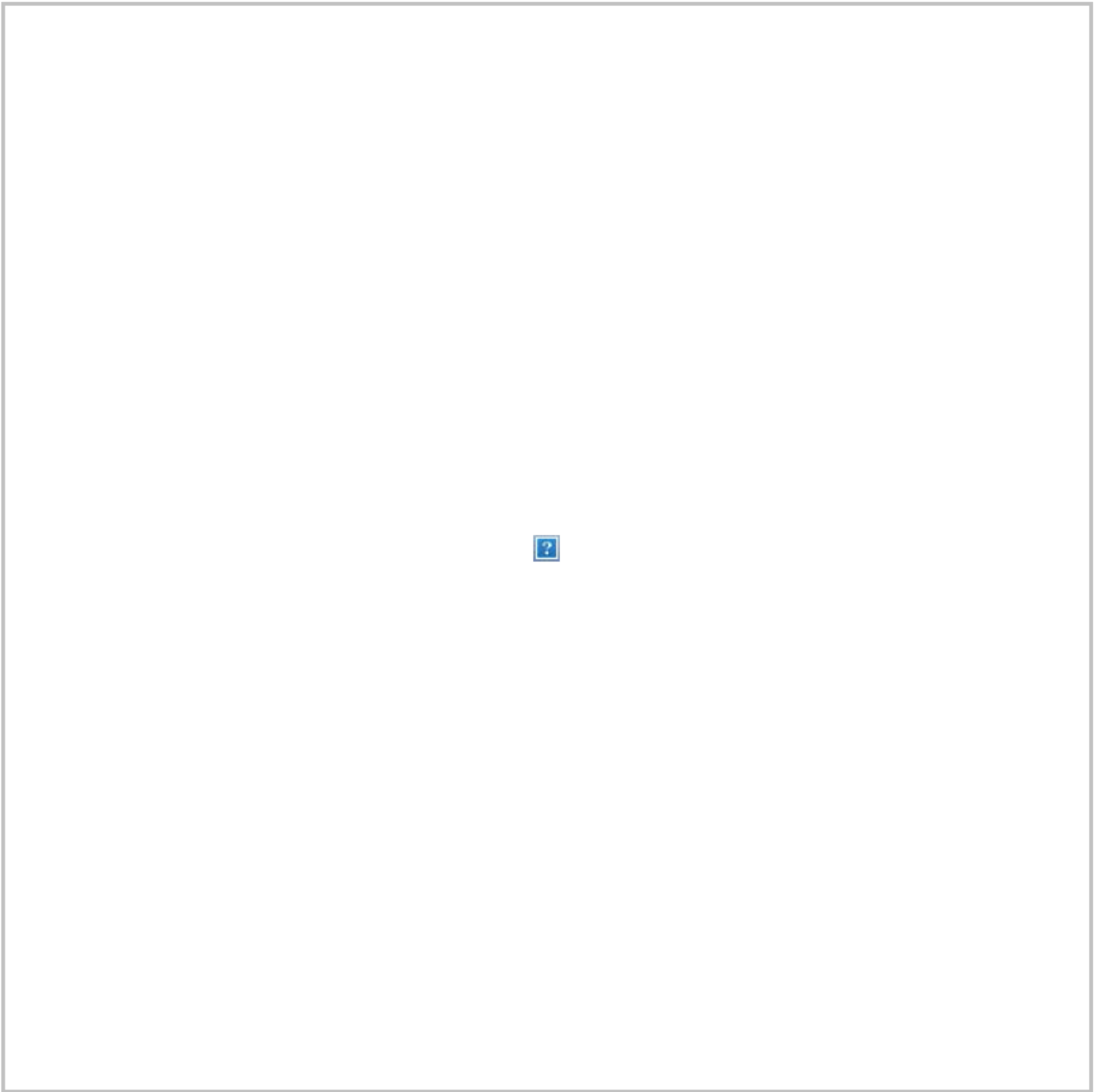
Alex Jones, who runs the pro-Trump conspiracy web site Infowars, posted a clip from an interview that Trump gave on Sept. 11, 2001, to claim that the president-elect is actually a 9/11 truther who has "been awake all along."



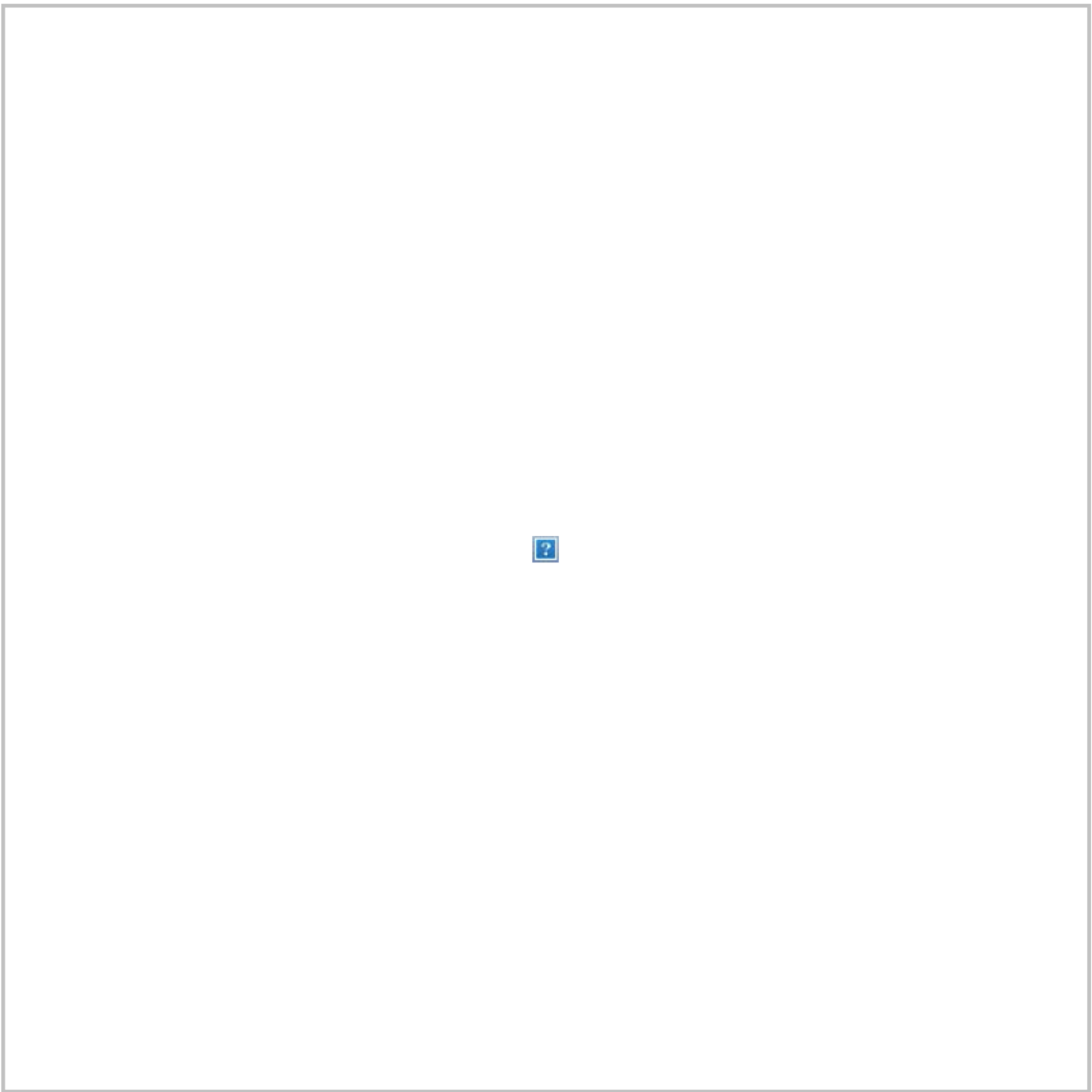
A staff writer at The New Yorker made this chilling accusation:



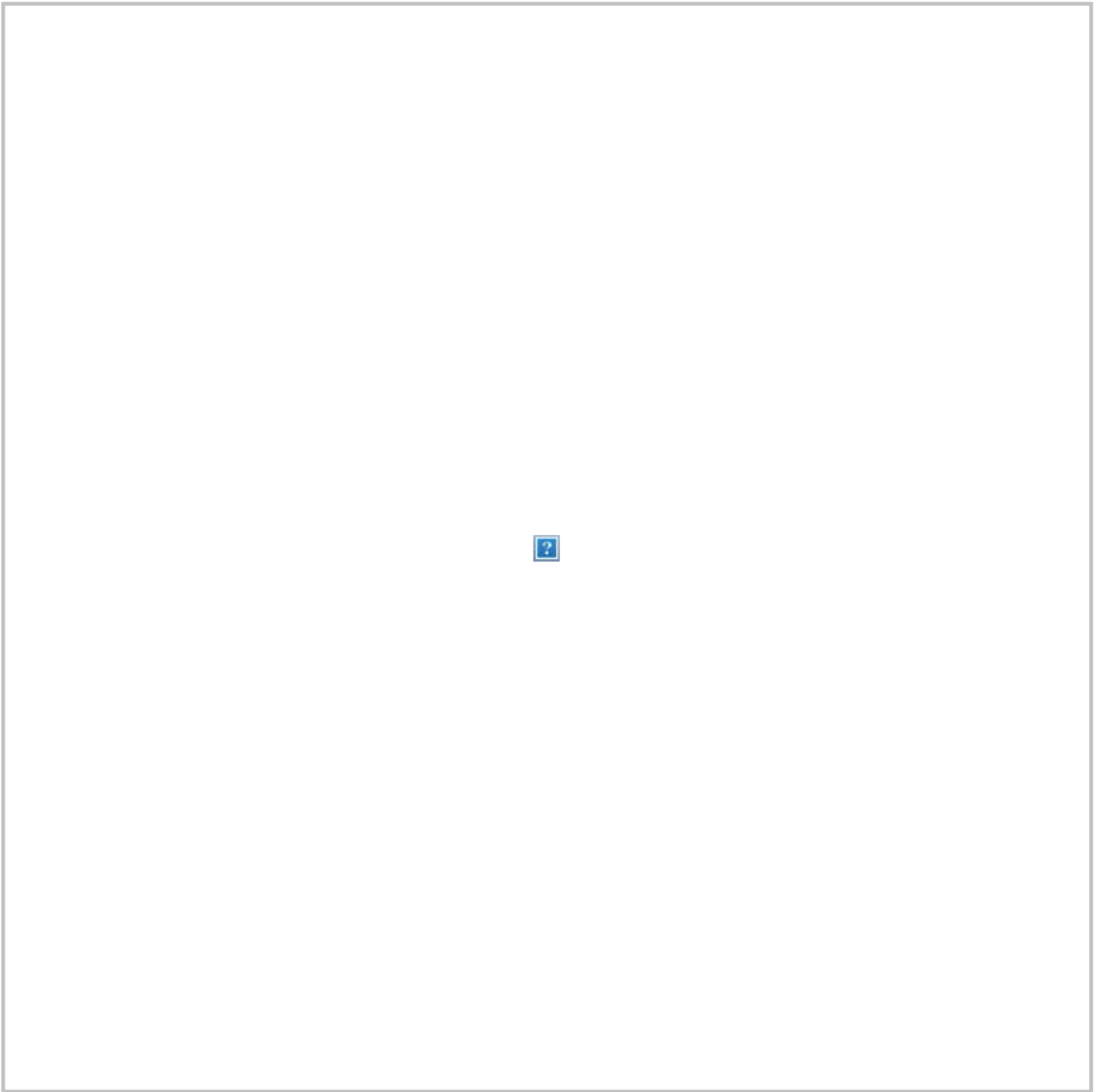
A keen observation, if Mitt gets State:



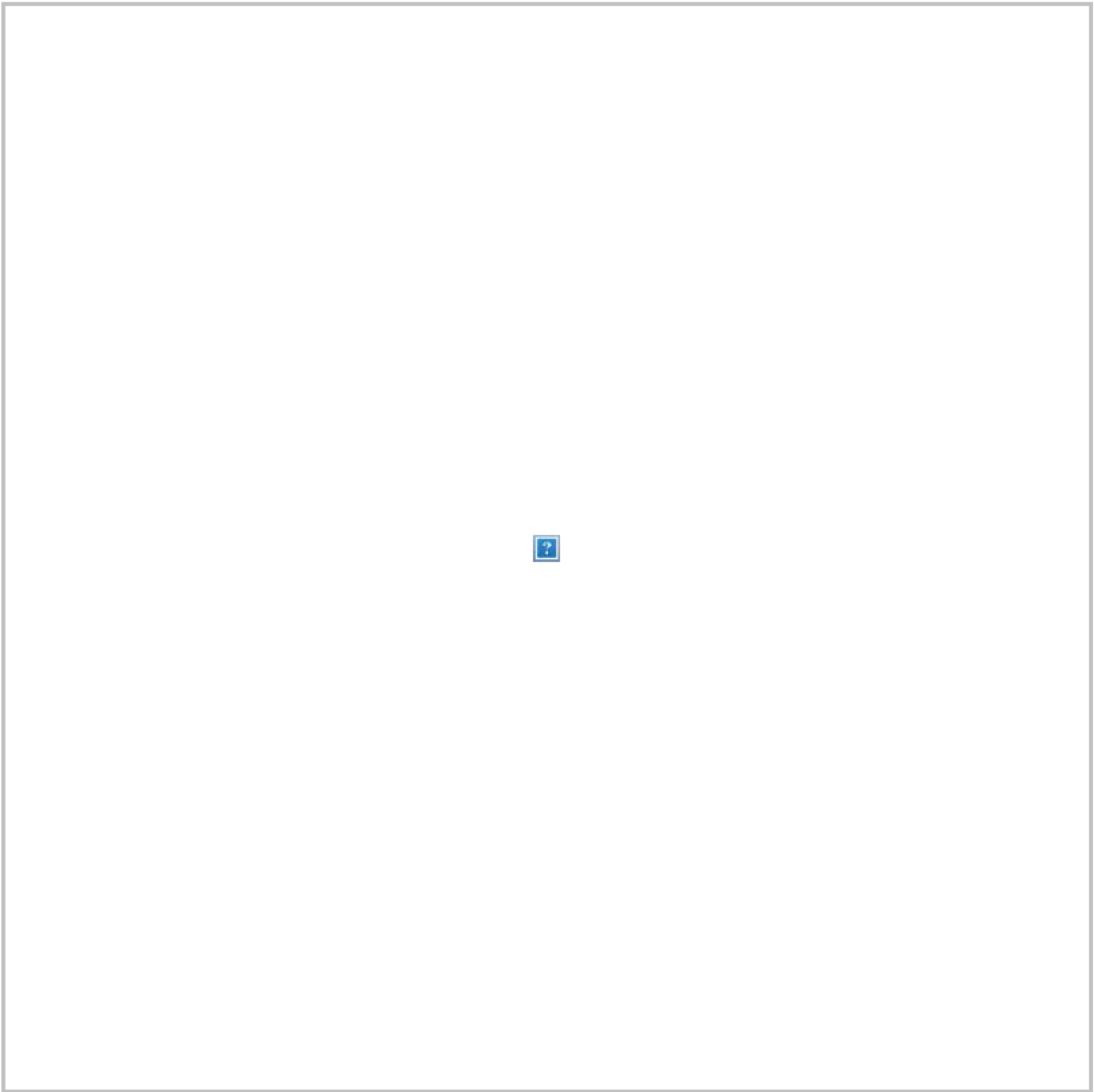
Ivanka Trump was excited her husband, Jared Kushner, made the cover of Forbes:



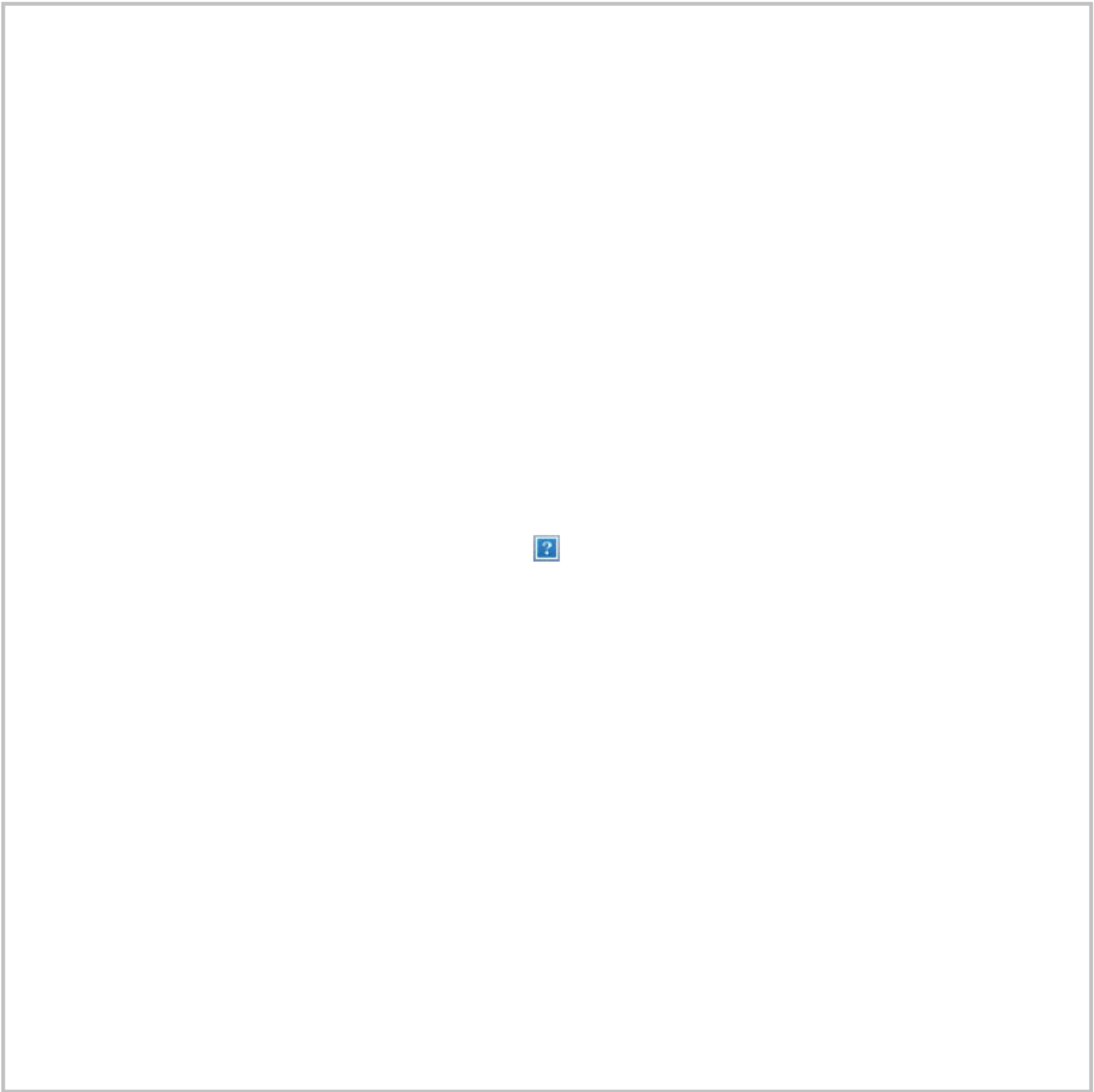
The Capitol Christmas tree arrived:



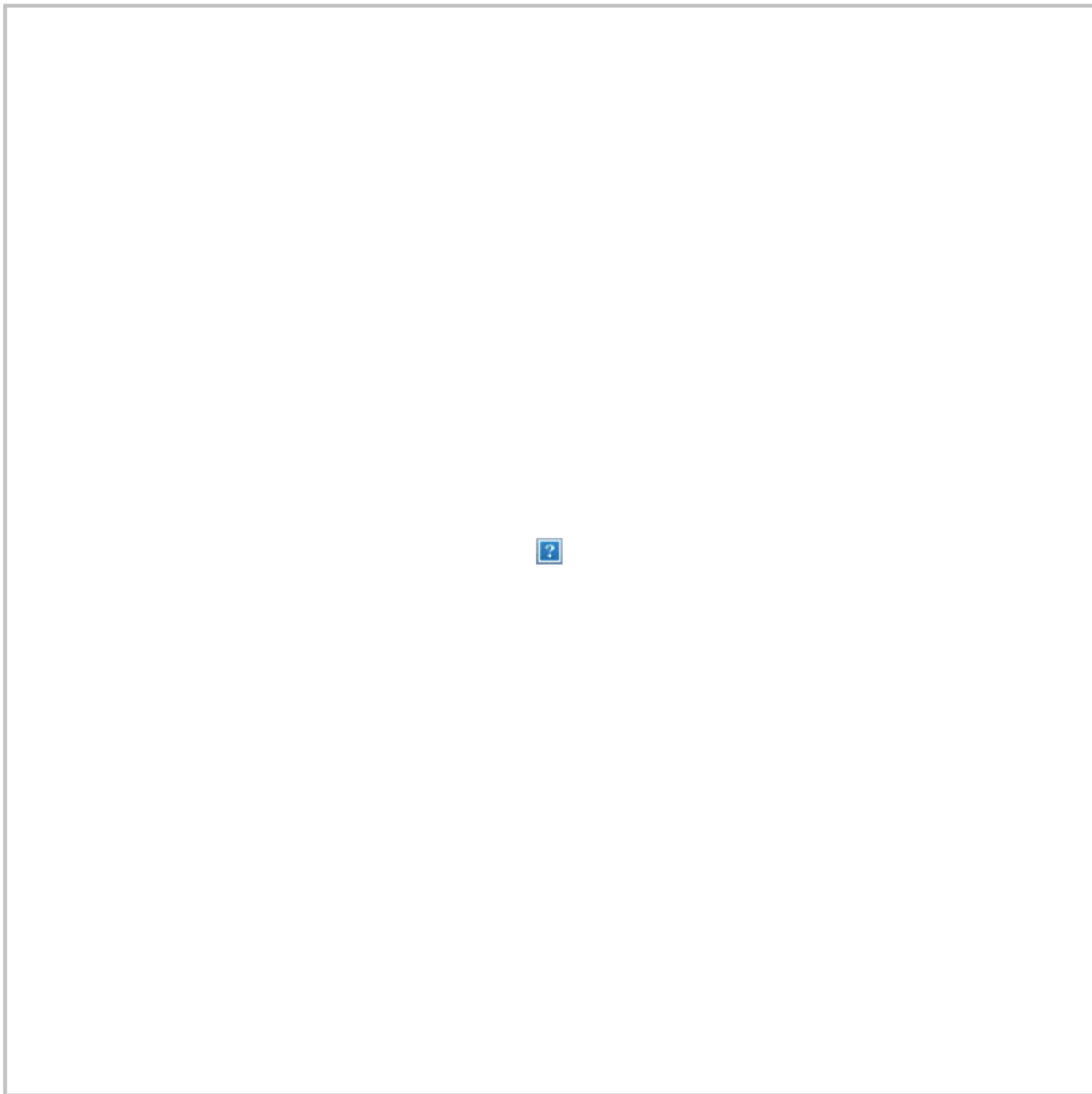
Lawmakers are posting snow pictures:



Jennifer Palmieri is looking forward to catching Hillary Clinton on a hiking trail soon:



This letter to the editor is going viral:



DAYBOOK:

In Trump's world: Trump meets with Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.); Pete Hegseth, president of Concerned Veterans of America; Marion Blakey, president of Rolls-Royce North America; Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chair Bob Corker (R-Tenn.); House Homeland Security Committee Chair Mike McCaul (R-Texas); Rep. Lou Barletta (R-Pa.); and former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney.

At the White House: Obama visits the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

Harry Reid had a private dinner at the White House last night with the president and vice president.

On Capitol Hill: The Senate meets at 10 a.m. and begins consideration of the ECHO Act and the Alexander substitute amendment at 11 a.m. The House meets at 2 p.m. for legislative business, with 16 suspension votes postponed until 6:30 p.m.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, the former Iowa governor, compares Democrats to a tree that "looks healthy on the outside, but is in the throes of slow and long-term demise." "Democrats need to talk to rural voters," Vilsack told Greg Jaffe. "They can't write them off. They can't ignore

them. They actually have to spend a little time talking to them."

NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:

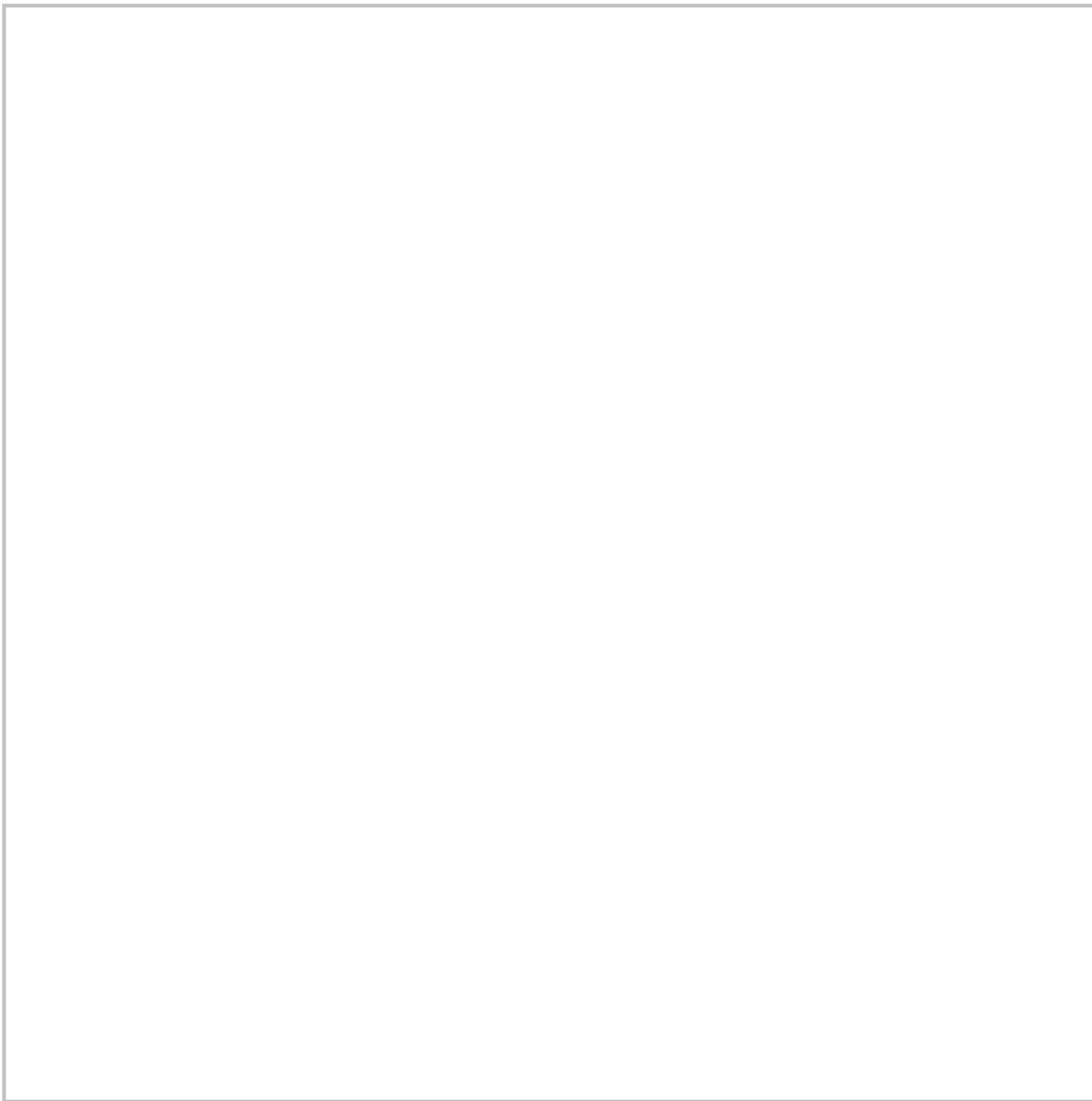
-- **"Waves of rain showers remain likely through much of the day,"** the [Capital Weather Gang forecasts](#). "...You'll want to plan on keeping an umbrella handy throughout [the day]. Despite the clouds and the rain, we should get into the warm air of a storm system to the west. It might even feel a little muggy as temperatures rise from near 60 to perhaps as high as the mid-60s. Winds are from the south around 10 mph.

-- **D.C. Council members are voting on whether to pass the most generous family leave law in the country.** The measure, which dwarfs the most progressive efforts passed in California and New Jersey, would allow new parents for 11 weeks off with up to 90 percent pay. The proposal – which will be voted on tonight, as well as later in December – is expected to draw wide majority support. ([Aaron C. Davis](#))

-- **The [Wizards beat the Kings 101-95](#).**

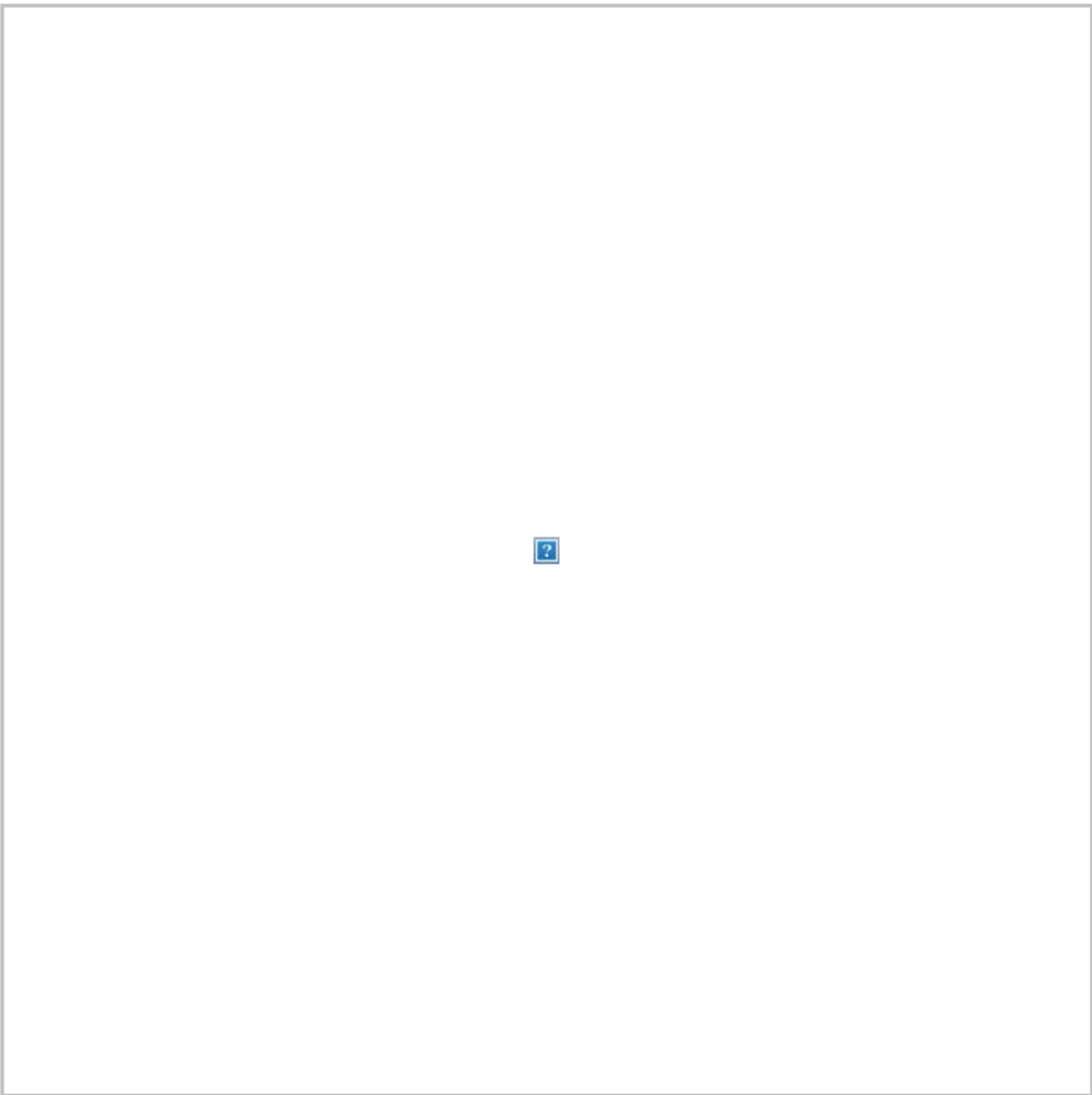
VIDEOS OF THE DAY:

Kellyanne Conway was serenaded by two guys who have taken to hanging out in the lobby of Trump Tower:



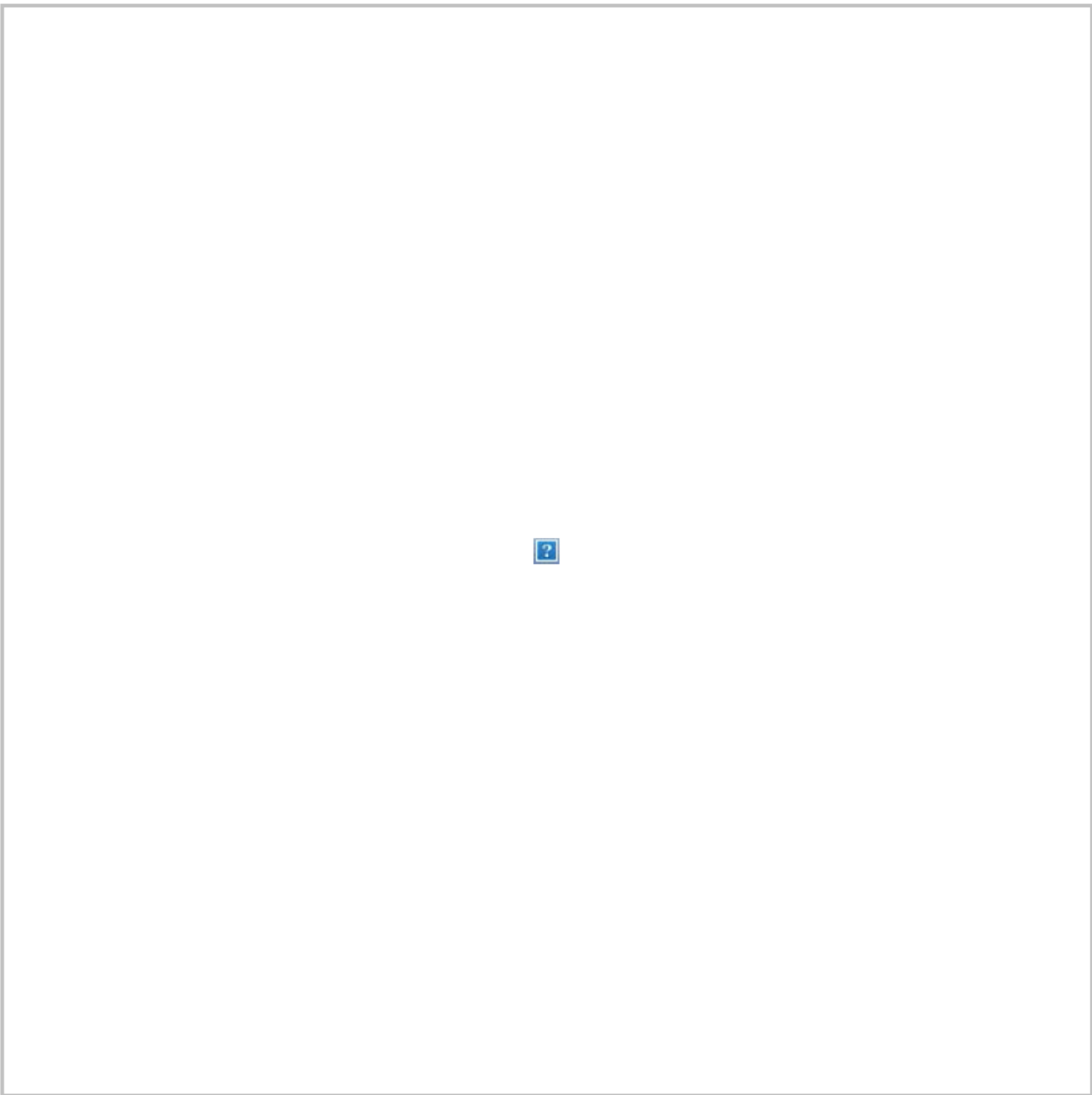
Kellyanne Conway serenaded by the naked Cowboys at Trump Tower.

TMZ covered the high level of security enlisted to protect Trump's family:



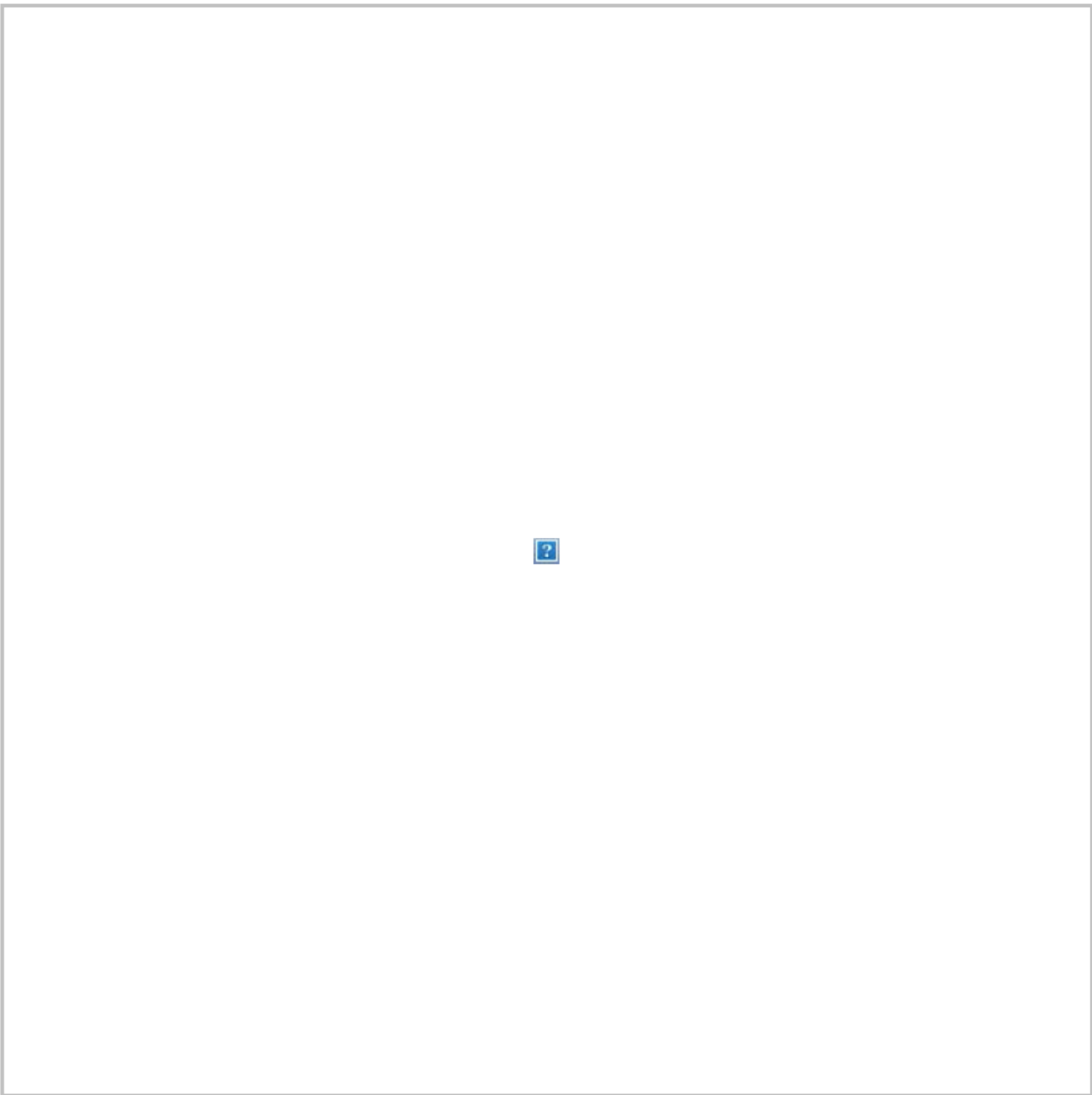
Barron Trump Play Date Covered by Secret Service's Big Guns | TMZ Chatter

Kathy Griffin walked through how she's preparing for Trump's presidency:



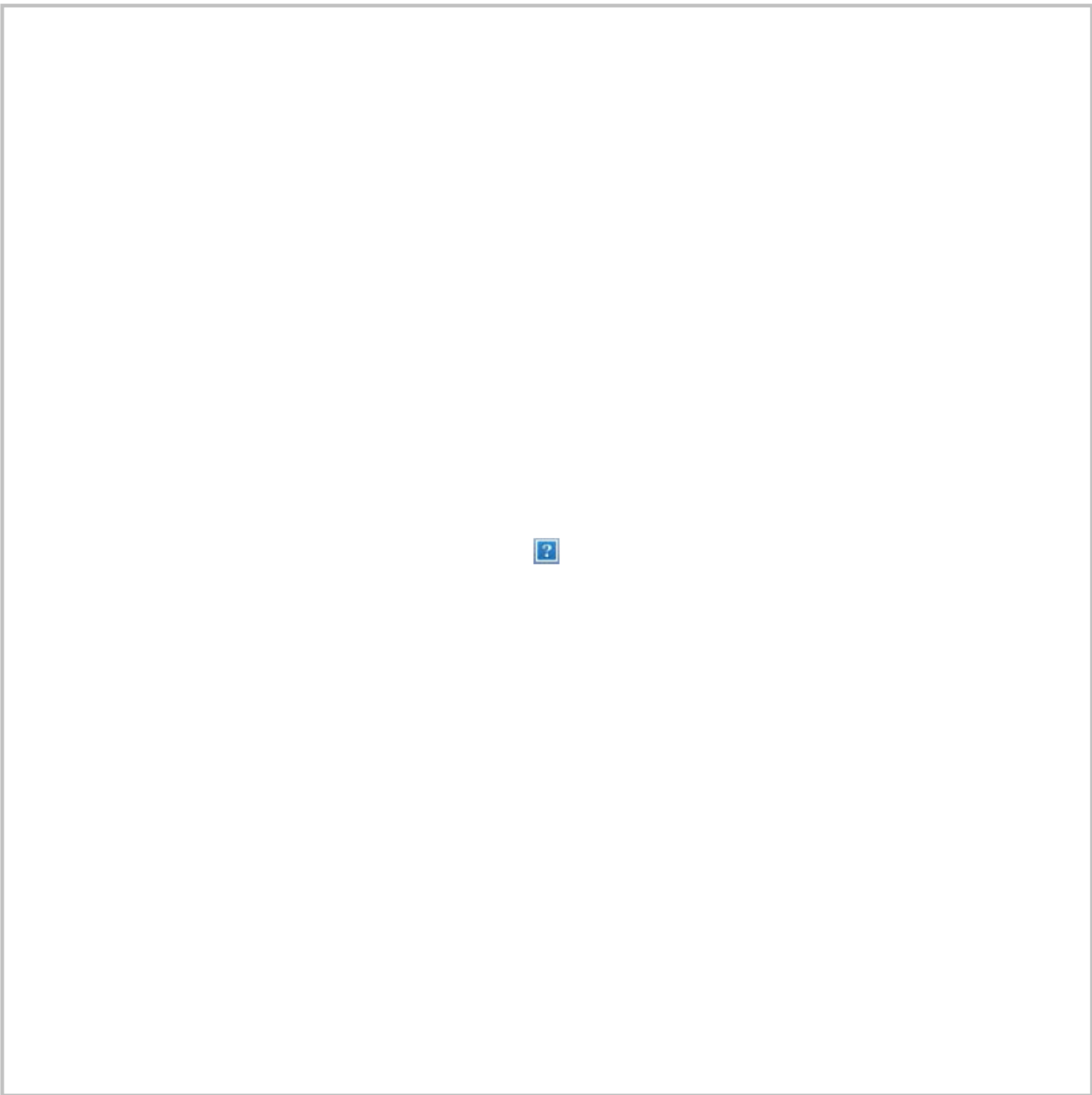
Kathy Griffin Prepares for a Trump Presidency

Seth Meyers compiled his favorite jokes of the week:



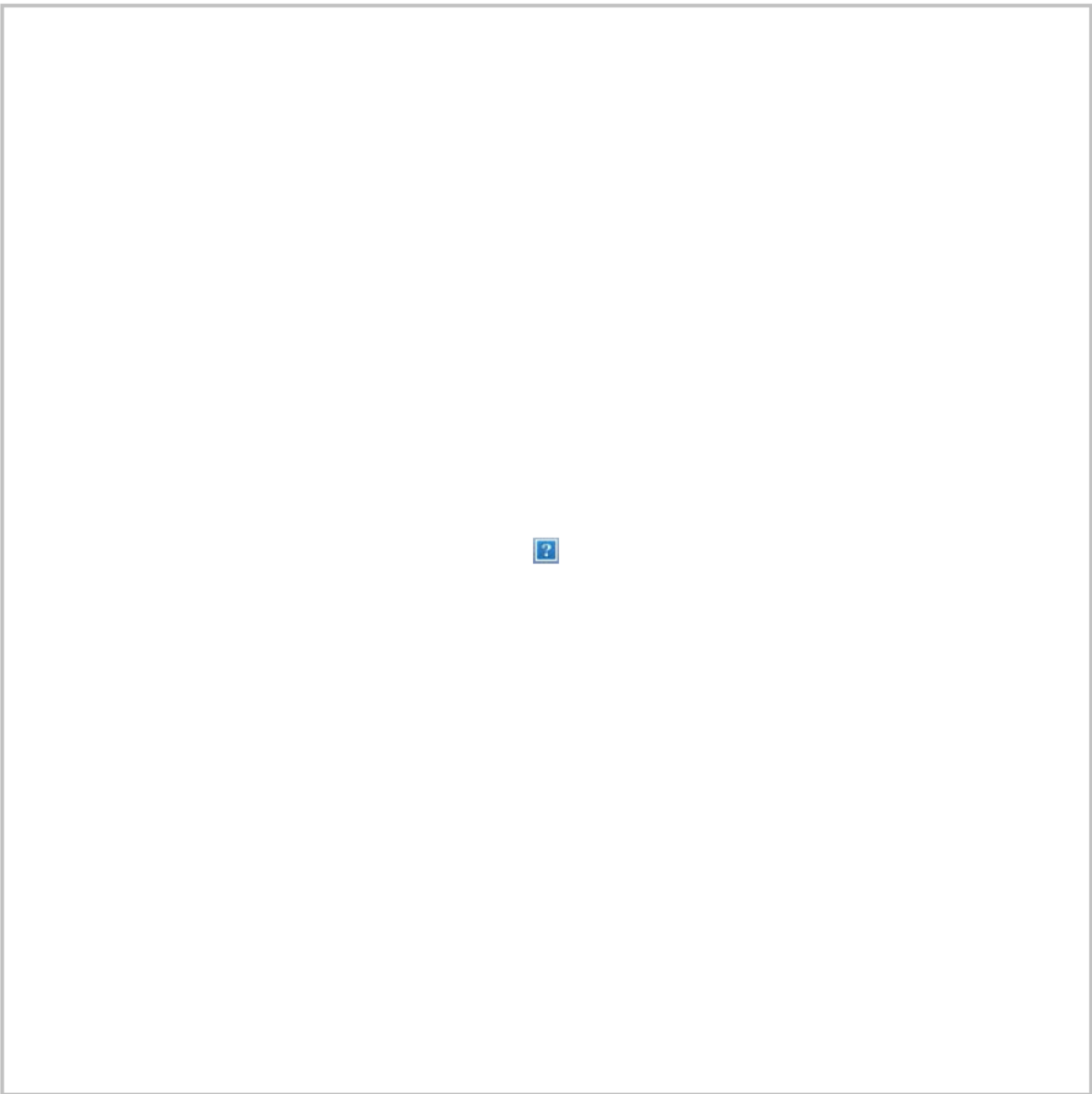
Seth's Favorite Jokes of the Week: Donald Trump Demands Hamilton Apology

Celebrities -- including Gloria Estefan and Colin Kaepernick -- reacted to Fidel Castro's death:



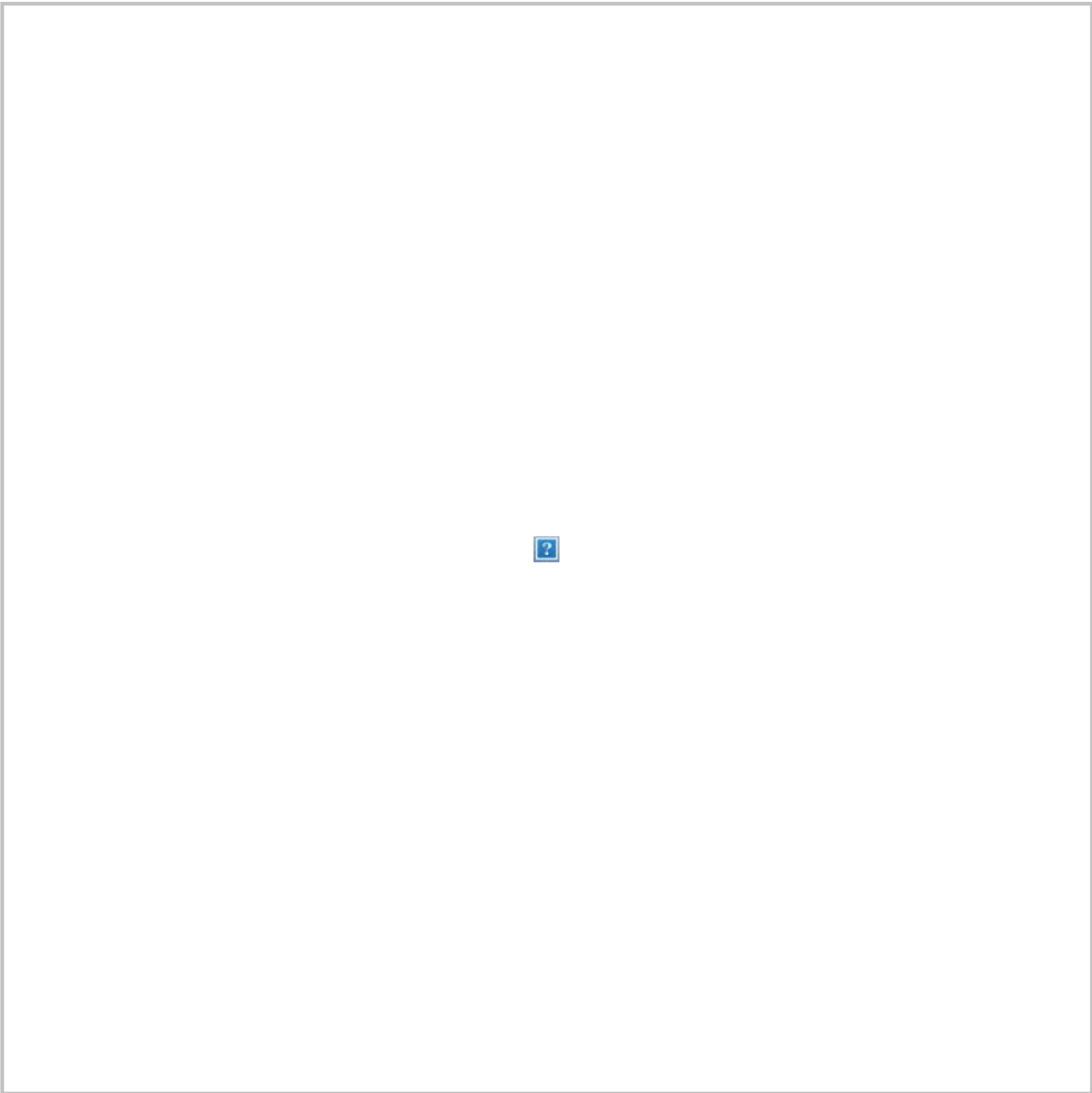
Gloria Estefan, Colin Kaepernick, Elián González React To Fidel Castro's Death | People NOW | People

Scott Walker thanked residents of his state for a successful deer hunting season:



2016 Gun Deer Hunt

Reindeers in Japan auditioned for a pizza delivery job:



Reindeers audition for pizza delivery job in Japan

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From: [The Washington Post](#)
To: [Seth Jaffe](#)
Subject: [GRAYMAIL] The Daily 202: Trump's pollster says he ran a 'post-ideological' campaign
Date: Monday, December 05, 2016 8:50:50 AM

Ideas and experience mattered less than 'strength'

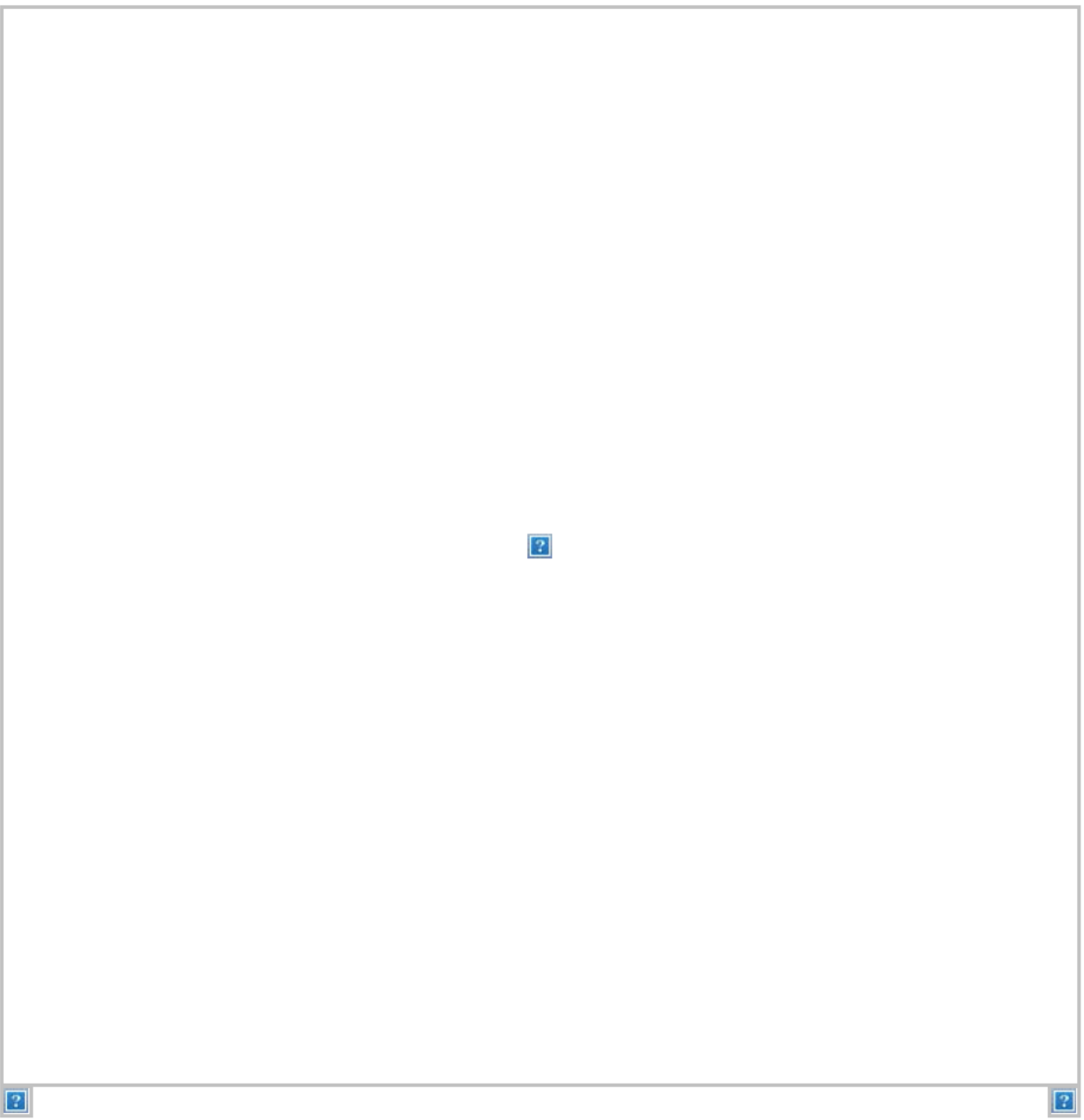
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The Daily 202

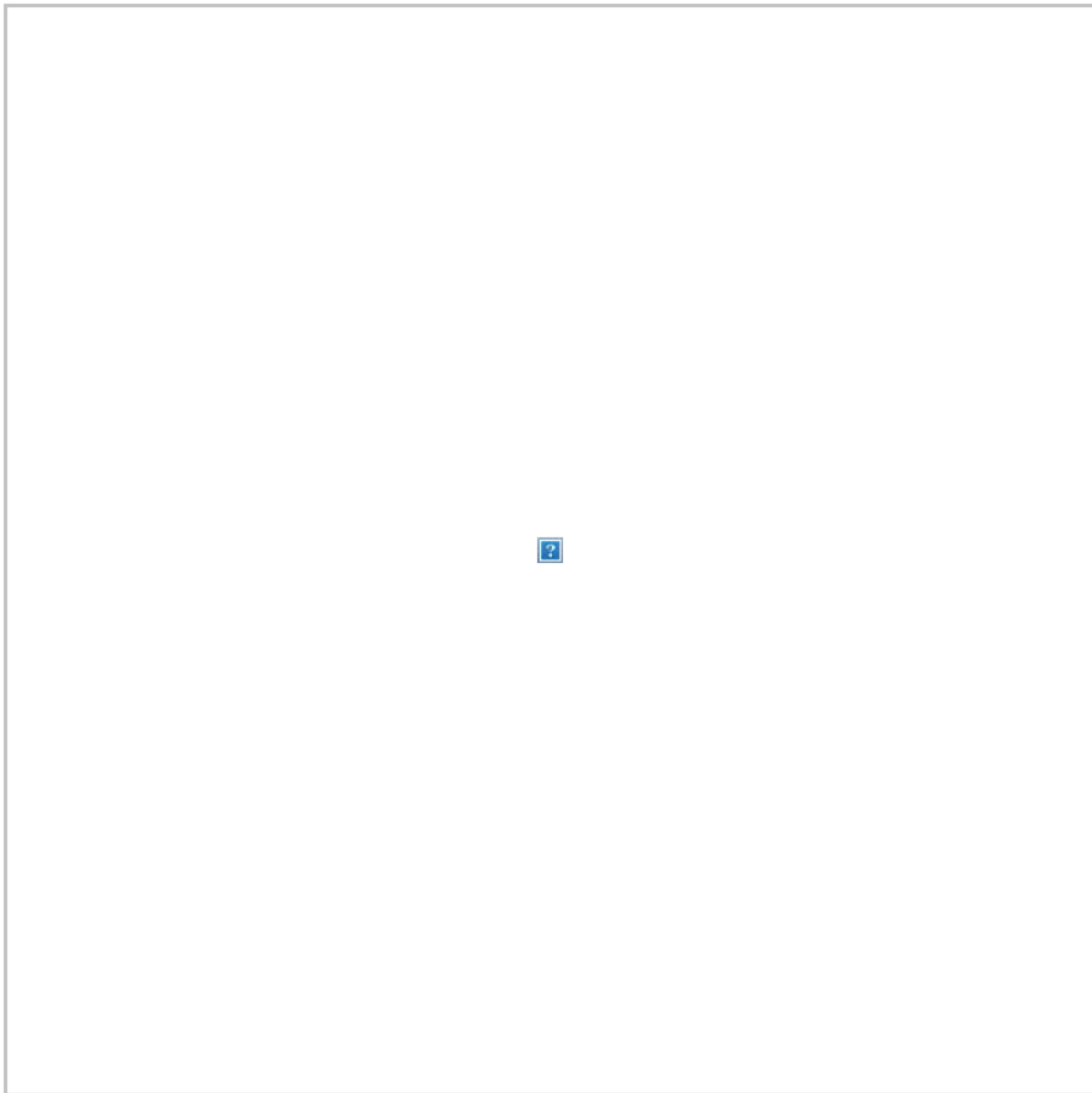


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[Trump's pollster says he ran a 'post-ideological' campaign](#)



Donald Trump applauds after finishing his speech in Cincinnati, Ohio, last Thursday night. (Daniel Acker/Bloomberg)



BY JAMES HOHMANN
with Breanne Deppisch

THE BIG IDEA:

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Donald Trump won more because of strength than ideology.

The [shouting match](#) between top advisers to the president-elect and Hillary Clinton's senior staff overshadowed several other compelling conversations during last week's post-election conference at the Harvard Kennedy School.

One revealing exchange came during a panel of the campaign managers for the Republican primary candidates. As they mulled over Trump's surprising appeal to evangelicals, Trump's pollster jumped into the conversation with an important window into the winner's thinking.

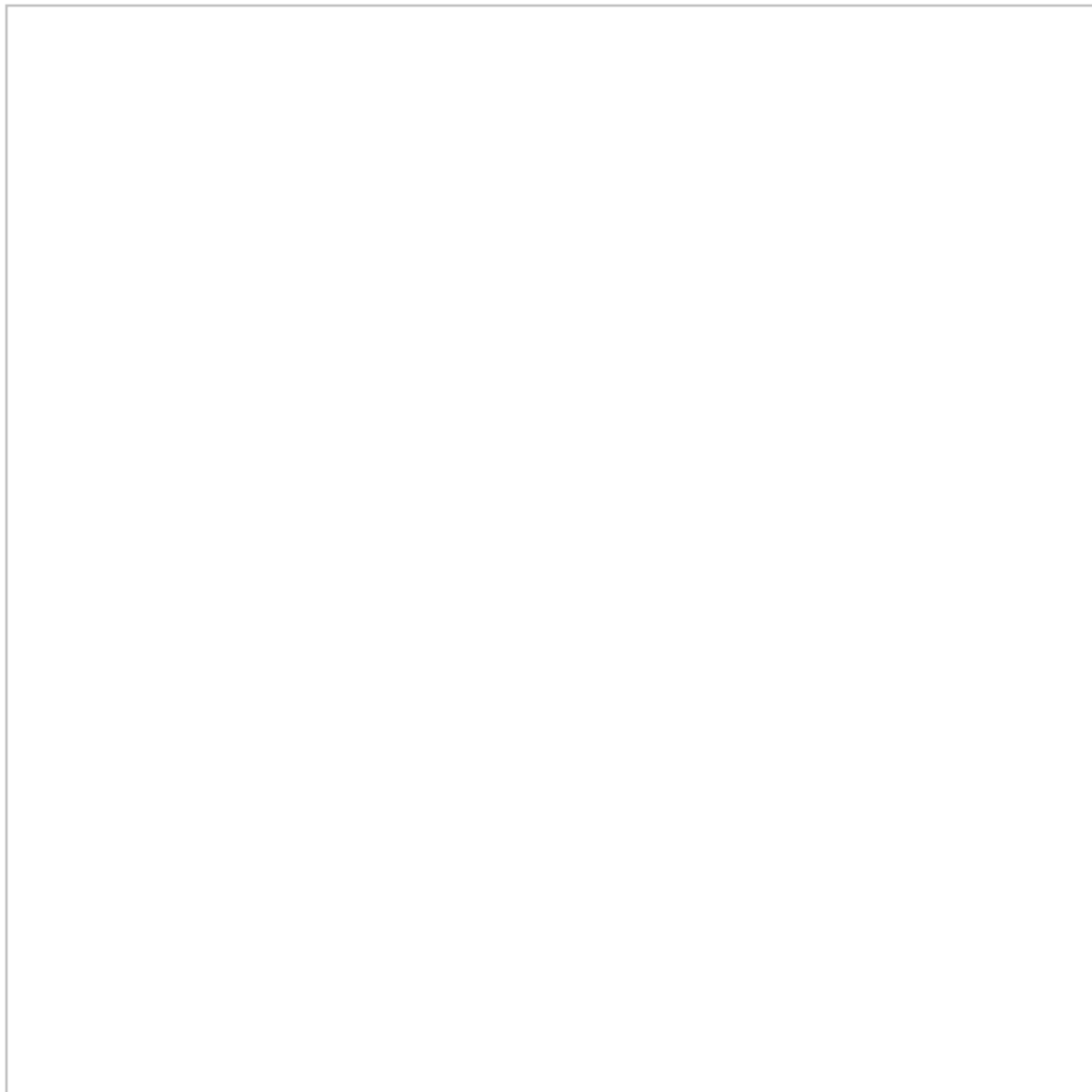
"Everybody in this room needs to pull their head out of their aes," said Tony Fabrizio. "We really live**

in a world where everybody thinks that ideology is linear, and that, 'If you answer these 10 questions correctly, that makes you a conservative.' But not every conservative is pro-life. Not every conservative is anti-gay marriage. Not every conservative puts 100 percent emphasis on this or that."

"One of the problems is many people tried to look at the Donald Trump phenomenon through the ideological lenses which had defined previous Republicans presidential nominating contests," Fabrizio added. **"Donald Trump is post ideological. His movement transcends ideology ...** Through his own antennae – and, trust me, many times I had this conversation with him – Donald Trump understood the fold in American politics. It's the reason so many Trump supporters and so many (Bernie) Sanders supporters agreed on so many things."

Trump insisted early in his campaign that he did not need a pollster because they are a waste of money. But he [signed](#) Fabrizio in the days after securing the Republican nomination in May. The veteran operative polled for Rand Paul in the primaries, but he has worked for clients from across the GOP coalition (from the U.S. Chamber and Bob Dole to [Rick Scott](#) and Matt Bevin).

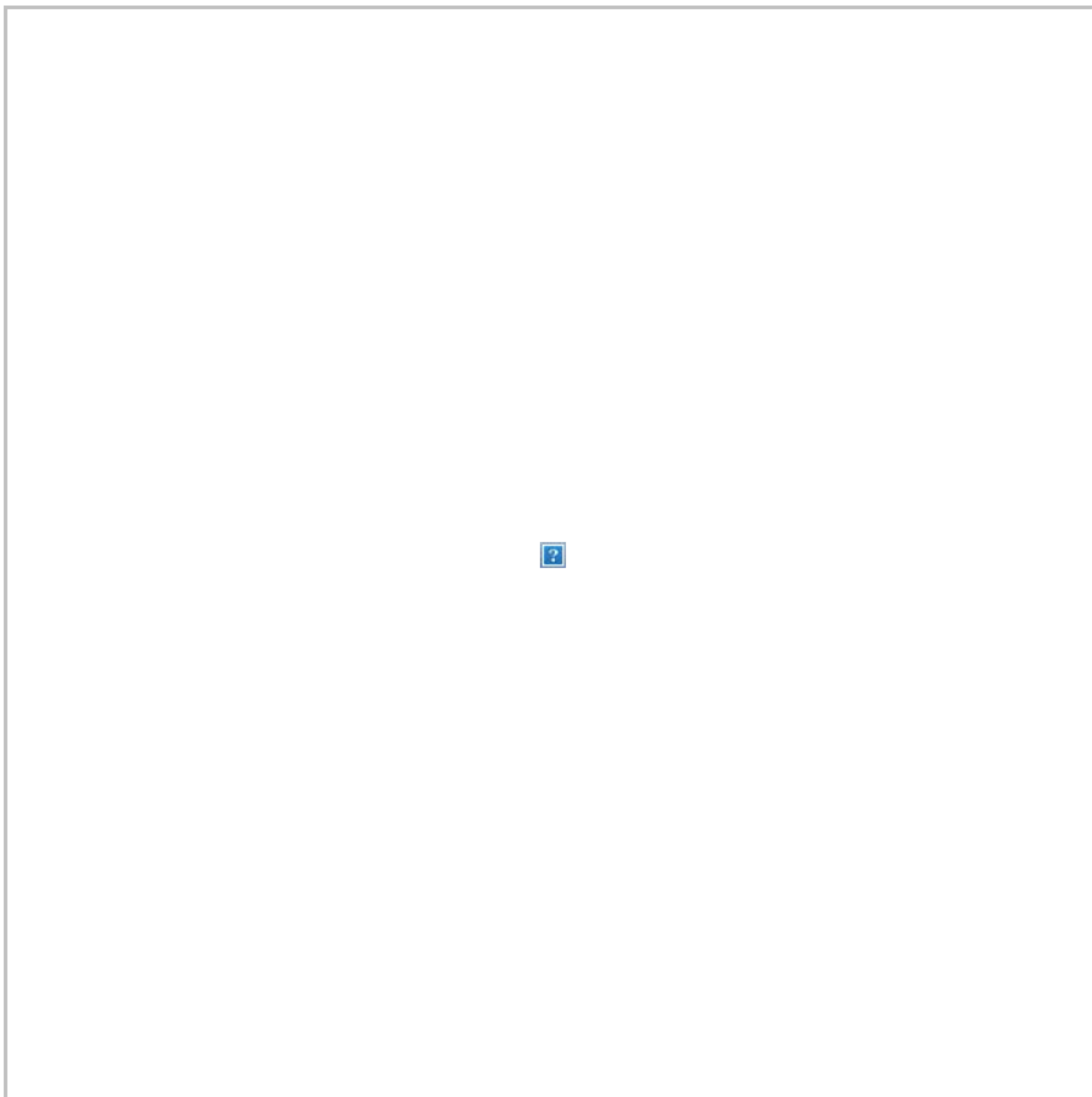
"Every time he said something ... and doubled down, that was proof to voters he'd speak his mind and not lie to them. It's what they wanted," Fabrizio said of Trump. "His best group of voters were those who said they were 'angry.' And let me tell you, in the Republican primary, a third of voters would tell you they were outright angry. With another 60 percent telling you they were dissatisfied. So he had a rich pool to tap into."



The Republican presidential candidates take the stage for the CNBC debate at the University of Colorado last October. (Mark J. Terrill/AP)

-- **Policy didn't matter.** "What we missed was that nobody cared about solutions," said Sarah Huckabee Sanders, who managed Mike Huckabee's campaign until he dropped out and then joined Trump's operation as a consultant soon after. "They just wanted to burn it all down. They didn't care about building it back up. They wanted to burn it to the ground and then figure out what to do with the ashes afterwards. There was no understanding of this electorate and the anger on the front end in terms of just how pissed off they were. **You may have the best policy in the world to get every single American the best job they've ever had. Nobody cared.**"

-- **Experience didn't matter.** From Marco Rubio campaign manager Terry Sullivan: "We got hit with commercial after commercial about how little experience (Marco had) and how many missed votes in the Senate. It didn't matter. People don't care. **The Senate sucks. Why would we want to be there?** We're not voting. Who cares? **And voters bought into that.** Experience was a liability. It was not an asset. We figured that out early, but Trump took it to the next level."



Barry Bennett works at Ben Carson's headquarters in Alexandria last October. (Yuri Gripas/Reuters)

-- **Ben Carson's campaign manager, Barry Bennett, argued that Trump's success was always more about strength than ideology.** "We went to Iowa for three or four days before we started and did a bunch of focus groups to try to figure out what people wanted," he recalled. **"I thought Ben's lack of government experience was going to be a negative. Well, it wasn't. But what they wanted more than anything else was strength.** And Trump was the one that they thought had that."

Bennett fondly recalled the stretch when his client was riding at the top of the polls. In addition to self-inflicted wounds from a power struggle inside the campaign, he believes that **the November 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris made it impossible for someone with the retired neurosurgeon's personality to secure the nomination.** "We couldn't really believe it, to tell you the truth," Bennett told the group. "The first six weeks of the fourth quarter we raised \$22 million. We were going gangbusters, and then we ran into Paris, Armstrong Williams and a couple other issues. In the next six weeks of the fourth quarter, we raised \$1.5 million. ... There was an opportunity for a nice outsider to win until Paris came, and then all of a sudden (voters) needed 'strength' again."

Corey Lewandowski arrives at Trump Tower for a transition meeting. (Drew Angerer/Getty Images)</p>□



Corey Lewandowski arrives at Trump Tower for a transition meeting. (Drew Angerer/Getty Images)

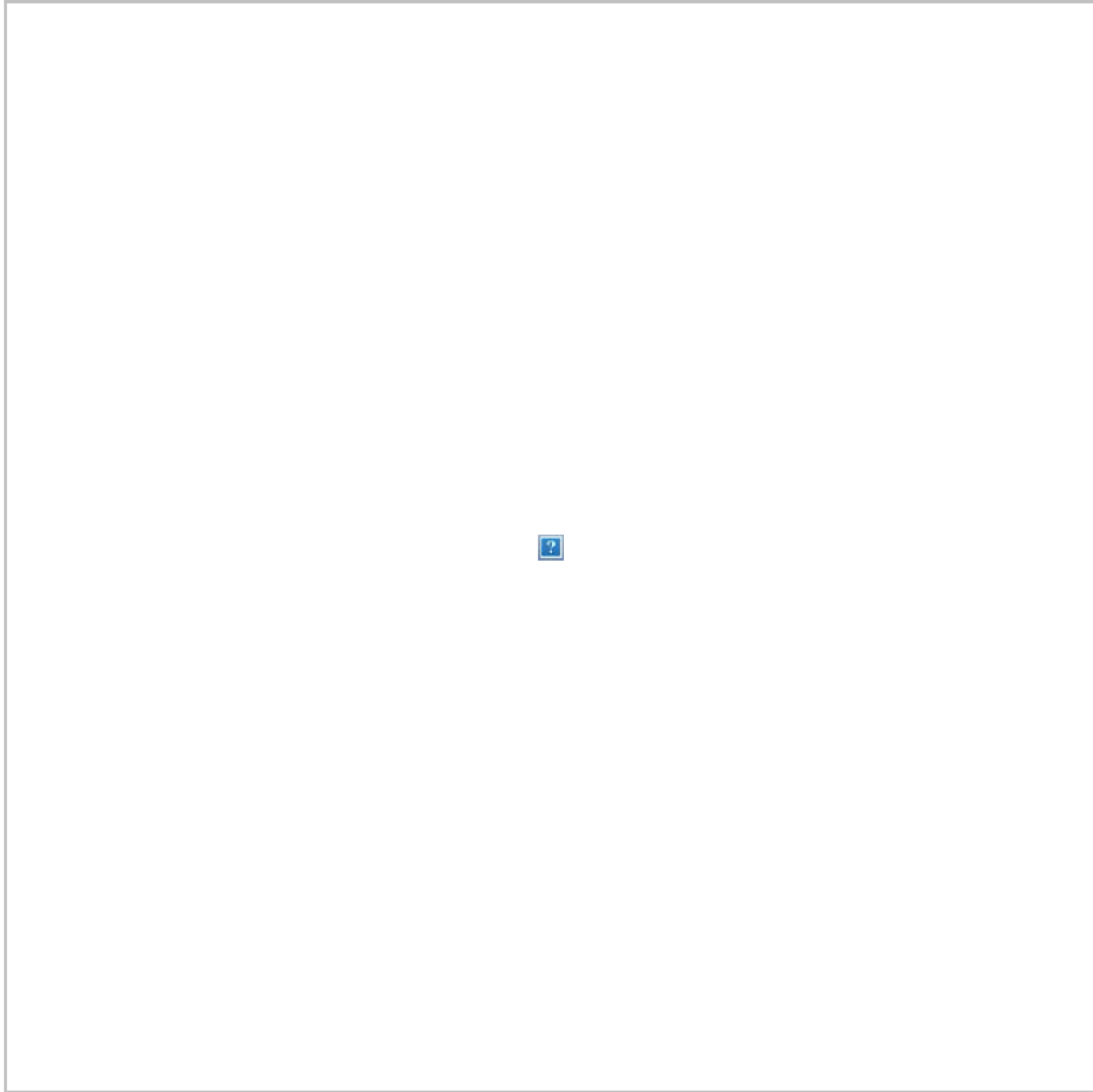
-- **All three people who ran the Trump campaign noted, to varying degrees, the billionaire's lack of a fixed ideology.** While his rivals for the nomination were playing multi-dimensional chess, Trump kept winning by playing checkers. In retrospect, there is something so skillfully simple about a message that defied easy categorization. He could never be placed in one of the "lanes" operatives talk so much about: tea party, establishment, social conservative, libertarian or hawk.

Corey Lewandowski: "We didn't have a traditional campaign of coalitions. It was the same message for everybody: ... 'I'm going to make America great again.' ... **With all due respect to Jeb (Bush), he had three of four different launches. There was Jeb 2.0, Jeb 2.5 (and) Jeb 3.0. We just stuck on the same message the entire time. It was so simplistic, and it didn't target any specific demographic.** ... We didn't have this notion where, 'We have to go win evangelicals in South Carolina to be successful.'"

Paul Manafort: "**They always tried to pigeonhole him.** They'd say, 'He's talking to white working men' or 'He's talking to uneducated older people.' ... **He had a sense of the country that no other candidate had, and he knew what was bothering the country.** So everybody would fixate on the (John) McCain comment, but he was talking about the veterans and how they're not treated right. ... He was talking about terrorists coming into the country and not being vetted, with people being afraid to walk down the streets. The media heard 'Muslims.' You can go through almost any one of the 'faux pas,' so to speak, and you'll see the

underlying message he was talking about was resonating.”

Kellyanne Conway: “This is the first time that Republicans have resisted the fiction of ‘electability’ from early in the primary.”



Jeb Bush rides his bus around New Hampshire last November. In retrospect, by this point, his team does not think there was anything that they could have been done to stop Trump from winning the nomination. (Charles Ommanney/The Washington Post)

-- Could Trump ever have been stopped? “At a certain point, probably August (2015), Trump was Godzilla walking into the power plant,” answered David Kochel, Bush’s chief strategist. “Everybody thought he’d blow up, and he just got stronger every time. He touched the third rail. He touched the fourth rail. He touched the fifth rail. He kept growing. He kept getting bigger. The feedback loop was kind of unstoppable by then. You would have had to define him out of the race real early. Jeb’s ‘chaos candidate’ frame was a late shot that didn’t do that. If you could have hung that big concept around him in July, maybe it would have been different.”

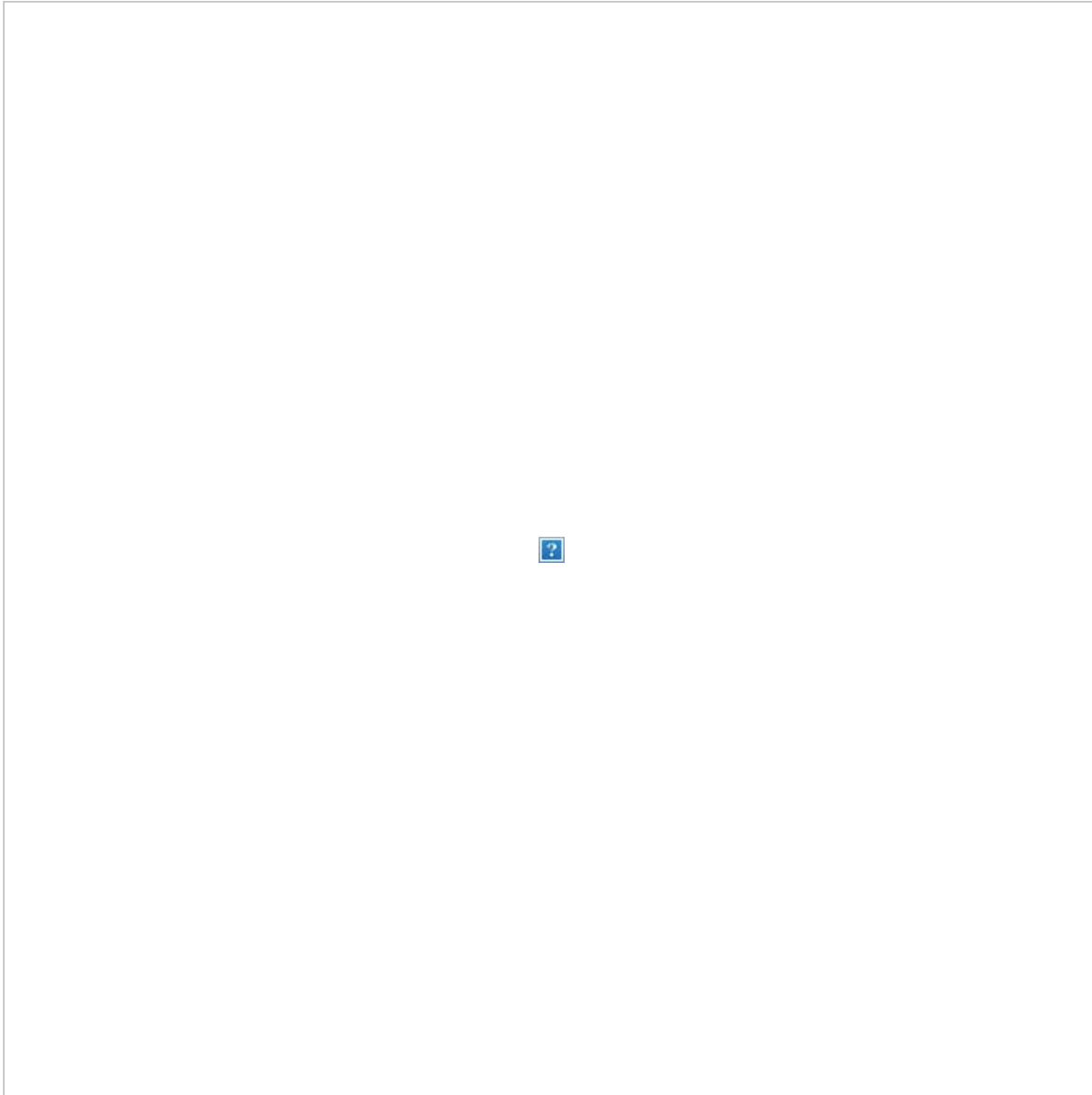
Trump’s GOP rivals now all acknowledge the collective action problem that led them to ignore the first-time candidate – hoping someone else would knock him off – until it was too late. “I thought it was a reality TV gimmick,” said Sullivan, Rubio’s manager. “I didn’t think he’d even necessarily stick in the race.

In a lot of previous election cycles, no one maintains a lead as the frontrunner that long. So I assumed, somewhat wrongly, that gravity would take course. Why would I engage in a fight with a skilled knife-fighter? Let someone else go and attack him.”

Welcome to the Daily 202, **PowerPost's** morning newsletter.
With contributions from **Elise Viebeck (@eliseviebeck)**.

[Sign up to receive the newsletter.](#)

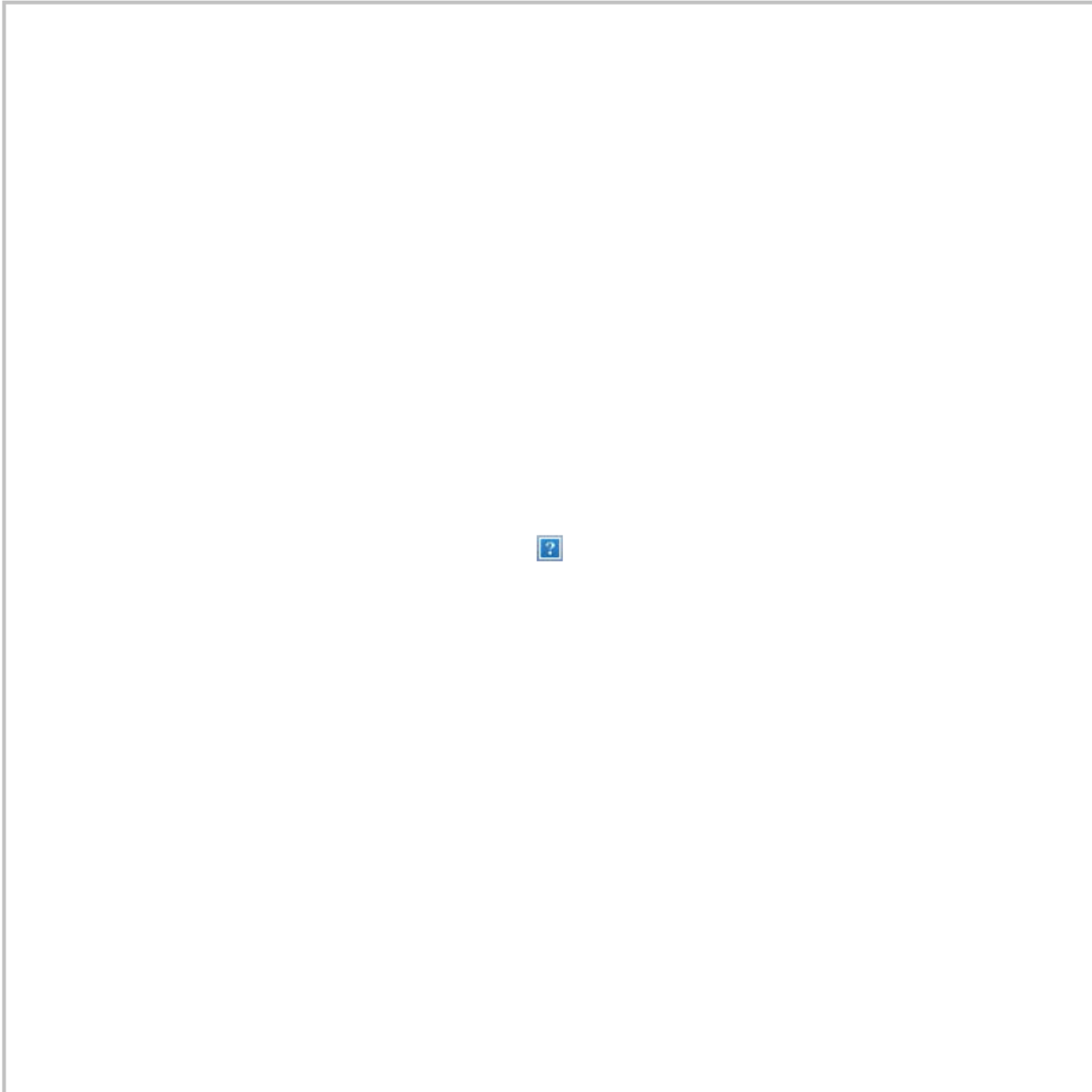
WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING:



Trump's Transition: Ben Carson for housing and urban development

-- **Trump announced this morning that he will nominate Ben Carson to lead the Department of Housing and Urban Development.** "Carson...is the president-elect's highest profile African American supporter and confidant. A conservative political celebrity, **the 65-year-old Carson recently cast doubt on his suitability for a Cabinet role, saying he would be 'like a fish out of water' as a federal bureaucrat,**" [write Elise Viebeck and Karoun Demirjian](#). "A review of some of Carson's political commentary on housing policy reveals his views to be at odds with some of the anti-segregation policies championed by minority groups,

including the NAACP. On at least one occasion, he criticized efforts by the Obama administration to use its regulatory powers to improve racial integration in housing.”



Celebrations at Standing Rock after pipeline victory

-- **The Army announced that it will not approve an easement necessary to permit the controversial Dakota Access Pipeline to cross under Lake Oahe in North Dakota, marking a monumental victory for the Native American tribes and thousands of others who have flocked in recent months to protest the oil pipeline.** [From Brady Dennis and Steven Mufson](#): “Officials in November had delayed the key decision, saying more discussion was necessary about the proposed crossing, given that it would pass very near the reservation of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, whose leaders have repeatedly expressed fears that a spill could threaten the water supplies of its people. ... The decision averts a possible showdown on Monday, the date the Army Corps, which owns land on either side of the lake, had set for cutting off access to the protesters’ camp. Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch, worried about violence, had sent mediators to the area over the weekend.”

But the victory for the Standing Rock Sioux and its allies could be short-lived: “Trump has vowed to support pipelines such as this one. And Kelcy Warren, the chief executive of the pipeline company Energy Transfer Partners, has been a major contributor to the Republican Party and Trump’s campaign. ... Trump, who once owned a stake worth between \$500,000 and \$1 million in Energy Transfer Partners, has sold the shares, his spokeswoman Hope Hicks said.”



Matteo Renzi, Italy's prime minister, announces his resignation in Rome. (Chris Ratcliffe/Bloomberg)

-- **INSTABILITY IN EUROPE: Italy's prime minister resigned, the latest victim of 2016's populist tidal wave that already gave the west Brexit and Trump.** [From Michael Birnbaum and Anthony Faiola:](#) "Europe's embattled political establishment lost another round Sunday in its effort to thwart the anti-elite movement, as Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi resigned after voters rejected his constitutional reforms. The thorough rejection of Renzi's referendum to streamline lawmaking was a significant boost for the country's surging populist forces ... Renzi's loss also risks unleashing financial upheaval in Europe's third-largest economy as Italy's weak banks struggle to contain the fallout."

What's next? "A populist takeover of Italy is still an uncertain prospect, since Renzi's center-left Democratic Party remains in control of Parliament and national elections do not have to be called until 2018. But much will depend on the makeup of the next government and how anti-immigrant, Euroskeptic parties capitalize on their success," Michael and Anthony note. "Italy, which has had 63 governments in the past 70 years, is no stranger to political chaos. What comes next will depend partially on Italian President Sergio Mattarella, who is charged with picking a new person to try to form a government, as well as with deciding whether to hold early elections. ... **In the wake of Renzi's resignation, Italy's mainstream political parties are likely to change voting laws to make it more difficult to rule without a wide coalition, diluting the possibility that an insurgent force could seize power in the next elections."**

Beppe Grillo smiles yesterday after voting in Genoa, Italy. (Luca Zennaro/ANSA via AP)</p>>□

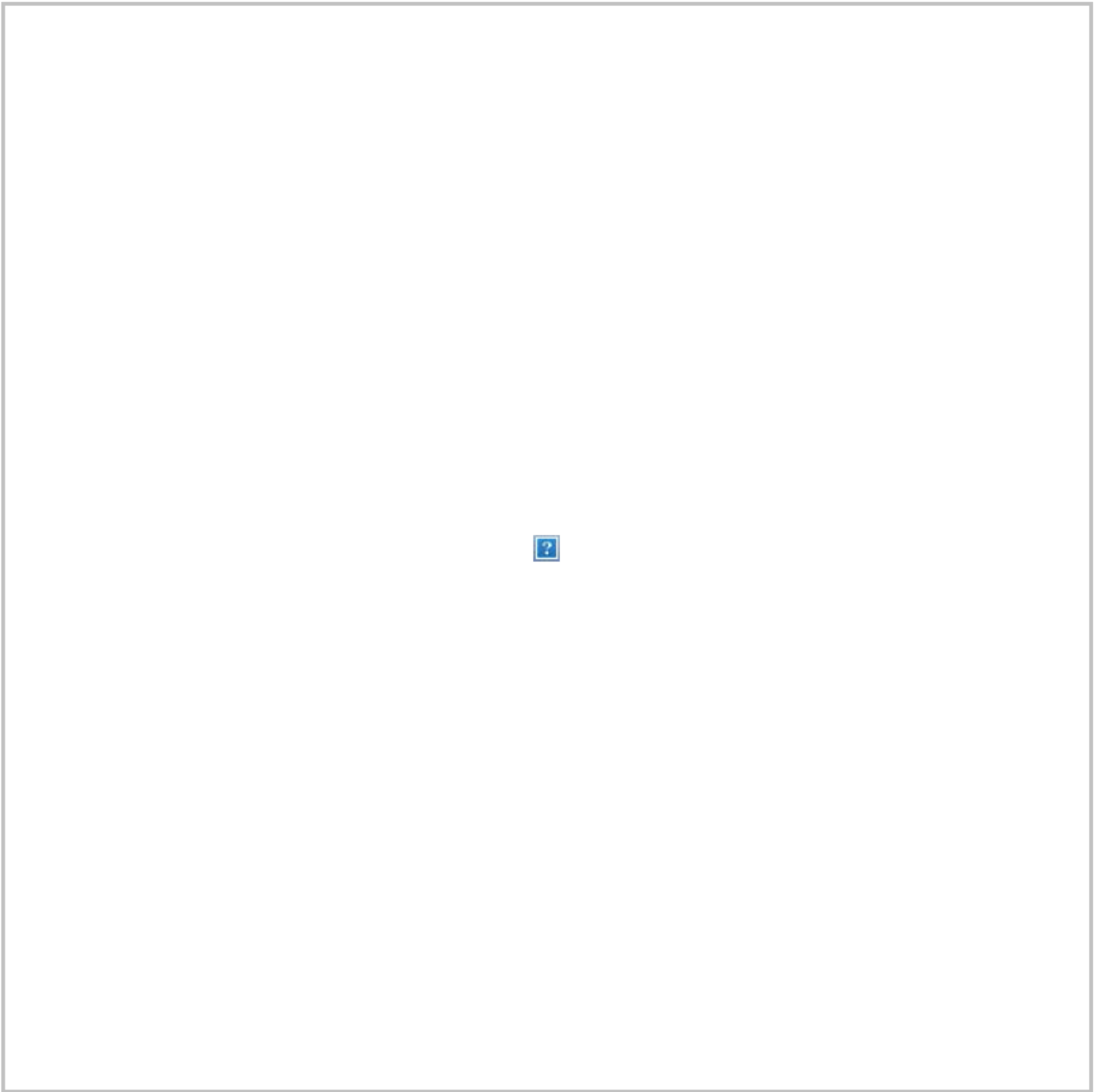


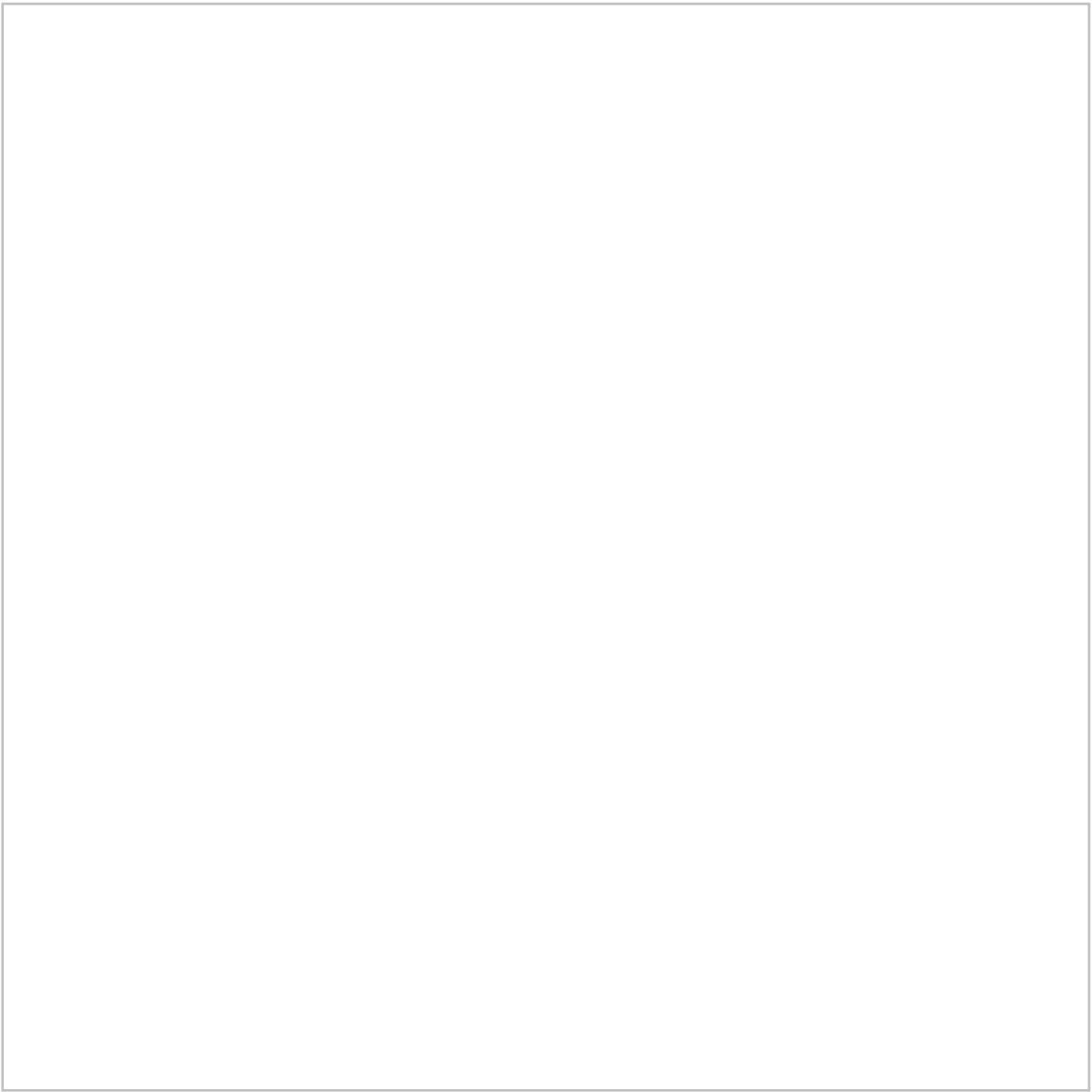
Beppe Grillo smiles yesterday after voting in Genoa, Italy. (Luca Zennaro/ANSA via AP)

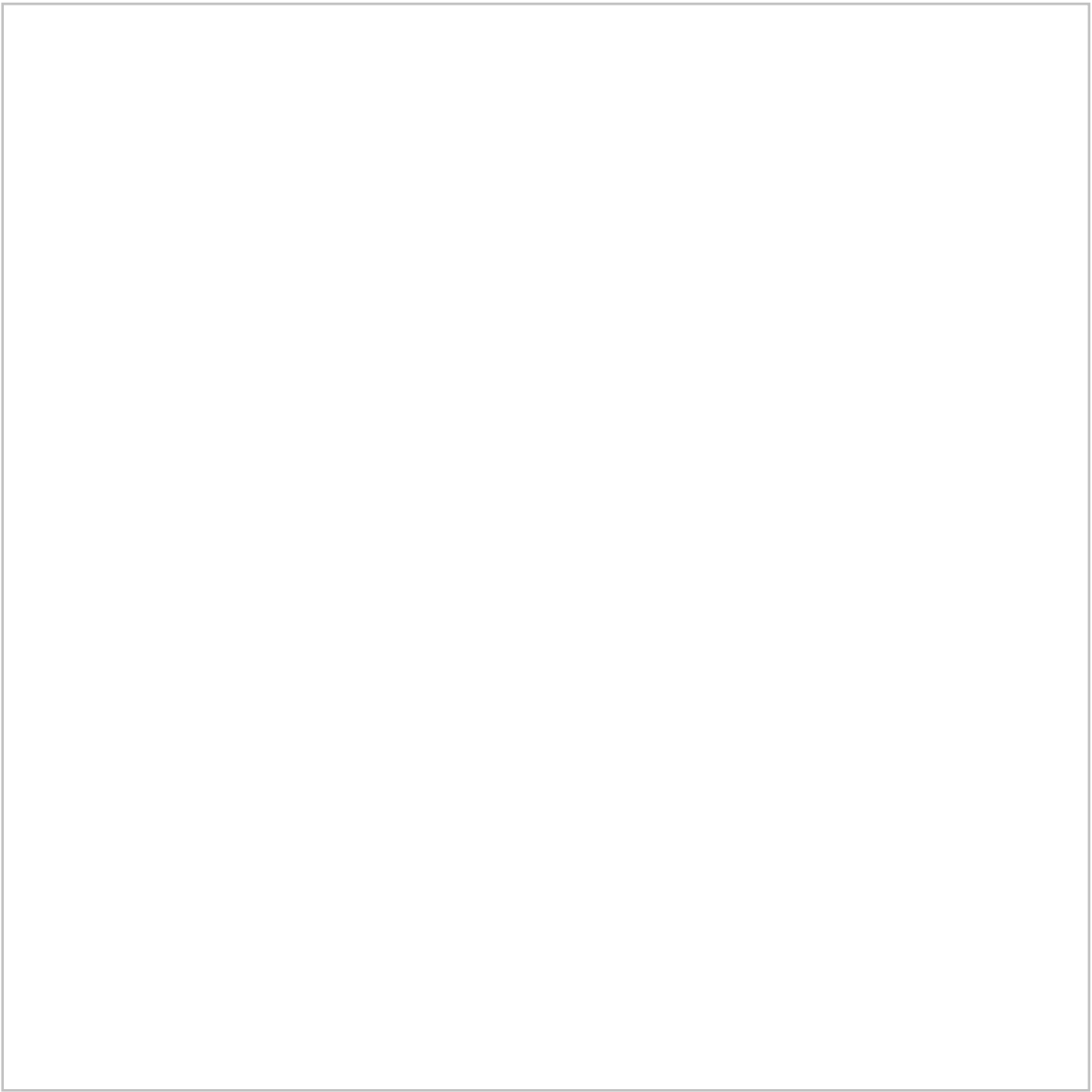
The Trump fan you should keep an eye on now, via Rick Noack: “When Beppe Grillo started to make headlines as the leader of Italy’s biggest protest party six years ago, it was hard to avoid the puns. A comedian turned politician, Grillo was laughed at and branded a ‘clown.’ But by 2013, the laughing subsided, and German magazine Der Spiegel already had called him ‘the most dangerous man in Europe.’ Three years later, he may finally be living up to that description ... **Renzi’s resignation could ultimately sweep Grillo’s left-leaning and anti-establishment Five Star Movement party into power** ... Grillo has for years advocated a referendum on Italy’s eurozone membership status.” **Grillo and Trump are frequently being compared in Europe.** The Italian comedian himself made such remarks during an interview following Trump’s victory: “Our movement has some similarities,” he said. “We became the first political movement in Italy, and the media didn’t even realize it.”

-- **But, but, but: A center-left presidential candidate in Austria [handily defeated his far-right challenger yesterday.](#)** The victory in Austria of an elder statesman formerly of the Green Party suggested the limits to the anti-elite anger. Many thought the far-right nationalist would win, and the result might be the biggest boost the E.U. has received in a while because polls show the electorate is more Eurosceptic than most of its neighbors.

-- **A remarkable visualization of just how fast the populist movement has swept the west:**







What we know about the deadly Oakland fire

GET SMART FAST:

1. **The death toll in the Oakland warehouse fire has risen to at least 33.** The artists' collective, which past visitors describe as a tinderbox, was hosting a synth-pop concert late Friday night when something went horrifically wrong. ([Tim Bontemps](#), [Amy B Wang](#), [Kristine Guerra](#) and [Jasper Scherer](#))
2. **Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will visit Pearl Harbor with President Obama later this month,** becoming the first Japanese leader to visit the site of the attack on Hawaii 75 years ago. The joint visit comes as reciprocation after Obama went to Hiroshima in August. The prime minister's move will anger the more conservative forces in his right-wing government. ([Anna Fifield](#))
3. **A federal judge ordered Michigan election officials to begin a massive hand recount of 4.8 million ballots cast in the presidential election at noon today.** U.S. District Judge Mark Goldsmith issued a ruling just after midnight in favor of Green Party presidential candidate Jill Stein, who sought to let election officials bypass a two-business-day waiting period that would have delayed start of the recount until Wednesday morning. ([The Detroit News](#))
4. **Bloomberg Philanthropies, which is already the largest funder of tobacco-control efforts in the developing world, will announce today an additional \$360 million commitment to the effort,** bringing Mike Bloomberg's total contribution to nearly \$1 billion. ([Ariana Eunjung Cha](#))

5. **In the College Football Playoff semifinals on Dec. 31, No. 1 Alabama will play No. 4 Washington in Atlanta and No. 2 Clemson will play No. 3 Ohio State in Glendale, Ariz.** The winners will play Jan. 9 for the national title in Tampa. The committee left out Penn State despite the team's victory in Saturday night's Big Ten championship. ([Adam Kilgore](#))
6. **Fidel Castro was laid to rest yesterday in a private, closed-door funeral.** His tomb is a hulking, 2.6-ton granite boulder set among the mausoleums of Cuba's most exalted national heroes. His brother and successor Raúl Castro placed a wooden box with Castro's ashes in a hollow cavity inside the stone. ([Nick Miroff](#))
7. **Secretary of State John F. Kerry said Israel is "heading to a place of danger" because settlement growth is eroding chances for a two-state solution and peace with the Palestinians.** "Using unusually blunt language at the Saban Forum, an annual symposium on Israel at the Brookings Institution, Kerry said he had been 'pushing uphill' with the Israeli government because a majority of the ruling coalition does not support a two-state solution," [Carol Morello](#) reports. "The Israelis have been fearful that President Obama in the waning days of his term will lay out binding parameters for two states ... Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition partners have failed to heed his admonition to not provoke Obama. ... Kerry said the Obama administration has not yet decided whether to spell out its vision."
8. **Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and his aging coterie of loyalists consolidated power and ousted rivals during a six-day party congress.** He emerged last night in firm control of his party, which nominally rules the Palestinian villages and towns of the Israeli-occupied West Bank. His success means a continuation of the status quo, [William Booth notes](#) from Ramallah.
9. **The vice president of the Philippines resigned her post as housing secretary in the cabinet after citing irreconcilable differences with President Rodrigo Duterte, who had banned her from attending Cabinet meetings.** She spoke in a statement of "major differences in principles and values" with the brash-talking president and an unspecified plot to remove her from the vice presidency. ([AP](#))
10. **New Zealand's popular Prime Minister John Key stunned the nation this morning when he announced, in a breaking voice, that he will resign after eight years as leader.** Key had been widely expected to contest his fourth general election next year. But he said he wanted to ensure he didn't make the mistake that some other world leaders have done, and instead wanted to leave while he was on top of his game. ([AP](#))
11. **Citing a national security risk, President Obama blocked a Chinese investor's proposed takeover of Aixtron SE, a German maker of semiconductor manufacturing equipment.** The rare move drew objections from Beijing. ([AP](#))
12. **A Florida man called a Miami Beach church that had helped him to say he had obtained an assault rifle and planned to attack the Sunday service because it was too friendly to the LGBT community.** He declared that he'd kill more people than died in Orlando's Pulse nightclub. Police arrested the man at his apartment after an altercation. ([Cleve Woodson Jr.](#))
13. **A University of Southern California student stabbed and killed the psychology professor who served as his mentor,** following what was described as a "personal dispute" on campus Friday afternoon. David Jonathan Brown, a 28-year-old brain and cognitive science student, is being held on \$1 million bail. ([Cleve Woodson Jr.](#))

Trump leaves Carrier Corp. in Indianapolis on Thursday. (Daniel Acker/Bloomberg)</p>□



Trump leaves Carrier Corp. in Indianapolis on Thursday. (Daniel Acker/Bloomberg)

FOR YOUR RADAR THIS WEEK:

-- **Uncertain business leaders, nervous about attacks on offshoring, think Trump could be the second coming of Teddy Roosevelt.** Tom Hamburger interviewed several lobbyists, board room consultants and trade association executives. He sends this curtain-raiser for the 202:

Dozens of the country's leading CEOs will be streaming to Washington this week for the quarterly meeting of the elite Business Roundtable, which represents the executives of the country's leading multinational companies, many of which have been considering expanded production overseas.

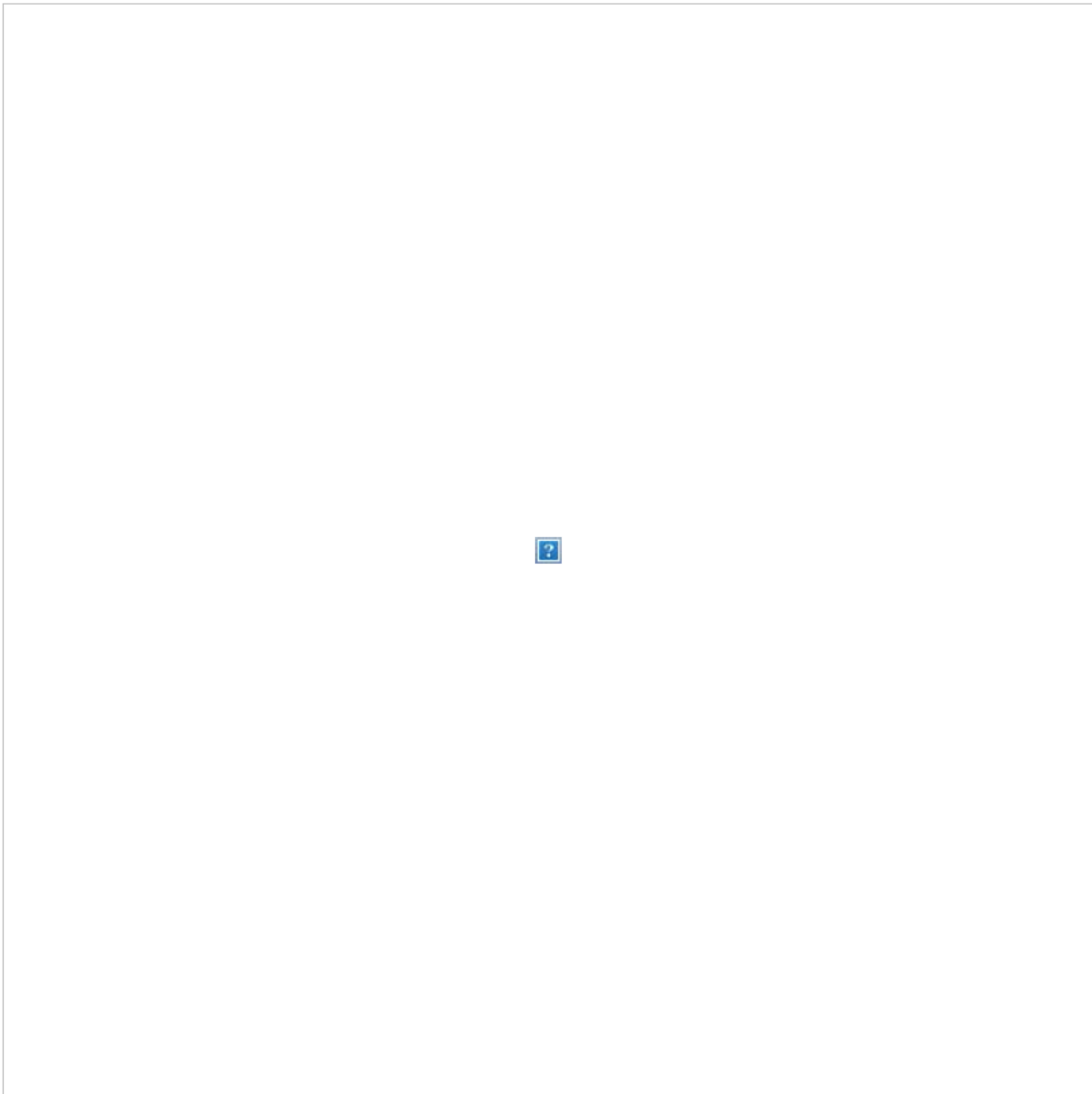
The BRT meeting officially opens Wednesday. On Tuesday, the leader of the organization, Caterpillar CEO Doug Oberhelman, will hold a press conference with the group's president, former Gov. John Engler, whose **friends in the auto industry are particularly unnerved** by the threats of Trump to impose tariffs on goods that American firms import from overseas factories.

The BRT executive committee includes CEOs whose companies have become well known for using offshore labor, such as Virginia Rometty of IBM and Ursula Burns of Xerox.

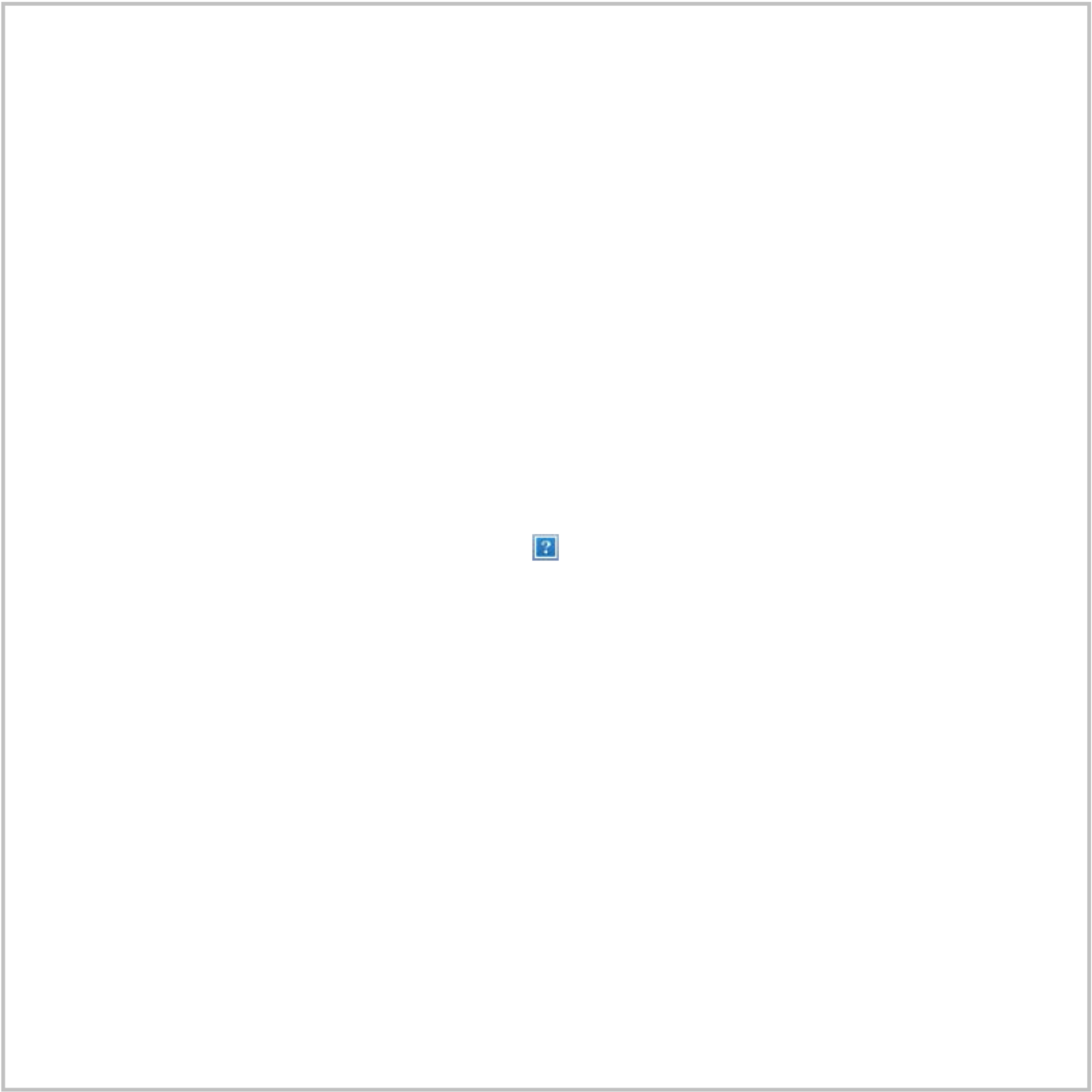
Although details of BRT meetings and receptions have not been released, **it is expected that a number of**

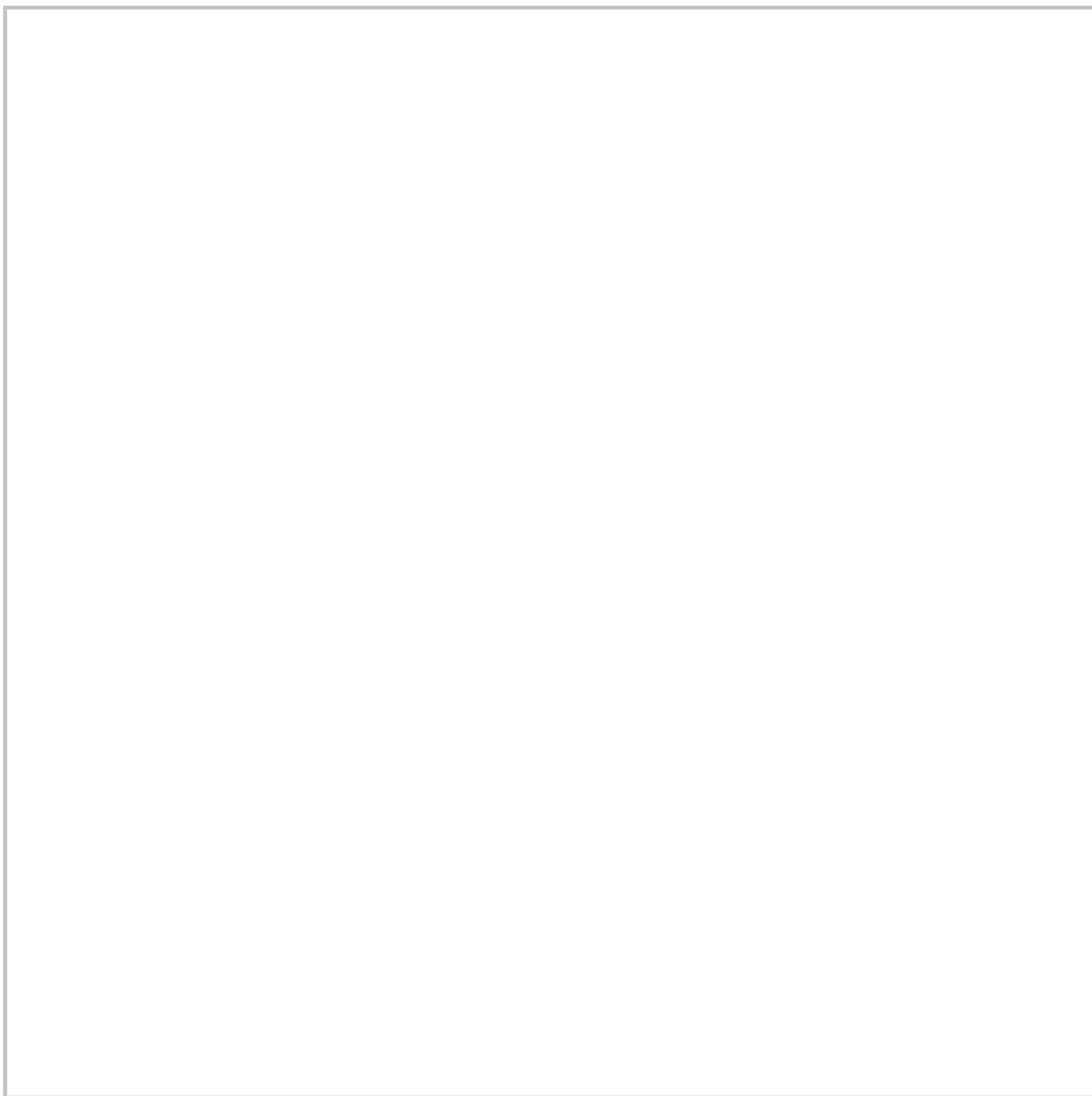
incoming Trump administration officials will participate, along with senior officials from the Obama administration.

-- Late Friday night, Trump took aim on Twitter at [a second manufacturer](#) that plans to move jobs from Indiana to Mexico:



Then, yesterday, the president-elect posted a storm of tweets threatening to punish any U.S. company that sends jobs overseas:





-- **This kind of rhetoric has created a new level of nervousness.** "Sure, there is some concern in some board rooms, just as there was fear under Teddy Roosevelt, a Republican and a trust buster," said Richard Hohlt, a longtime Republican consultant who has advised big banks and supported Trump this fall. Hohlt is telling corporate clients to be prepared for a different kind of presidency: "There is a new sheriff in town, and he is already showing that he will be a president who will do what he said he would do. If you are a CEO planning to move your plants to Mexico, you know how this president will react to that."

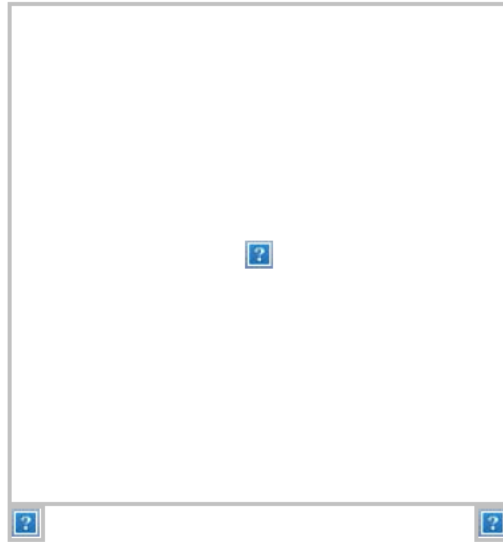
Nina Gross, a managing director of BDO Consulting in Washington, said that many CEOs she talks with are heartened by Trump's early cabinet picks – including Wilbur Ross for Commerce and Steven Mnuchin for Treasury – which signals that the rhetoric used before the election was hyperbole. "This is no longer a campaign," said Gross, who did not back Trump in the primary or general but now expressed admiration for some of his personnel moves. "These are not crazy people. ... And that's a clear signal that Trump will not blow the world up."


Mnuchin and Ross have already moved to soften some of Trump's most explosive proposals. [As Sean Sullivan and Ylan Q. Mui reported yesterday](#), both men said they would pursue bilateral trade agreements with other countries. Ross also said that Trump's threatened double-digit tariffs on goods from Mexico and China would be imposed only as a last resort.

A third person familiar with the mood in the executive suites of major corporations said that, even before Trump's visit to Indianapolis on Thursday and his stream of tweets this weekend, CEOs of

leading companies were “on high alert.” Many of the 75 to 100 CEOs coming to Washington have been watching Trump’s interactions with other CEOs very closely. “And now they are asking ‘who’s next?’” said one corporate adviser,

This is a particularly sensitive moment for any multinational corporation with facilities overseas. While there is always nervousness about a new administration, he said that Trump’s “populist corporate activism” is different. “It is uncharted territory,” the source explained. “They are getting nervous, and some CEOs are asking whether they can get a better deal” to stay in the U.S.





D.C. police detain gunman who wanted to 'self-investigate' conspiracy theory

WORDS MATTER – FAKE NEWS HAS REAL-LIFE CONSEQUENCES: “A North Carolina man was arrested Sunday after he walked into a popular pizza restaurant in Northwest Washington carrying an assault rifle and fired one or more shots, D.C. police said. The man told police he had come to the restaurant to ‘self-investigate’ a false election-related conspiracy theory involving Hillary Clinton that spread online during her presidential campaign,” [Faiz Siddiqui and Susan Svrluga report](#).

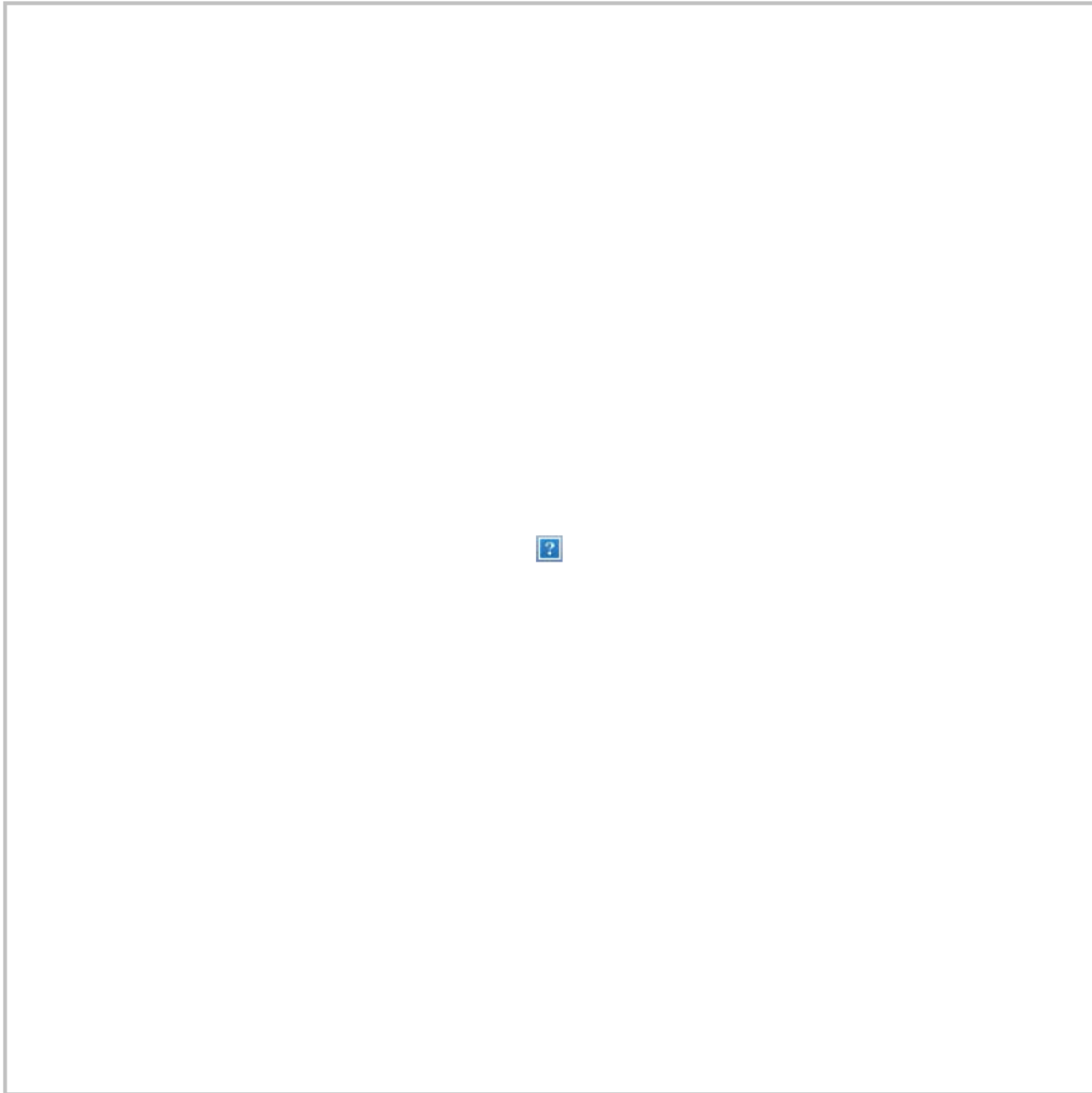
-- **The fake story, which went viral online in the weeks before the election, claimed that HRC and John Podesta were running a child sex ring from the backrooms of the popular family restaurant, near Connecticut and Nebraska avenues NW in the Chevy Chase neighborhood.** The restaurant’s owner and employees were threatened on social media and received death threats. (BuzzFeed looked last month at [how the false rumor spread online](#).)

-- **How yesterday's incident went down:** Police said 28-year-old Edgar Maddison Welch, of Salisbury, N.C., walked in the front door of Comet Ping Pong around 3 p.m. and pointed a firearm in the direction of a restaurant employee. “The employee was able to flee and notify police. Police said Welch proceeded to discharge the rifle inside the restaurant; they think that all other occupants had fled when Welch began shooting. Welch has been charged with assault with a dangerous weapon. Police said there were no reported injuries. . . . Interim D.C. Police Chief Peter Newsham said **cops safely arrested Welch about 45 minutes after he entered the restaurant.** Police recovered two firearms inside the restaurant; an additional weapon

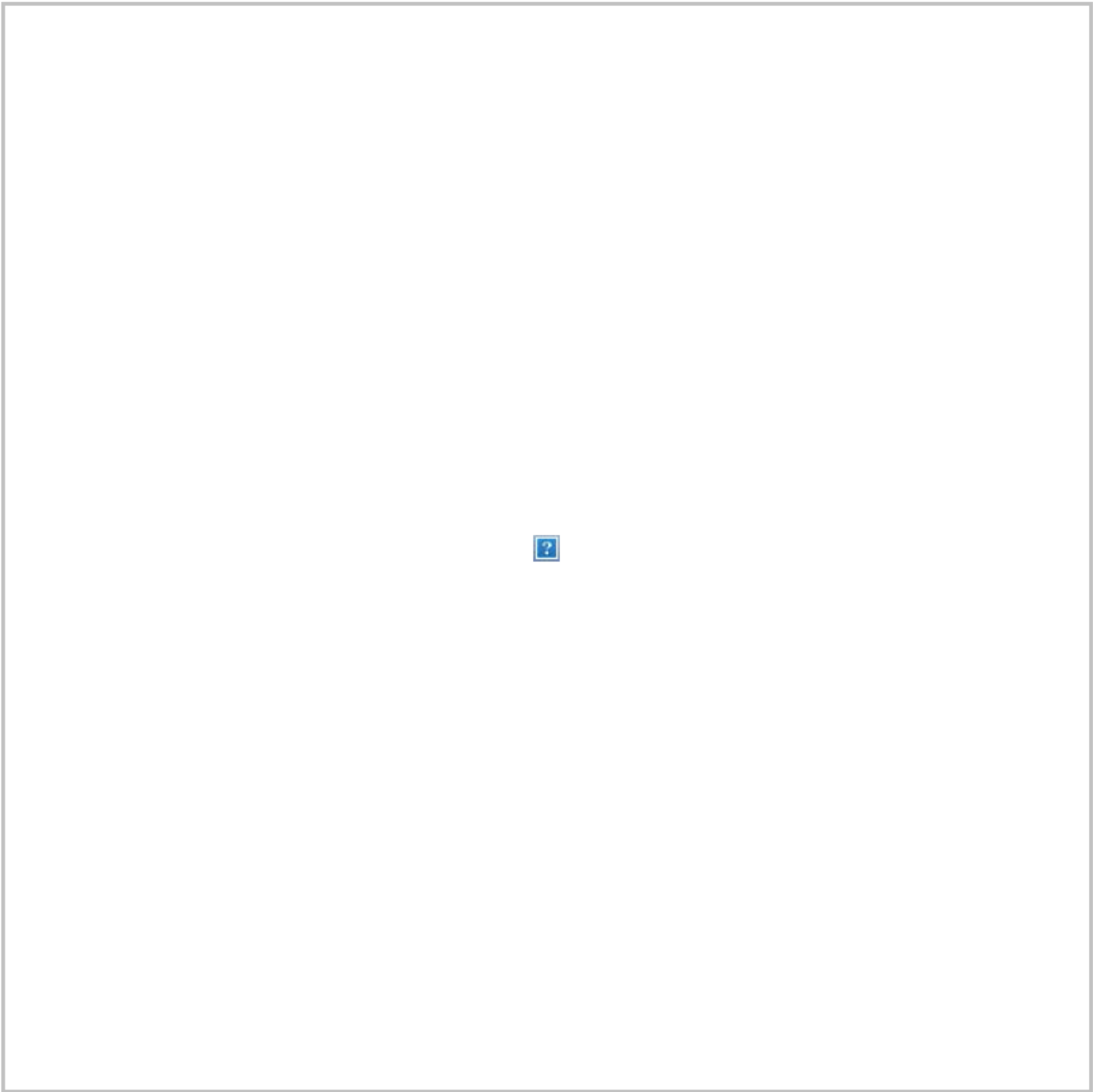
was recovered in Welch's car."

-- **Michael Flynn, the retired general whom Trump has tapped to be his national security adviser, shared stories online about another anti-Clinton conspiracy theory involving pedophilia.** None of them were true. But the fake stories and threats persisted, some even aimed at children of Comet Ping Pong employees and patrons. The restaurant's owner was forced to contact the FBI, local police, Facebook and other social-media platforms in an effort to remove the articles. Bradley Graham, a co-owner of Politics & Prose, said he was told that **the gunman walked into the kitchen at Comet Ping Pong, "presumably looking for the alleged tunnels" where children were hidden and tortured.**

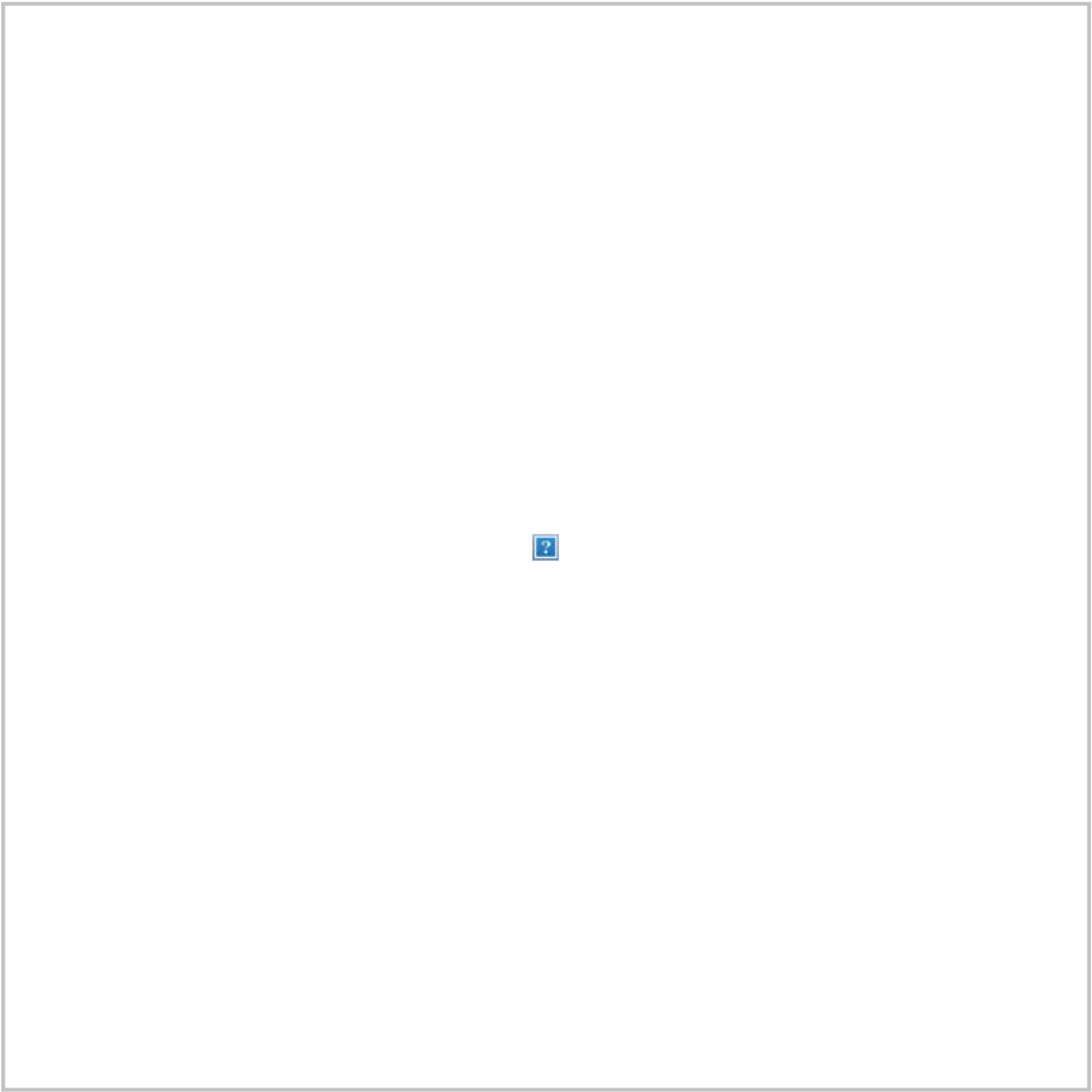
The incoming National Security Adviser actually tweeted this just one month ago:

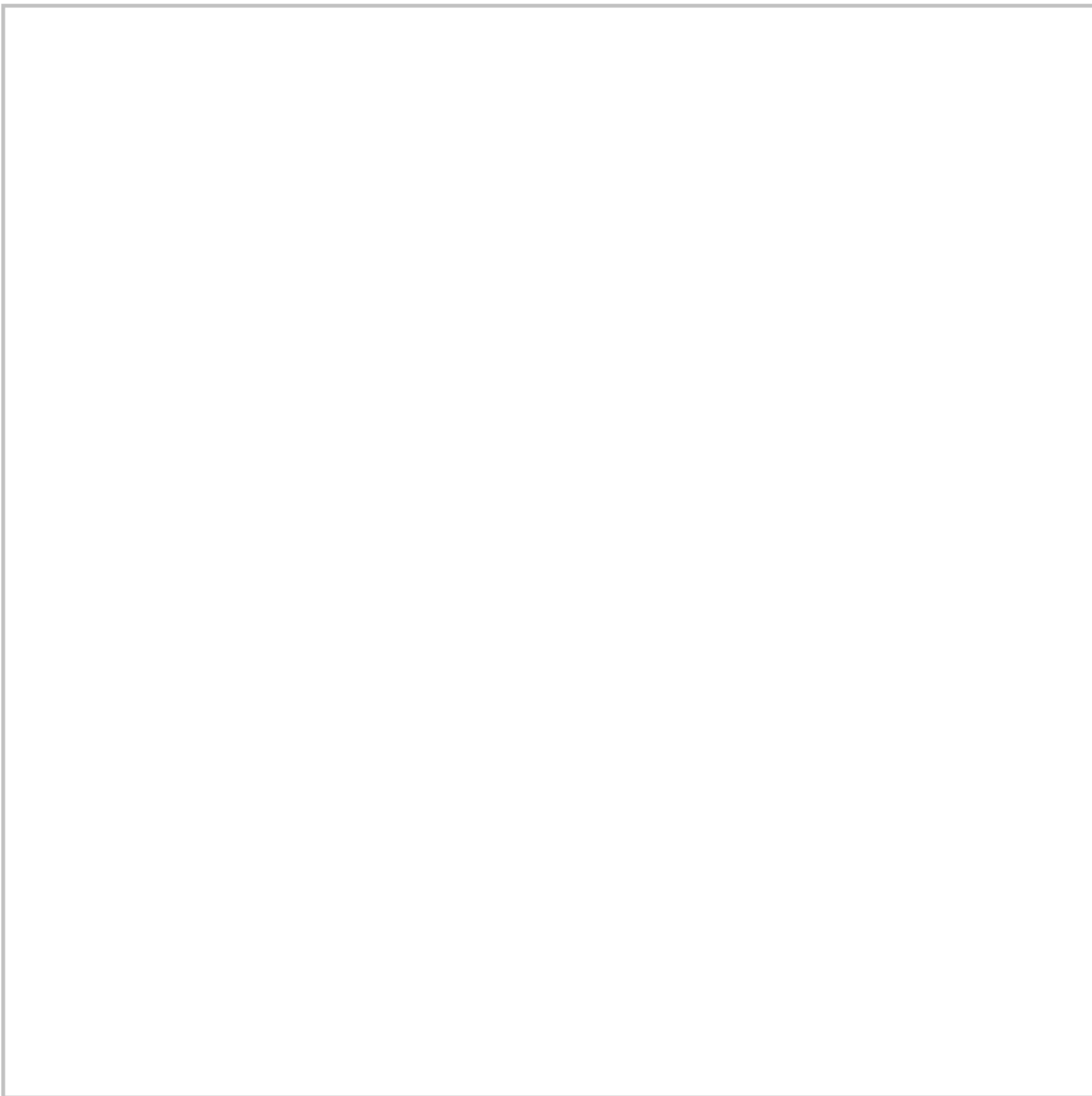


Even more irresponsibly, Flynn's son -- who works as the chief of staff at his firm -- tweeted this last night:

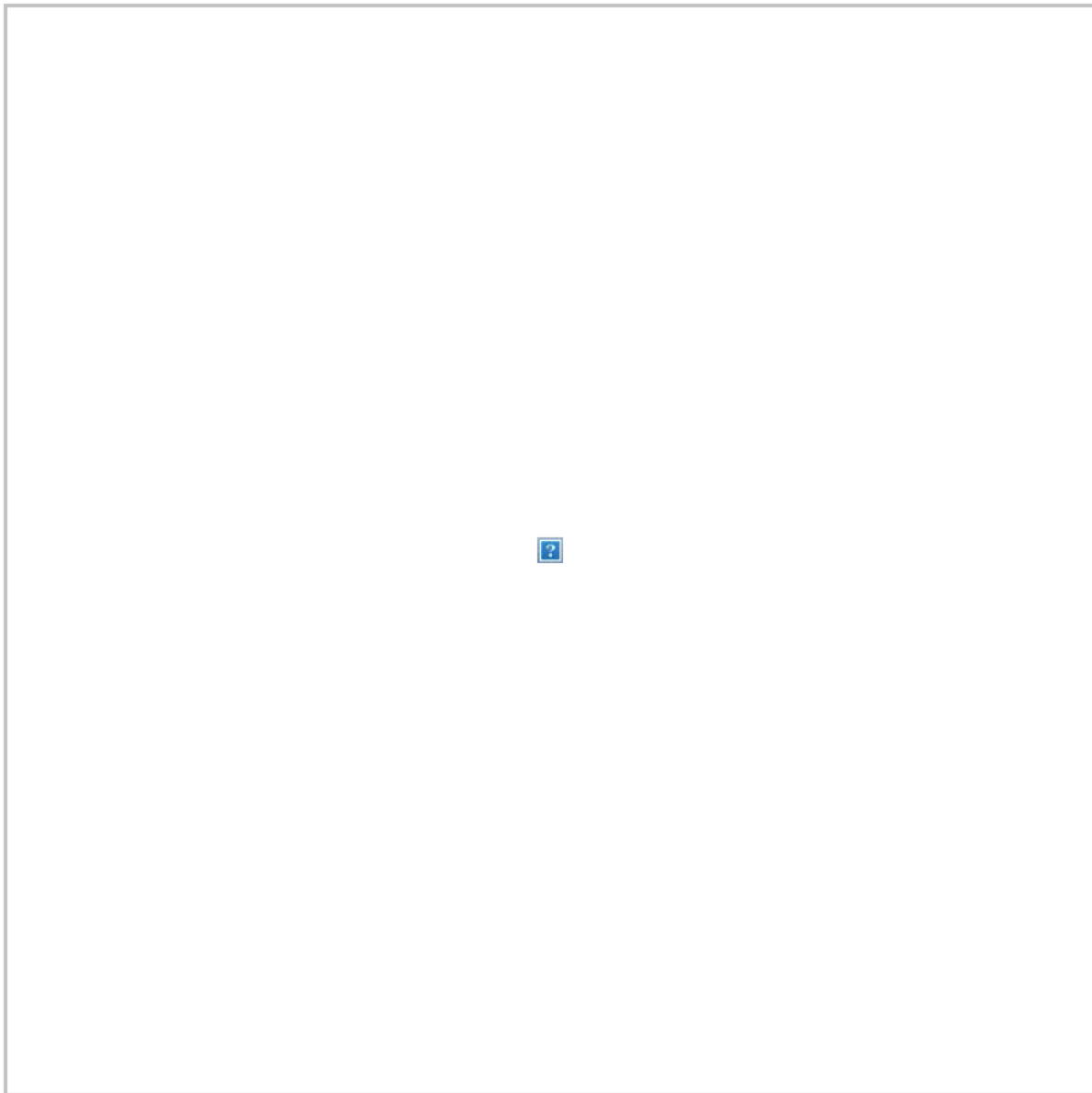


-- A chorus of powerful Washingtonians expressed outrage at the Trump people who so recklessly circulated these fake stories:





-- **Another chilling illustration of the Trump Effect on our politics, [via Politico Magazine's Michael Grunwald](#):** "One conservative Republican congressman who actually supported Trump's candidacy told me his office was deluged with furious callers after he once dared to criticize Trump during the campaign. He called back one woman in her sixties who owned a vacation home in his district and had donated to his campaigns. He said the chat turned ugly in a hurry, until she said she had just three things to say to him. 'First: Go f*** yourself. Second: I'm going to raise \$75,000 to find a primary challenger to take you out. And third: Go f*** yourself.' The congressman thought that would be the end of it, but the woman then went on Facebook and posted an account of their conversation, along with his cell phone number. For the next several weeks, Trump supporters called him at all hours to repeat his donor's first and third recommendations. 'I'm telling you, the demons have been unleashed,' the congressman told me. 'And they're not going away.'"



Allison Fenn adjusts a rainbow flag that she's flying in solidarity with the LGBT community in front of her home. She lives down the street from Mike Pence's rental home. (Gary Cameron/Reuters)

-- **[“In Mr. Pence’s new D.C. neighborhood, not exactly the welcome wagon,”](#)** by Ian Shapira: “When news filtered out in late November that Mike Pence was temporarily moving into the white colonial with green shutters on Tennyson Street NW (in Chevy Chase) ... neighbors decided to greet the Republican interloper with polite protest: rainbow flags flapping from their homes. ... ‘I thought it would send a message in an appropriate way. One idea was to put a ‘Chevy Chase Hillary’ banner, but we thought that would be too in-your-face,’ said Joanna Pratt, 66, an environmental consultant who came up with the idea and lives across the street from Pence. Now, at least seven homes on the street boast the flags — a response to Pence’s opposition over the years to equal rights for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.” (Clinton got 85 percent in this precinct.)

David Brock (Danny Johnston/AP)</p>□



David Brock (Danny Johnston/AP)

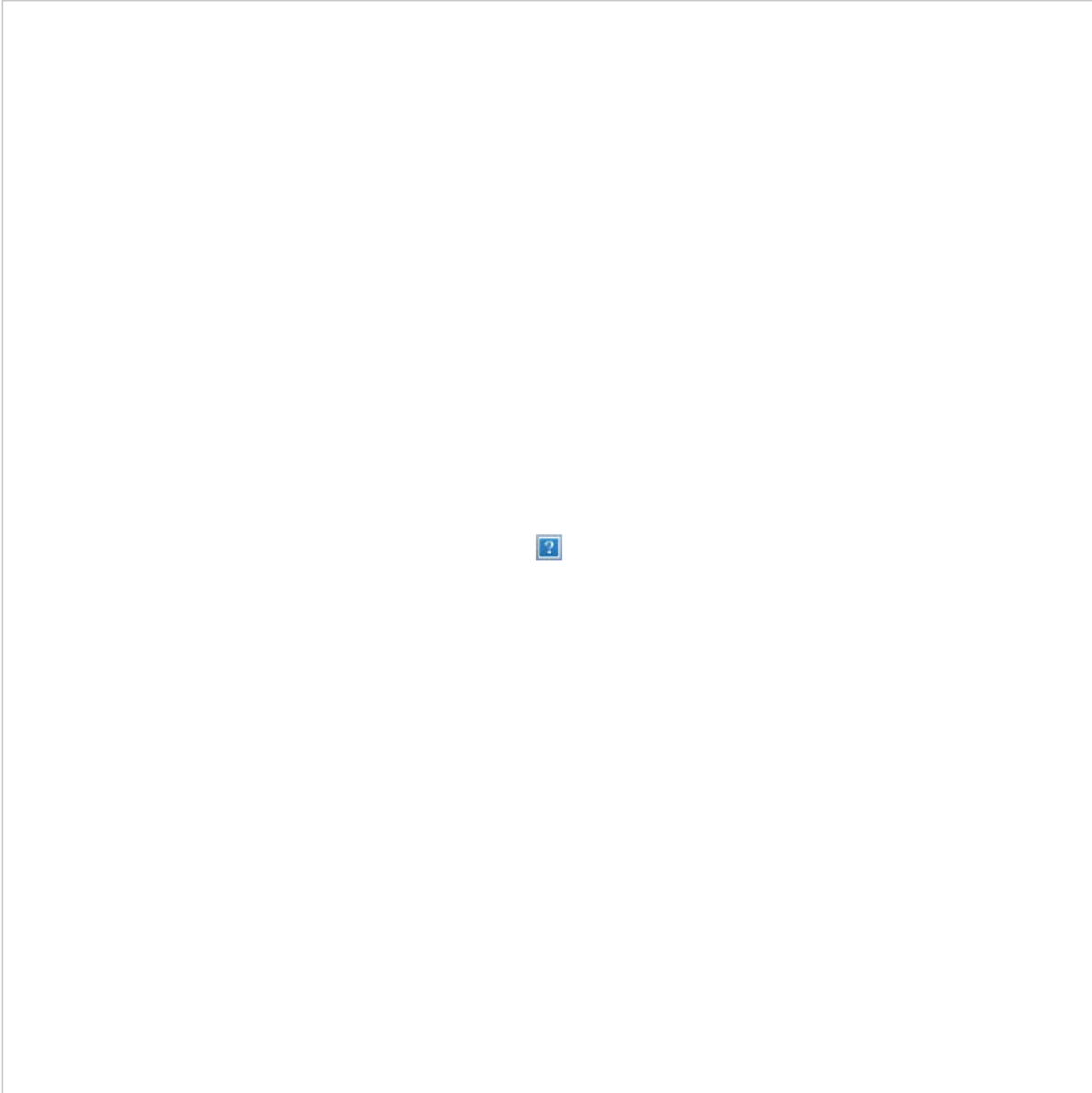
A CIVIL WAR IN BOTH PARTIES:

-- **One of Clinton's top allies, writer and strategist David Brock, will begin a two-day conference of Democratic lawmakers and liberal organizers in Washington this morning with a fiery call to arms and demand for an independent audit of the party's 2016 efforts.** [Matea Gold has a first look at the text of his remarks](#): “Hillary’s loss has exposed a collapse of power for the Democratic Party,” Brock is set to tell a gathering hosted by the State Innovation Exchange. The exchange, known as SiX, is seeking to help Democrats regain power in the states by serving as a hub for strategy and training. “The truth is, our party faces a crisis of competence at all levels,” Brock is set to tell the group. “Progressive politics in America is an organizational disaster.”

In his speech, Brock calls for party leaders to appoint an independent commission to audit the work done by Democrats up and down the ballot this cycle, and to publicly release the results of the report. “We can’t have a coherent or effective road map forward unless and until we have a mutual understanding of what happened last cycle, and an accepted conclusion of where we can do better and how,” he will say.

-- **A major Republican donor says Trump personally expressed support for ousting the chairman of the Ohio GOP, a close ally of John Kasich, as he seeks another term next month.** [From the Columbus](#)

[Dispatch](#): “Matt Borges survived a closed-door gathering of the Ohio Republican Party's central committee Friday, but he is now facing a direct challenge ... backed by President-elect Trump. In an email to committee members, Jane Murphy Timken, vice chairman of the Stark County Republican Party, said: ... ‘Last week, I spoke with President-elect Trump and he agrees that it is time for a leadership change at the ORP.’ ... The Trump campaign officially divorced itself from the state GOP leadership in mid-October. The party's No. 2 leader then created a fake Twitter account in an attempt to ridicule Trump's Ohio campaign chairman.”



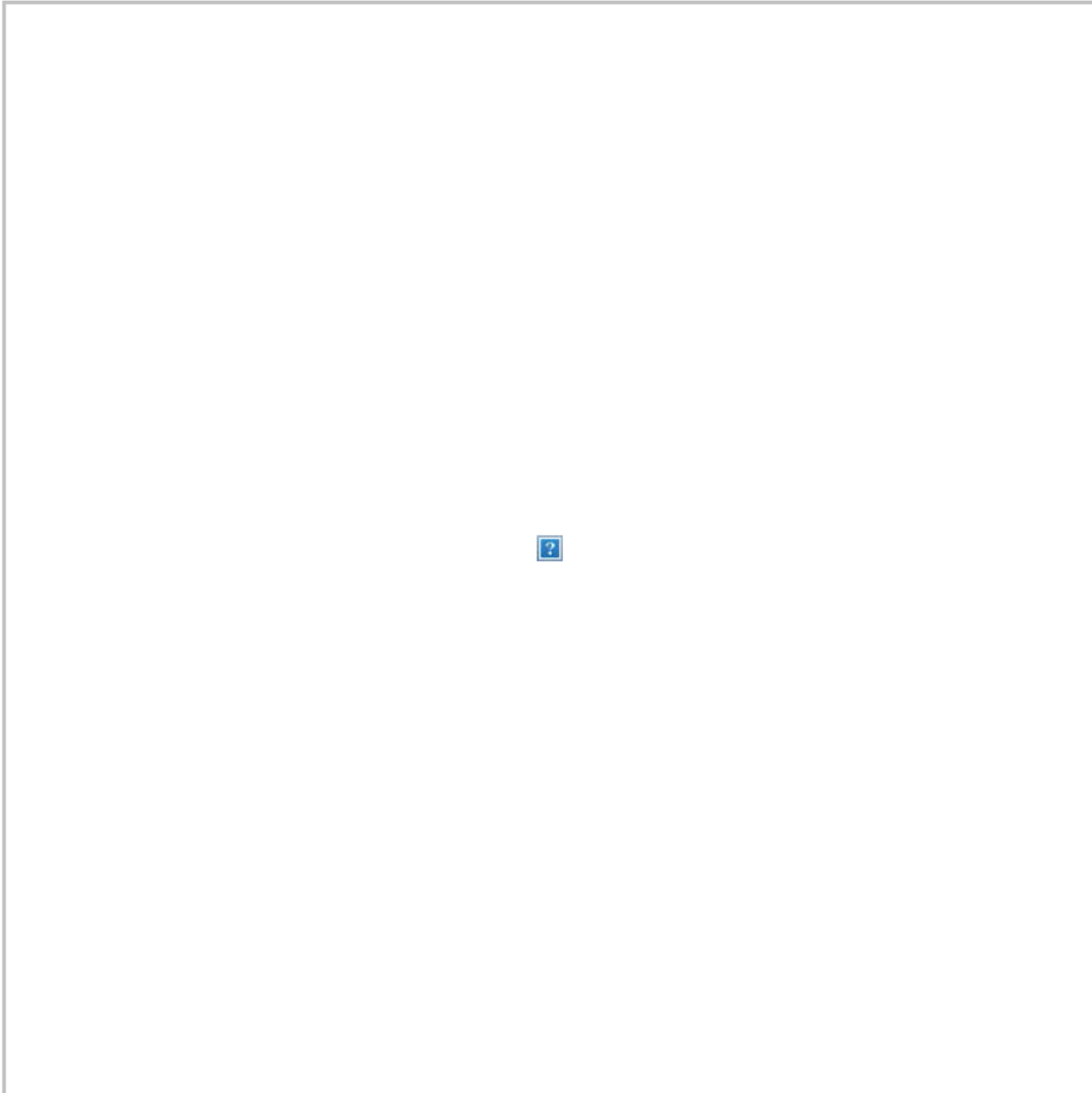
What is the story behind Trump's phone call with Taiwan?

TRUMP'S NEW WORLD ORDER:

-- “**Trump’s protocol-breaking telephone call with Taiwan’s leader was an intentionally provocative move,**” [Anne Gearan, Phil Rucker and Simon Denyer scoop](#). “The historic communication — the first between leaders of the United States and Taiwan since 1979 — was the product of months of quiet preparations and deliberations among Trump’s advisers about a new strategy for engagement with Taiwan that began even before he became the Republican presidential nominee, according to people involved in or briefed on the talks. The call also reflects the views of hard-line advisers urging Trump to take a tough opening line with China.”

Some critics portrayed the move as the thoughtless blundering of a foreign policy novice, but other experts said it appeared calculated to signal a new, robust approach to relations with China. China

reacted sternly to the Taiwan call, suggesting that it shows Trump's inexperience. But Stanford professor Gordon Chang, an Asia expert and author of "The Coming Collapse of China," said Trump's tweet Friday night that he had just accepted a call from Tsai was "not credible": "This has all the hallmarks of a prearranged phone call. It doesn't make sense that Tsai out of the blue would call Donald Trump. She is not known for taking big leaps into the unknown, and it would be politically embarrassing when it was learned that she called Trump and he would not take her call."



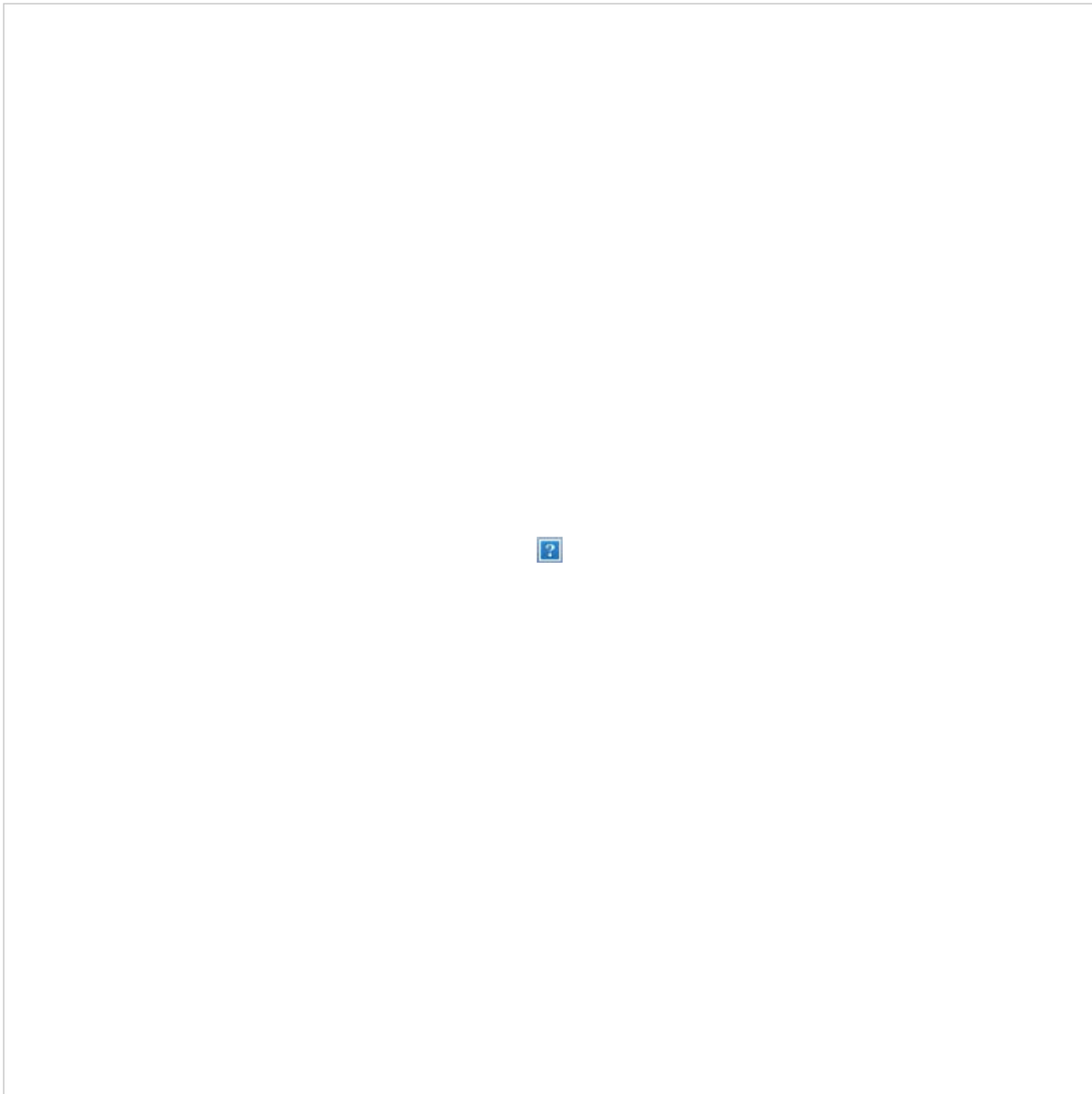
Priebus: Trump 'is a details guy'

-- **Several leading members of Trump's transition team are considered hawkish on China and friendly toward Taiwan, especially incoming chief of staff Reince Priebus:** He visited Taiwan with a Republican delegation in 2011 and in October 2015, meeting Tsai before she was elected president. Taiwan Foreign Minister David Lee called him a friend of Taiwan and said his appointment as Trump's chief of staff was 'good news' for the island. Ed Feulner, former president of the Heritage Foundation, has for decades cultivated extensive ties with Taiwan, and he is also an adviser to Trump's transition team.

-- **MORE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: Ivanka Trump's presence at her dad's meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe struck some as odd. It turns out that the soon-to-be first daughter is nearing a licensing deal with the Japanese apparel giant Sanei International, both parties told The New York Times.** "The largest shareholder of Sanei's parent company is the Development Bank of Japan, which is wholly owned by the Japanese government. ... Discussions for the deal have been active for about two

years, Ms. Trump's company said. In that time, she has become something of a local fascination. 'At the moment,' said Sayumi Gunji, a lifestyle-magazine editor who attended the viewing, 'Tvanka is even more popular here than Mr. Trump.' ... Ms. Trump, the only sibling to match her father's instinct for self-commodification, has used the Trump Organization's payroll, information technology and human resources for her separate brand. Her website's domain was registered by Trump Organization lawyers."

-- **Meanwhile, Charlene Chen, claiming to be a representative of Trump's businesses, arrived Sept. 8 in Taiwan to explore investing in a redevelopment project south of Taiwan's biggest airport.** [From the Times](#): "I told them: Isn't Mr. Trump campaigning for president? Isn't he very busy?" the mayor, Cheng Wen-tsan, said ... 'They said she is a company representative. His company is still continuing to look for the world's best real estate projects, and they very much understand Taiwan' ... On Friday, Amanda Miller, a spokeswoman for the Trump Organization, said that there were 'no plans for expansion into Taiwan' and that there had been no 'authorized visits' to Taiwan to push for a development project.'" This was directly contradicted by a Facebook post from an executive at the company, who shared pictures from what she described as a work trip.



Jon Huntsman drops out of the 2012 presidential race at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center in January 2012. (Joe Raedle/Getty Images)

THE APPRENTICE, FOGGY BOTTOM EDITION:

-- **In a huge slap at Mitt Romney, Trump has added [longtime rival](#) Jon Huntsman into the mix for secretary of state:** Kellyanne Conway told reporters yesterday that he plans to interview additional candidates this week and does not want to rush the decision. "It is true that he's broadened the search, and the secretary of state is an incredibly important position for any president to fill," she said. "Evidence of the unease with Romney (among the base) was evident at Trump's first stop on a 'thank you' tour last week in Cincinnati, where chants of 'No Romney' broke out among the boisterous crowd," [John Wagner reports](#).

-- **David Petraeus, another finalist for Foggy Bottom, went on ABC's "This Week" yesterday in an effort to show Trump that he could successfully respond to questions about his mishandling of classified material during a potential Senate confirmation hearing.** The retired Army general acknowledged his mistake and said that "they'll have to factor that in and also obviously 38½ years of otherwise fairly, in some cases, unique service to our country in uniform and then at the CIA and then some four years or so in the business community." It went pretty well. Asked how he voted for, he said: "I don't vote. So that's an easy answer."

-- **Trump will also meet this week with two other new, long-shot contenders for State, [a source close to the transition told Politico's Alex Isenstadt](#): ExxonMobil CEO Rex Tillerson and retired Navy Adm. James G. Stavridis.** (Clinton vetted Stavridis, dean of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, as a potential vice presidential prospect.)

-- **Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.) -- who has said that he is talking with Trump transition officials about the secretary of state position, although it's unclear how far those discussions have gone -- was on Fox News this morning to defend the president-elect's call with the president of Taiwan.** "I think it's terrific," Rohrabacher said, via Jenna Johnson. "It was a terrific message to them: We're no longer going to be pushovers, and there's going to be consequences for their hostile and aggressive actions." Rohrabacher said that he agrees with the president-elect on most issues -- including "establishing a positive relationship" with Russia to fight terrorism, an idea that worries many Republicans and Democrats. "Russia and the people of Russia are good people, and they have a chance to work with them to defeat this evil that threatens the planet right now."

-- **Speaking of Russia: Vladimir Putin delivered something of a backhanded compliment to Trump on Sunday.** "To the extent that he was able to achieve success in business, this shows that he's a smart person," Putin said in a TV interview. "And *if* he's a smart person, that means that he will totally and quite quickly understand the different level of his responsibility [as a statesman]. We presume that he will act based on this position." Andrew Roth, one of our men in Moscow, [reads between the lines](#): "Trump has said that he wants to establish better relations with Putin ... While that presents opportunities for the Kremlin, Putin's remarks also signaled concerns, voiced by insiders, that Trump could be an unpredictable partner. Putin called Trump 'talented' and 'colorful' during the campaign (Trump said Putin had called him 'a genius,' thanks to a mistranslation), but the Kremlin has been reserved in its praise since Trump won the presidency last month."

Terry Branstad sits in his office at the Iowa state capitol. (Patrick Semansky/AP)</p>□

Terry Branstad sits in his office at the Iowa state capitol. (Patrick Semansky/AP)

-- **Bloomberg reports that Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad, a longtime friend of Chinese President Xi Jinping, is the frontrunner to be U.S. ambassador to China.** [From Kevin Cirilli and Jennifer Jacobs](#): “The longest-serving governor in U.S. history, Branstad will be in New York (this) week for previously scheduled work related to Iowan economic development. ... Trump will be in Iowa on Dec. 8 for a stop on his post-election victory tour. ... ‘I am not ruling anything out,’ Branstad said on Nov. 19 at an annual fundraiser, the Des Moines Register reported. ... Two days before the Nov. 8 election, during a rally in Sioux City, Trump singled out Branstad as an ideal liaison to China. ... Branstad and Xi met when China’s leader made his first trip to Iowa in 1985 during a sister-state exchange. At the time Xi was a young agricultural official from Hebei province, working as director of the Feed Association of Shijiazhuang Prefecture.”

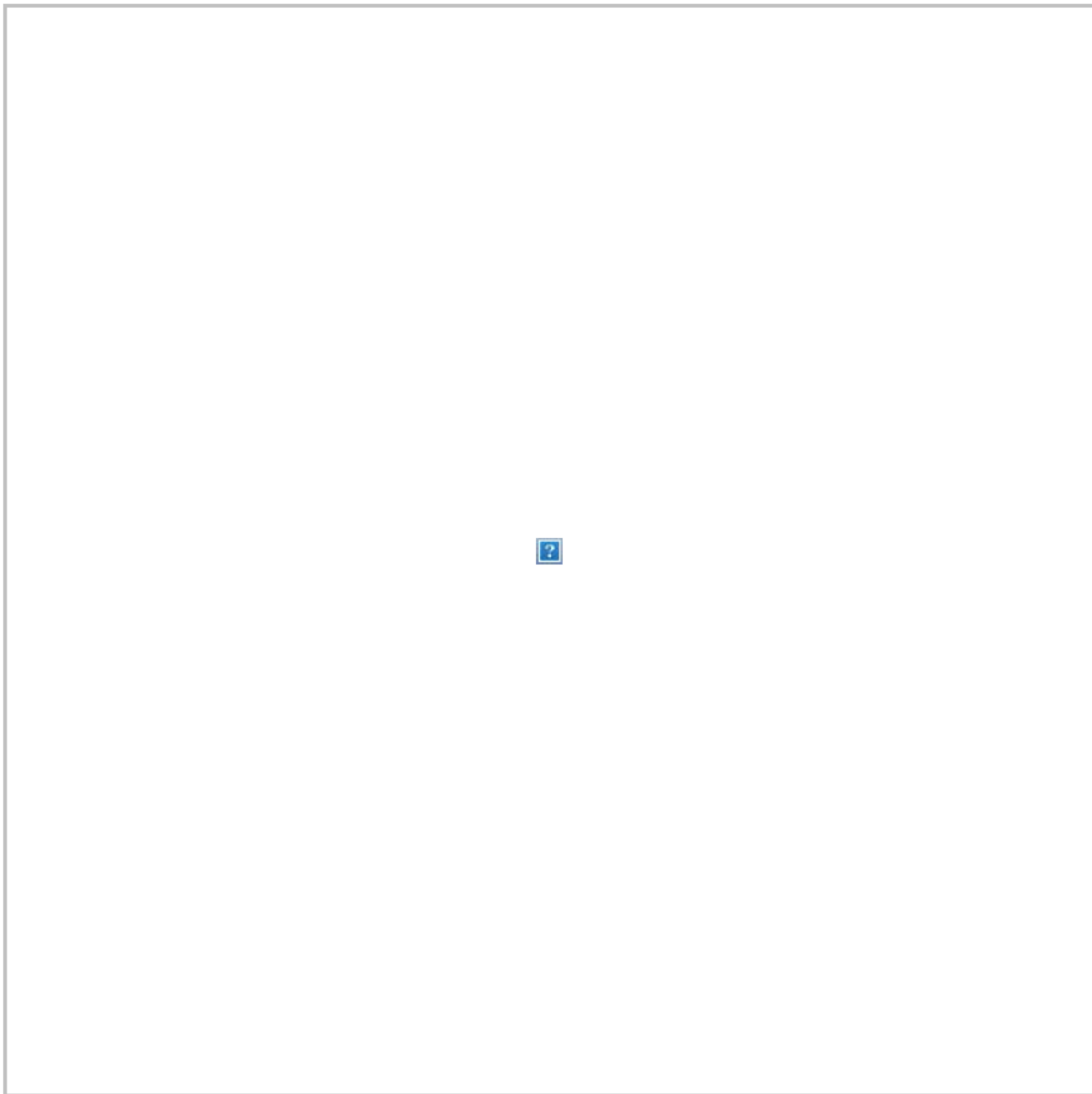
-- **New York Jets owner Woody Johnson is under consideration for ambassador to the U.K., per Page Six’s Ian Mohr and Emily Smith.** Other Trump donors being mentioned for coveted diplomatic postings: Real estate mogul Peter Kalikow could be in the running for an ambassadorship to Italy. Hedge funder Duke Buchan III is being considered for a diplomatic post in Spain. Insiders say Georgette Mosbacher could be in line for a post in Ireland or Belgium.



-- Want a job in the Trump administration? **The Plum Book, an official listing of the 9,000 political jobs that will be available in Trump's executive branch, just published.** But don't count on all of them to be filled, [Lisa Rein notes](#), as the president-elect has pledged to significantly slash the size of the federal government. "One transition official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to be candid, described recent conversations on the team as it considers how to shape the federal government in the Trump era. 'Oh, they had five people doing that? We're only going to hire two,' the staff has discussed, according to the official ... **As of Friday, 65,800 men and women had applied to serve in the Trump administration through the website [GreatAgain.gov](#).**" Get your copy today at 10 a.m. at the Government Publishing Office bookstore at 710 N. Capitol St. NW or [digitally here](#).

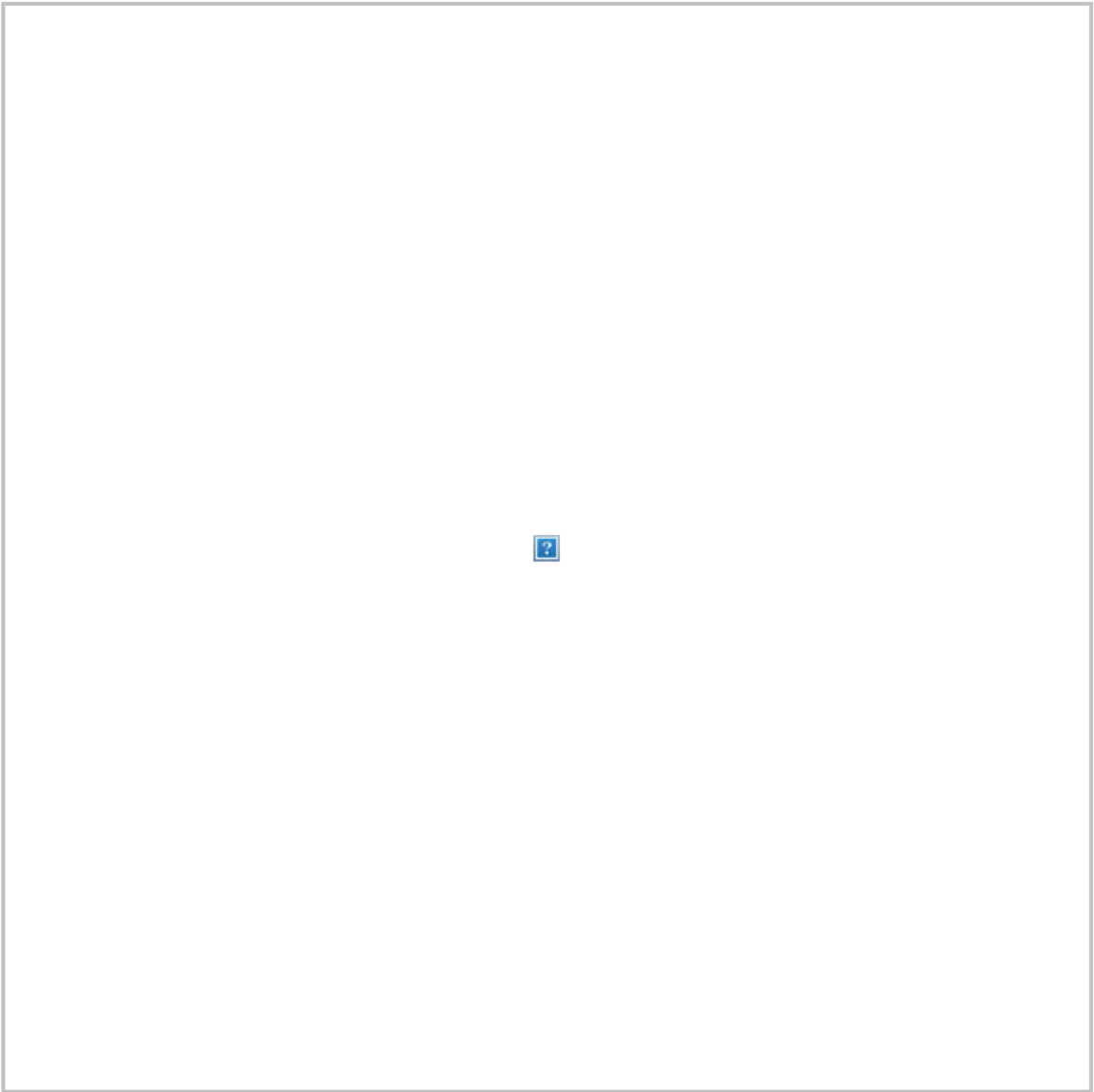
SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:

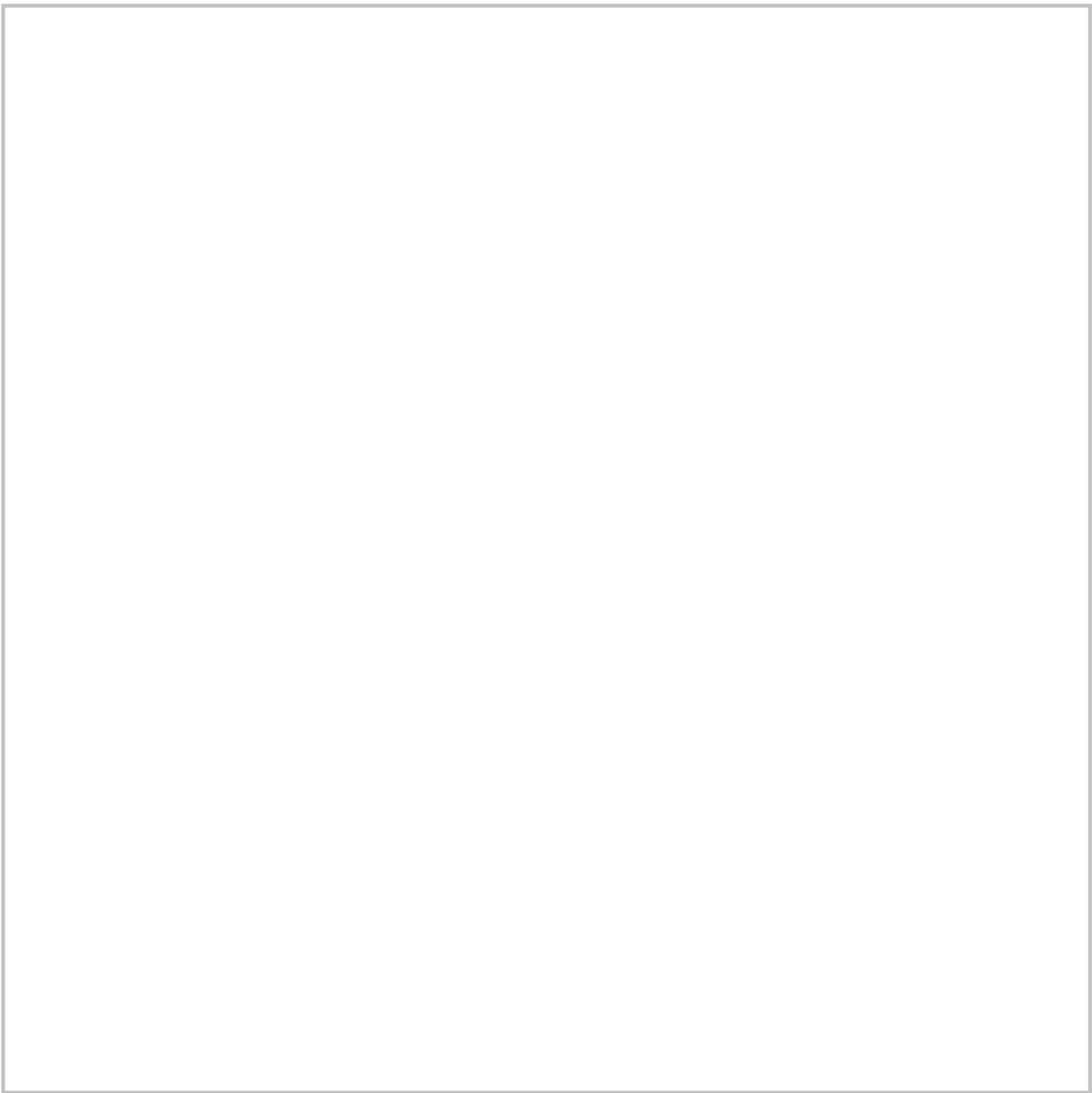
What Trump and Conway did this weekend, in part:



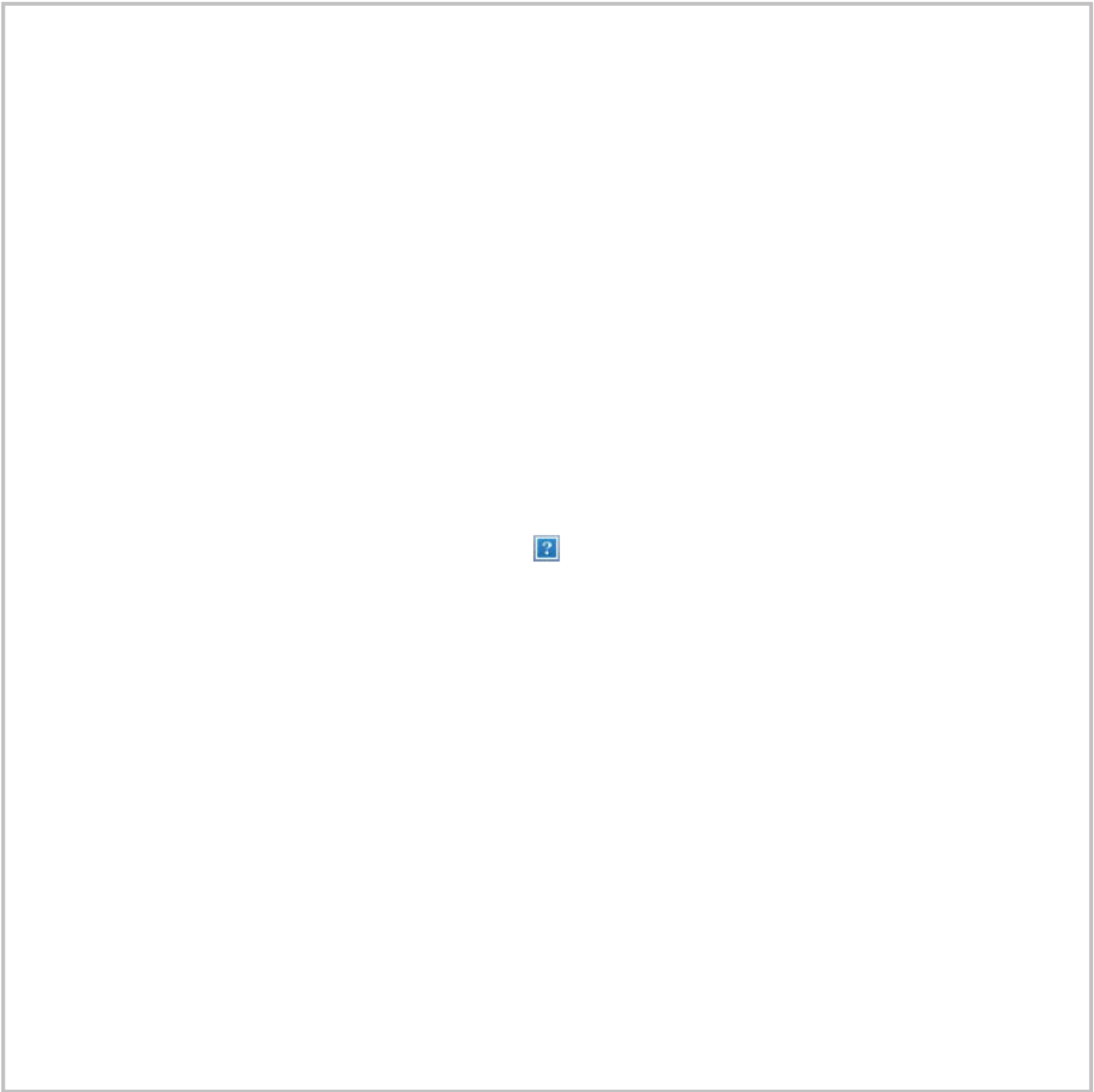
Without any explanation, 29 weeks after posting it, Trump deleted this tweet at 3:30 a.m. yesterday: “Duck Dynasty' star Phil Robertson says he'll back Trump for president.” ([Via Politwoops](#))

Trump's vow to levy a 35 percent tax on companies that ship jobs overseas drew a swift rebuke from Republicans Justin Amash and Ben Sasse:

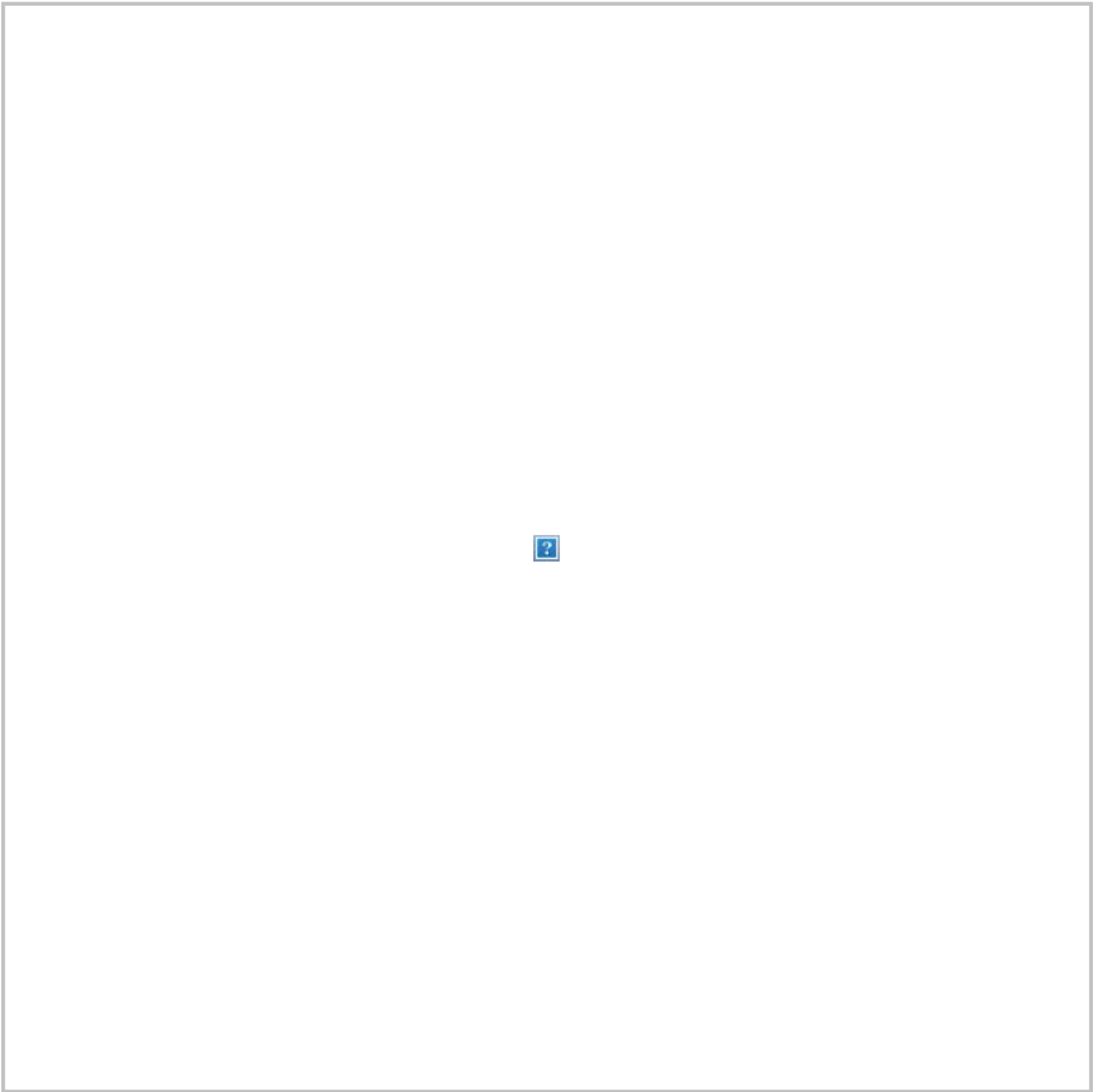




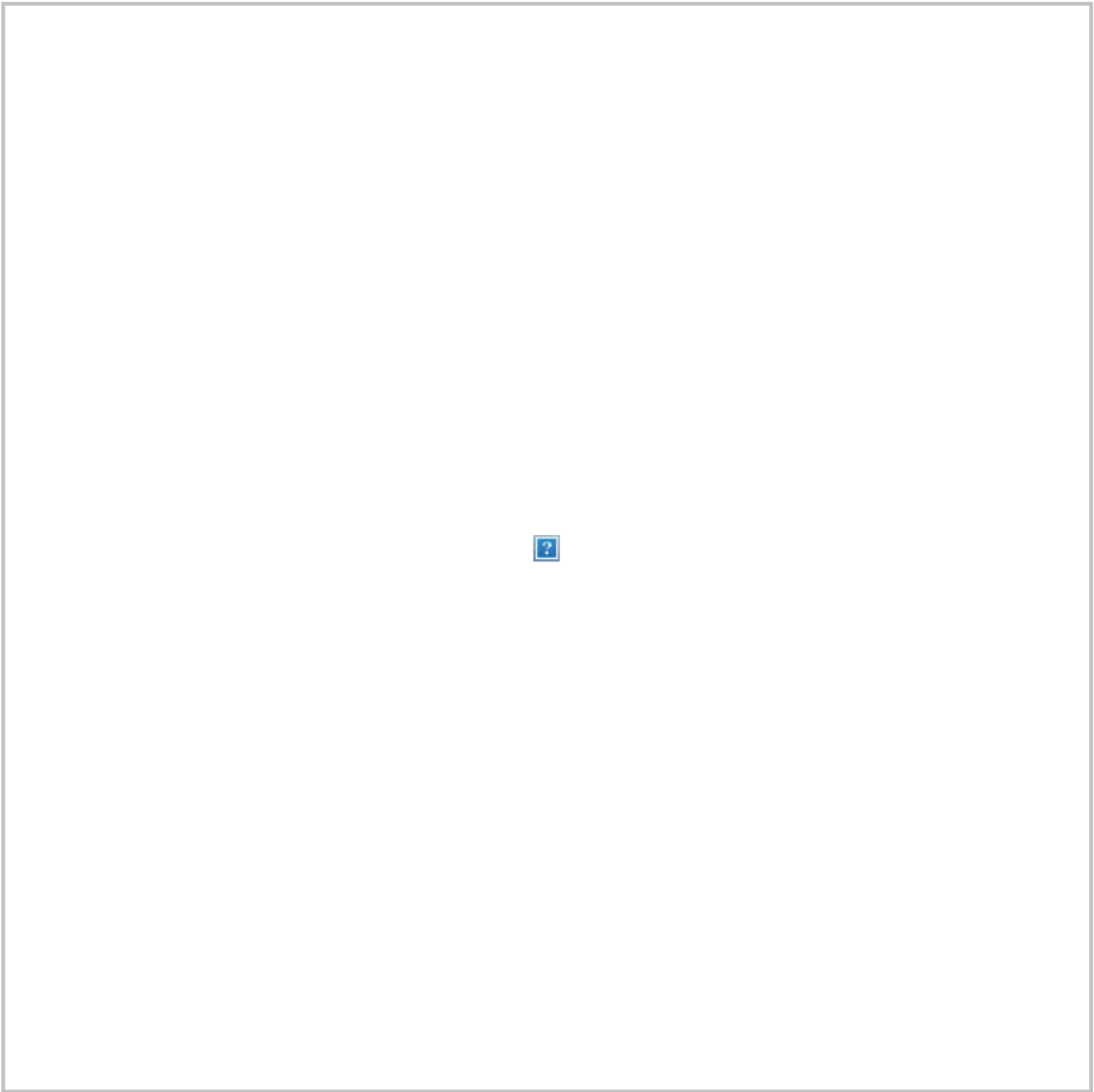
Check out these reactions to Trump's call with Taiwan, starting with the former assistant Secretary of State for East Asia under President George W. Bush:

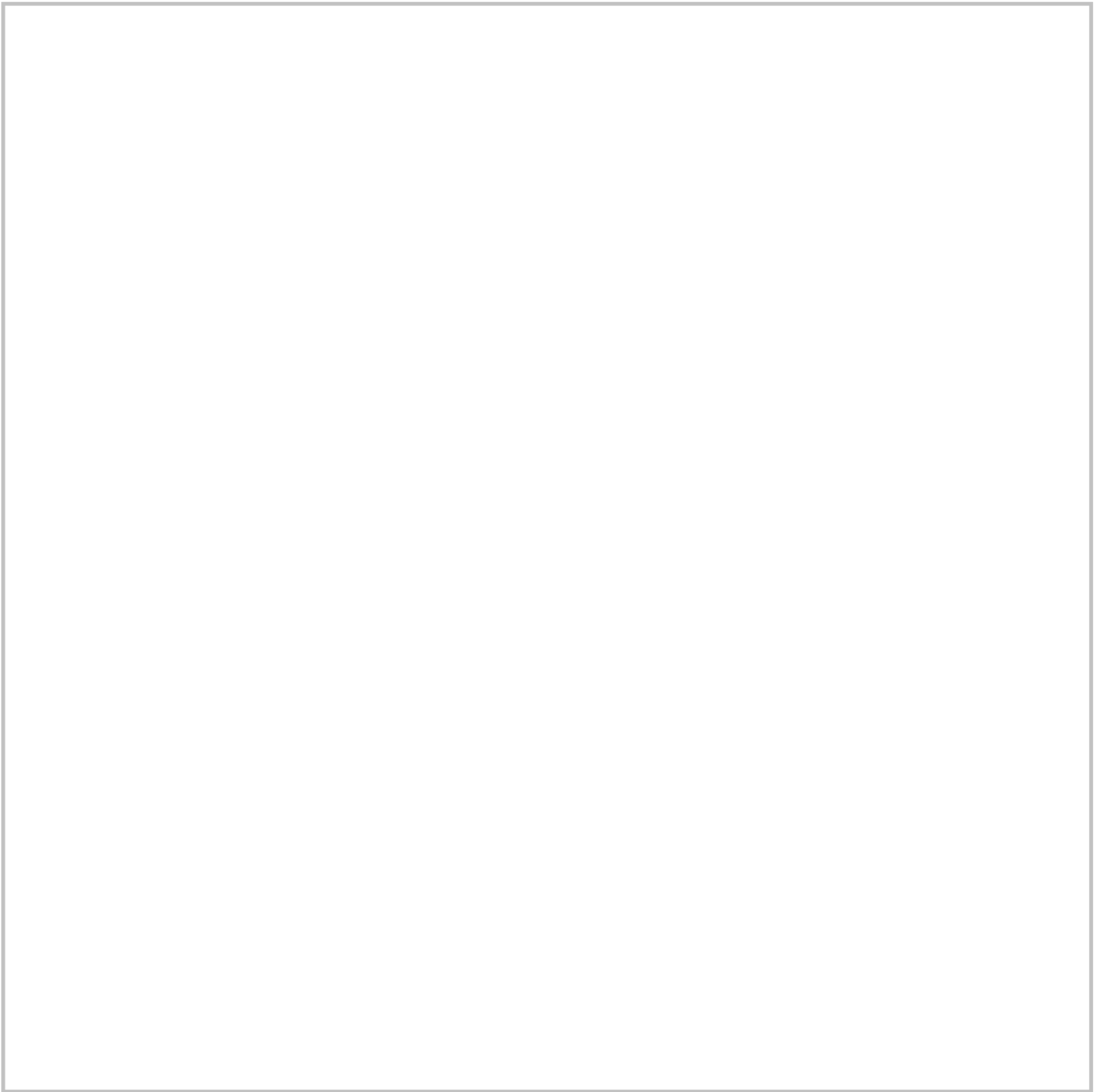


Former U.K. Labour Party leader:

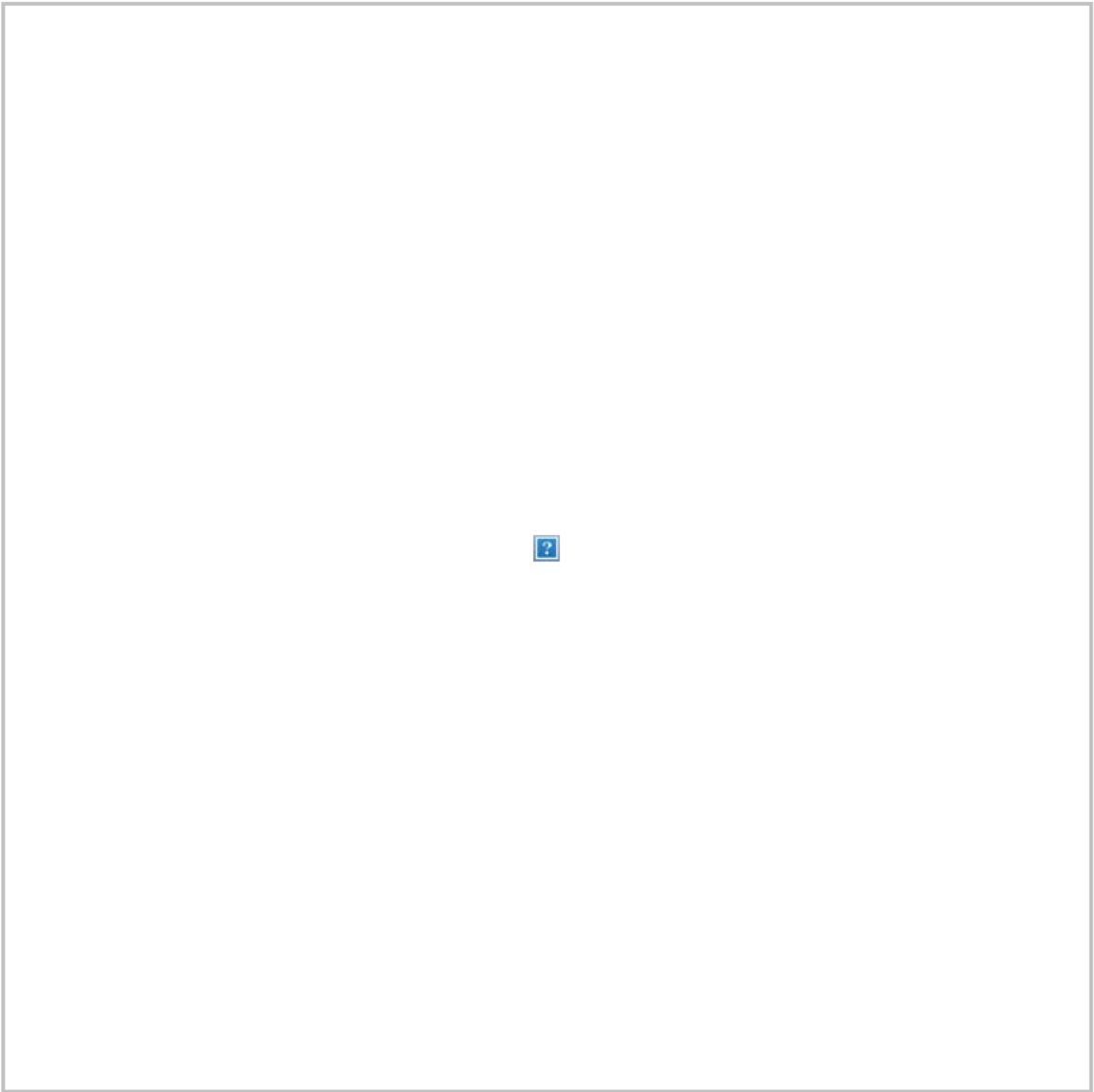


Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.):

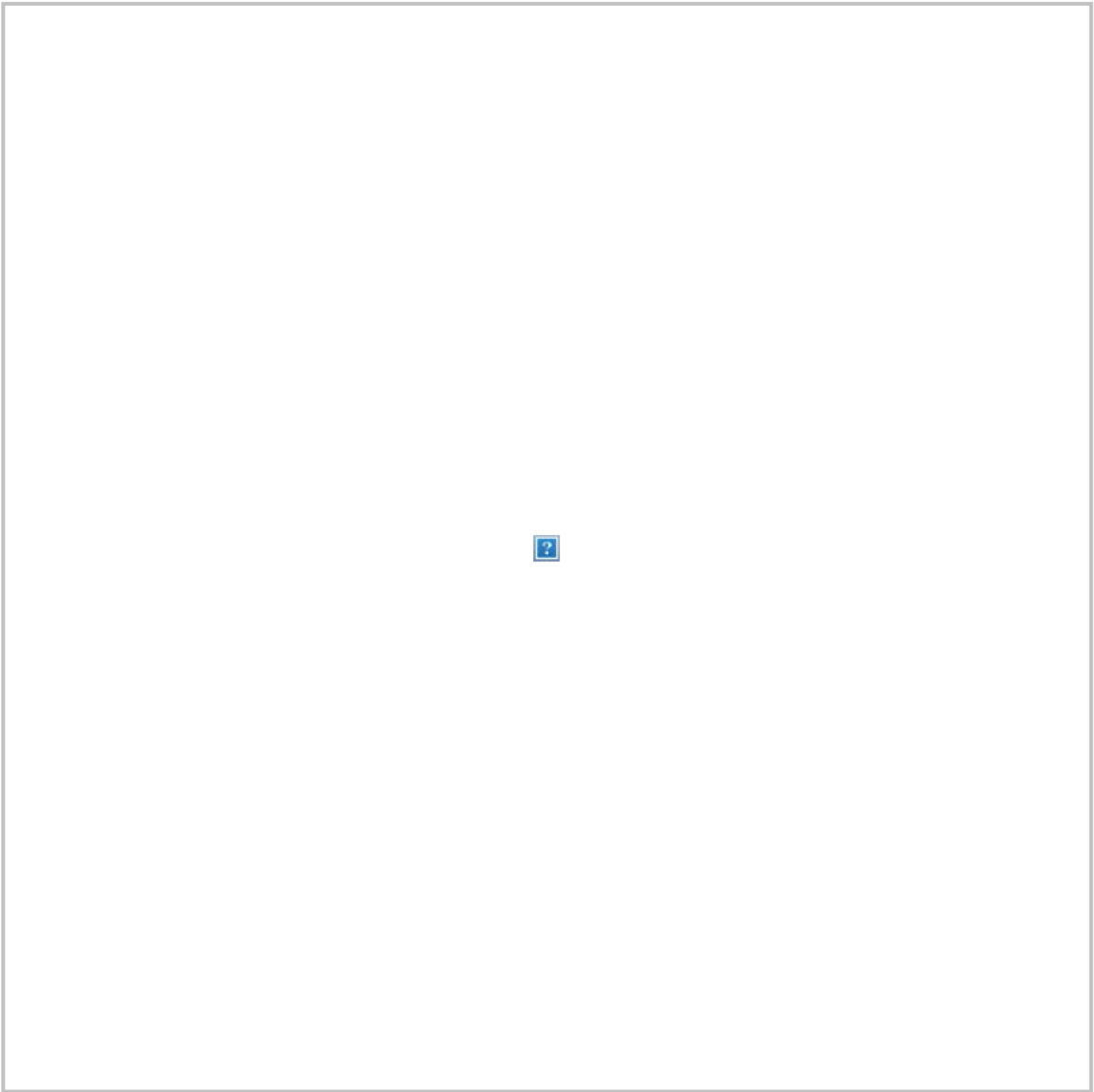




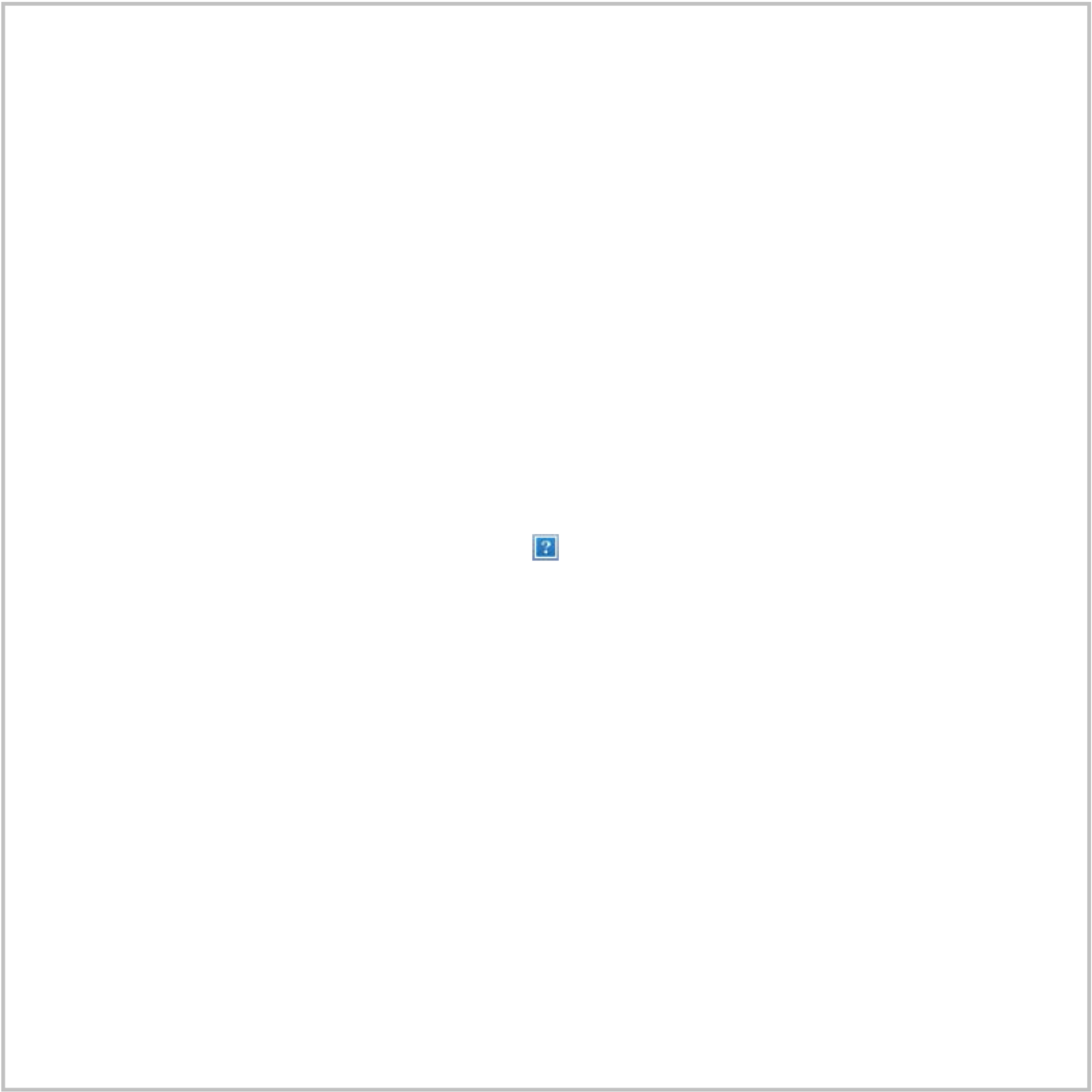
The Beijing bureau chief for the New York Times:

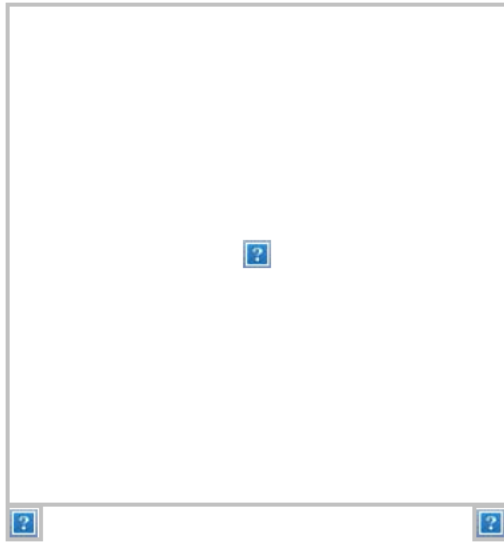
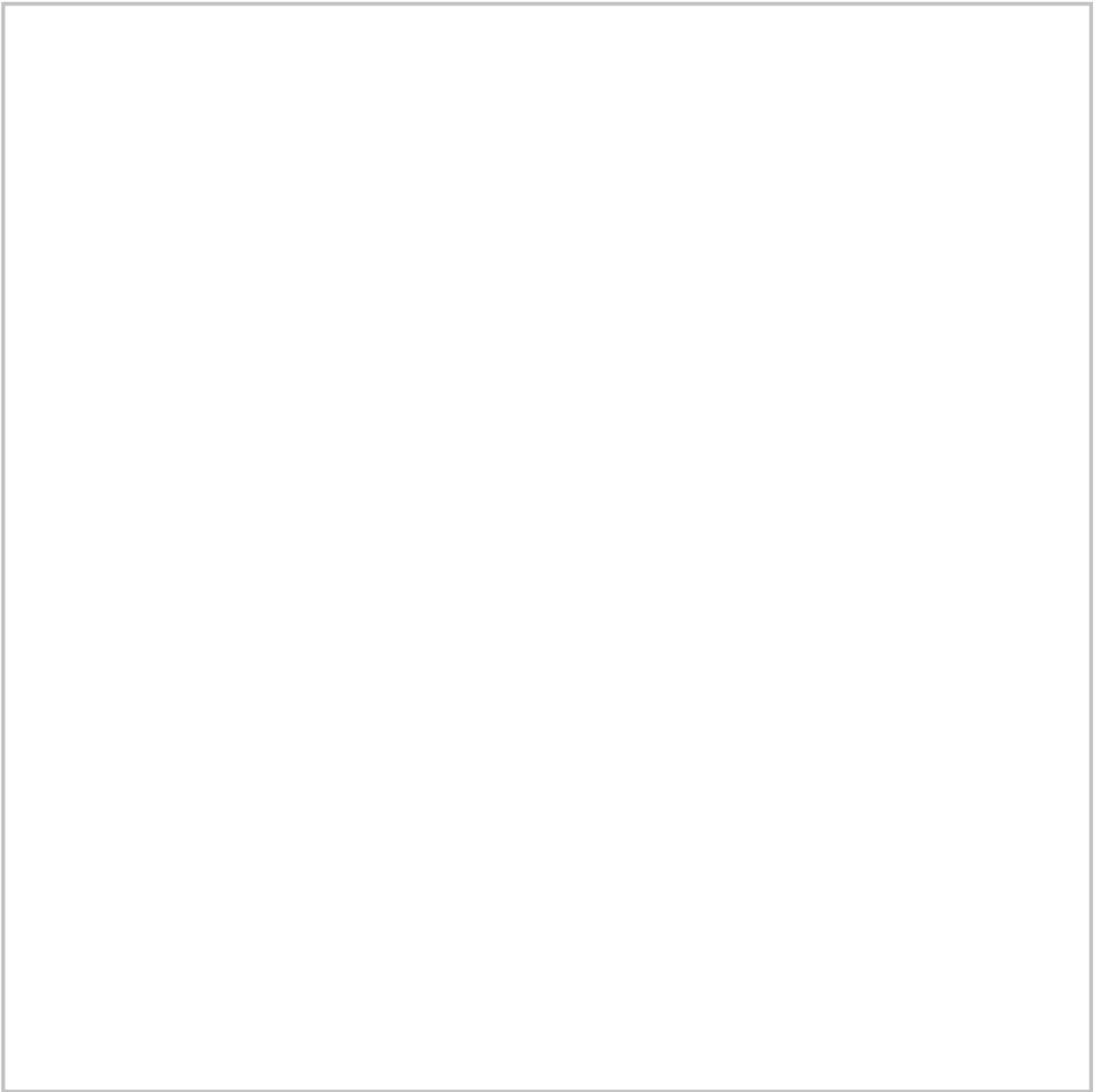


Shen Dingli, a well-respected Chinese academic and professor of international relations:

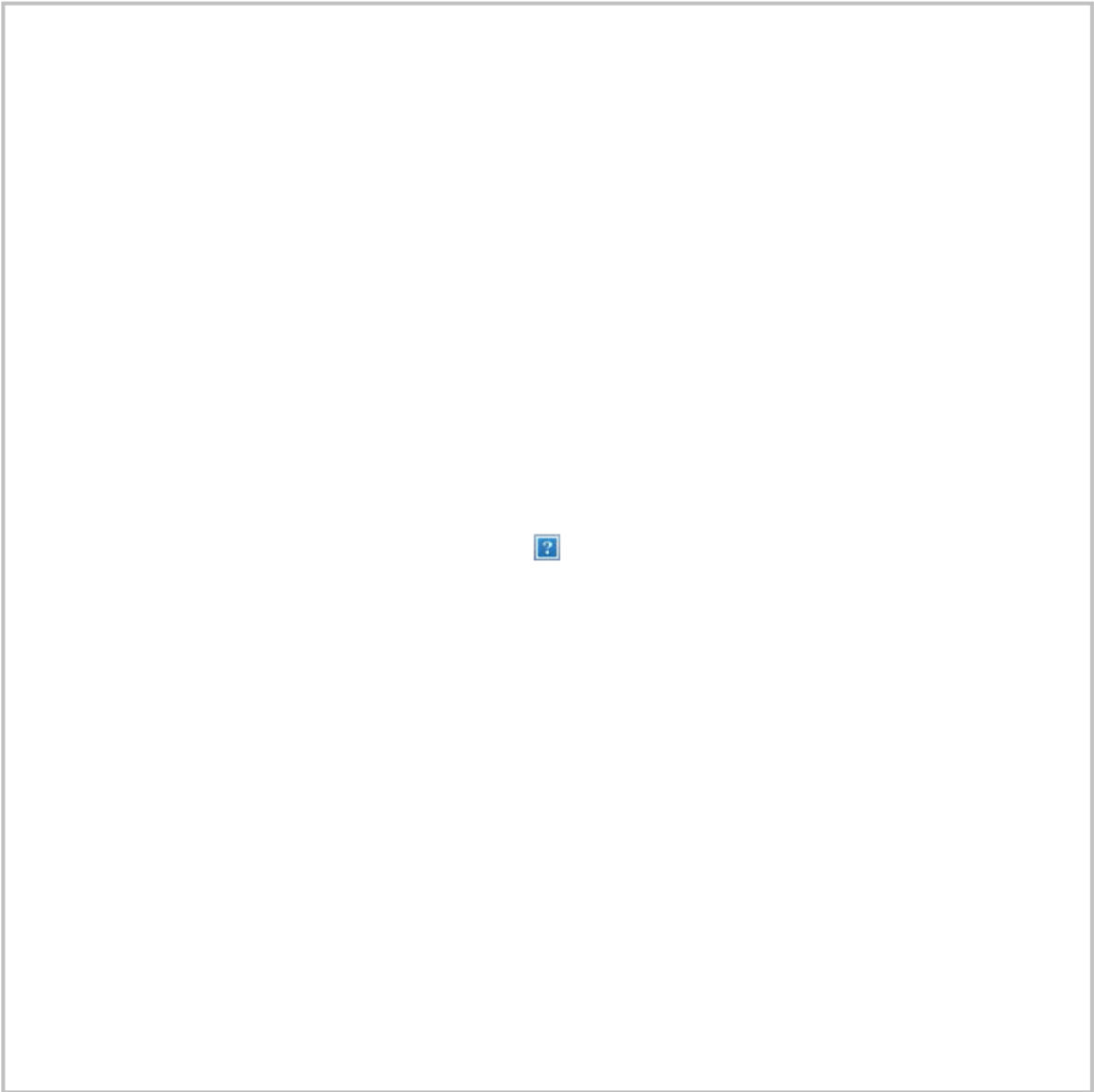


Trump defended the call:

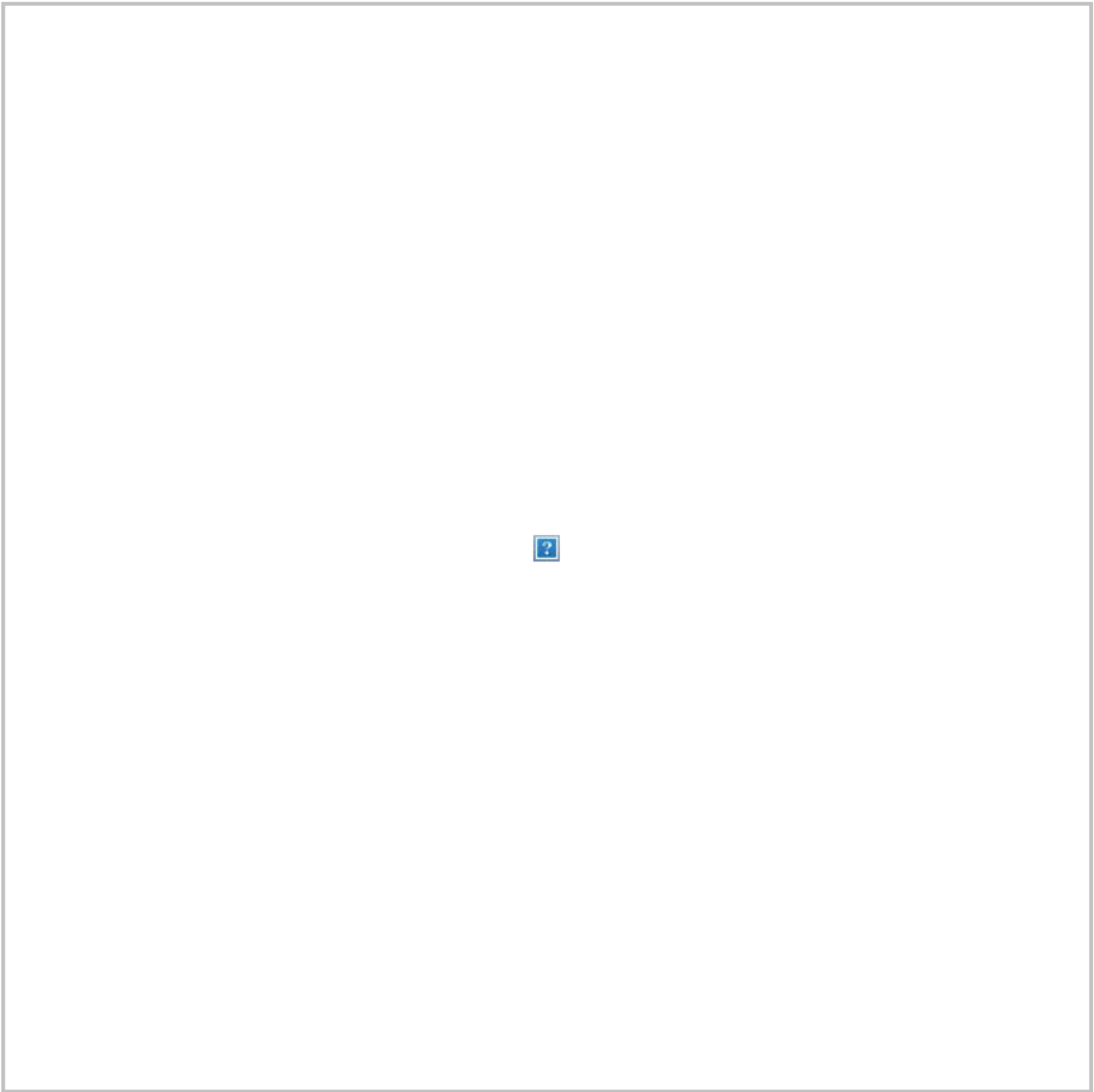




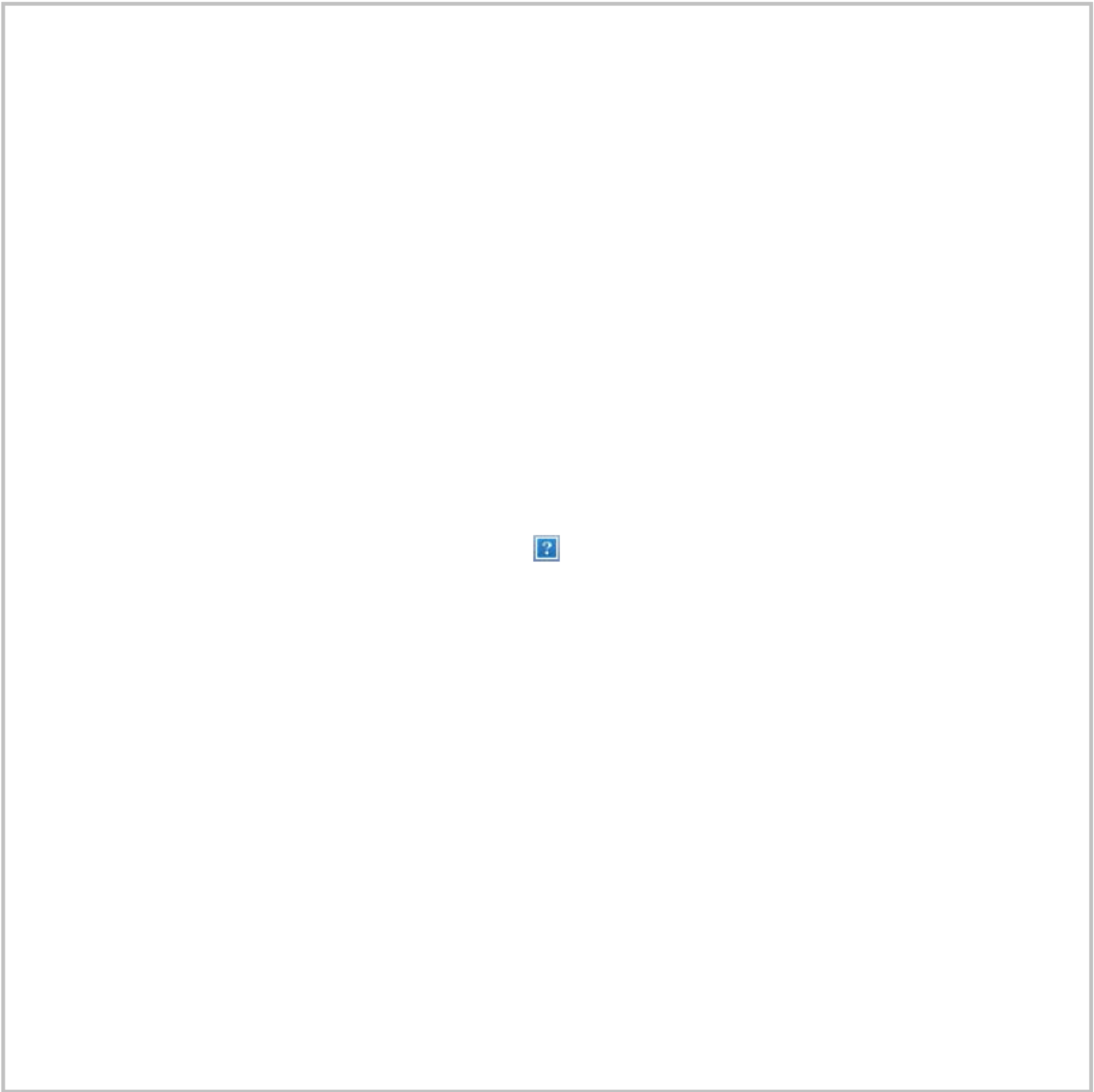
Trump is not fielding every call from a foreign leader. It was Pence who spoke with King Abdullah:



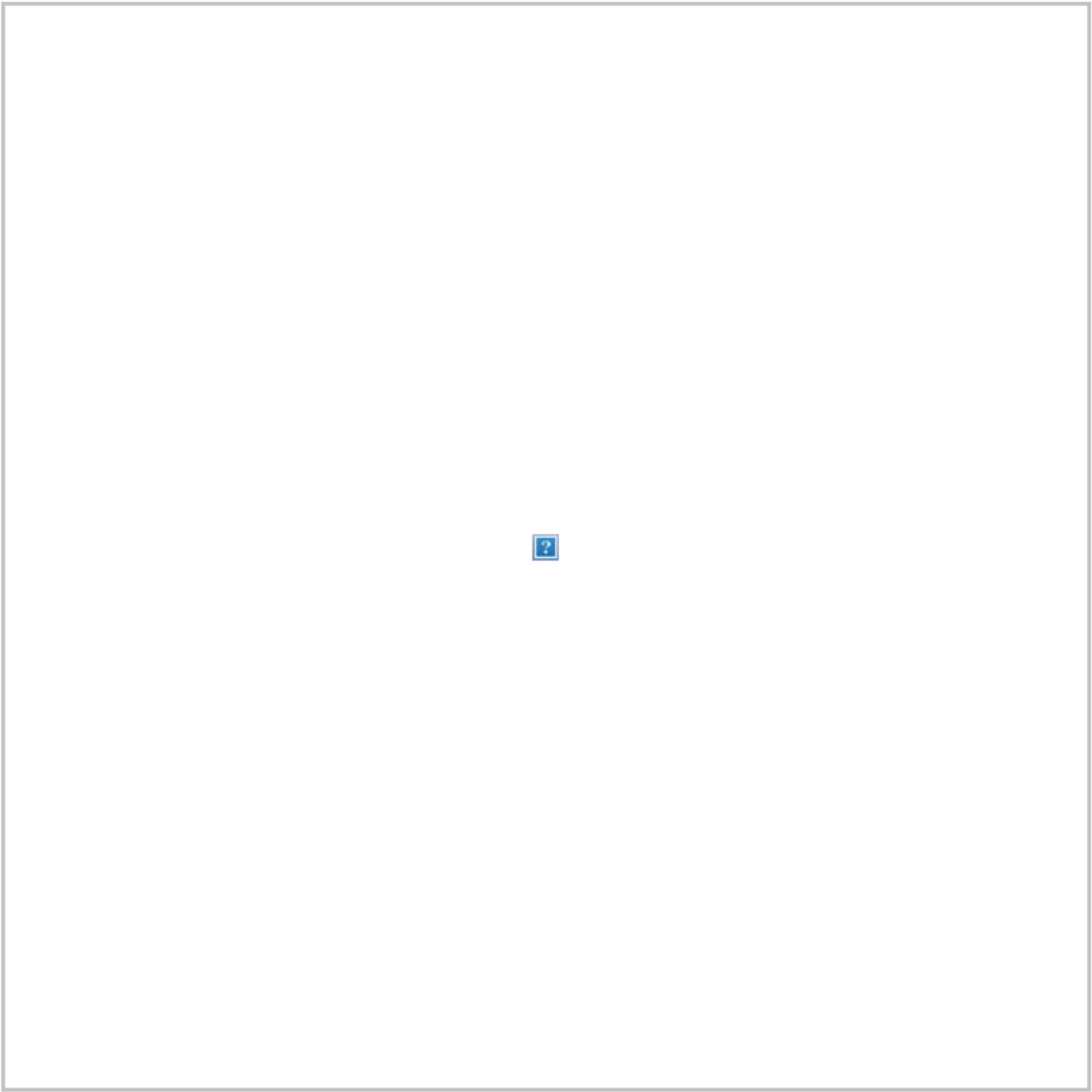
The president-elect also went after Saturday Night Live:



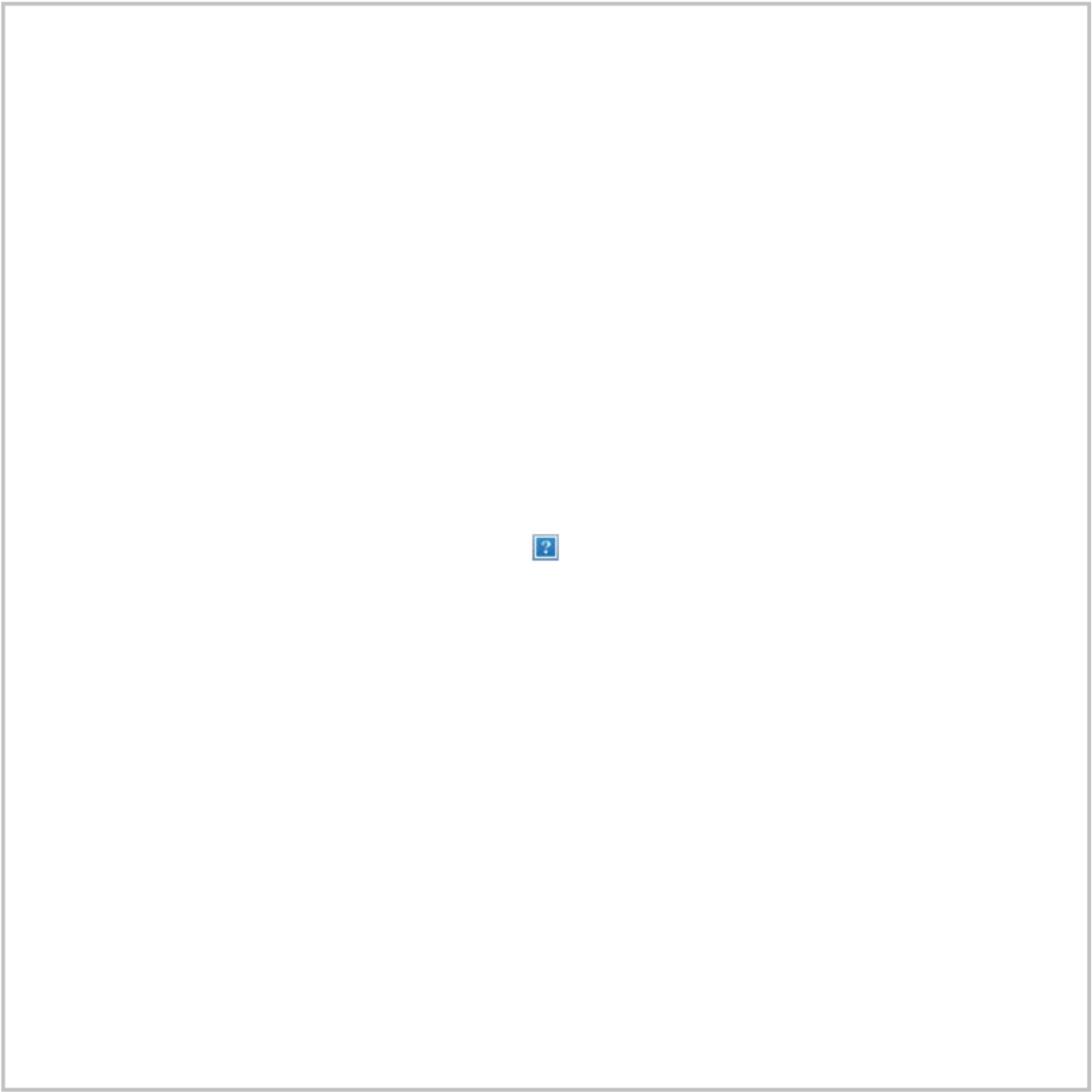
Meanwhile, the Alec Baldwin Foundation tweeted this:

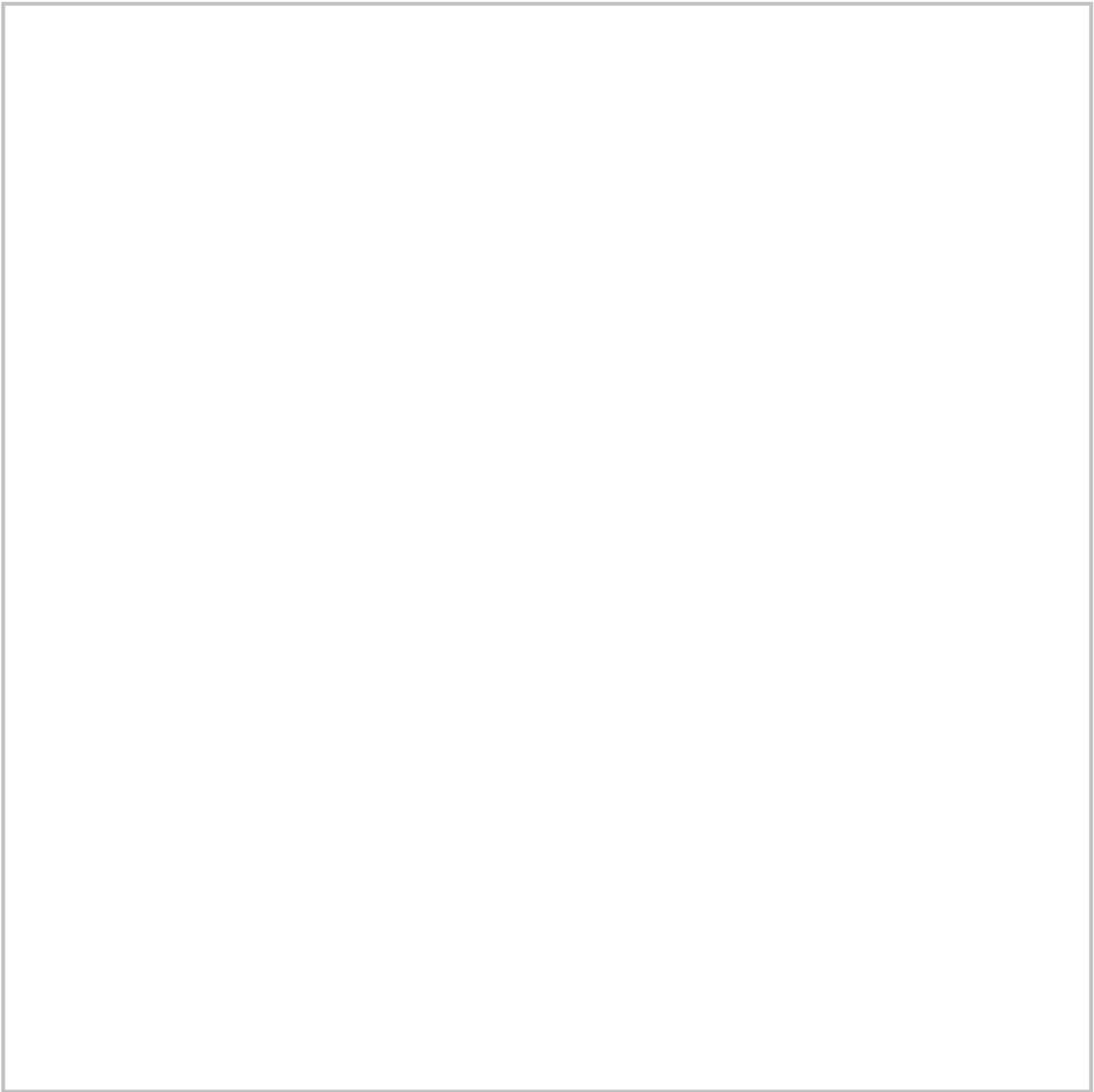


And here's a tweet from Baldwin himself:

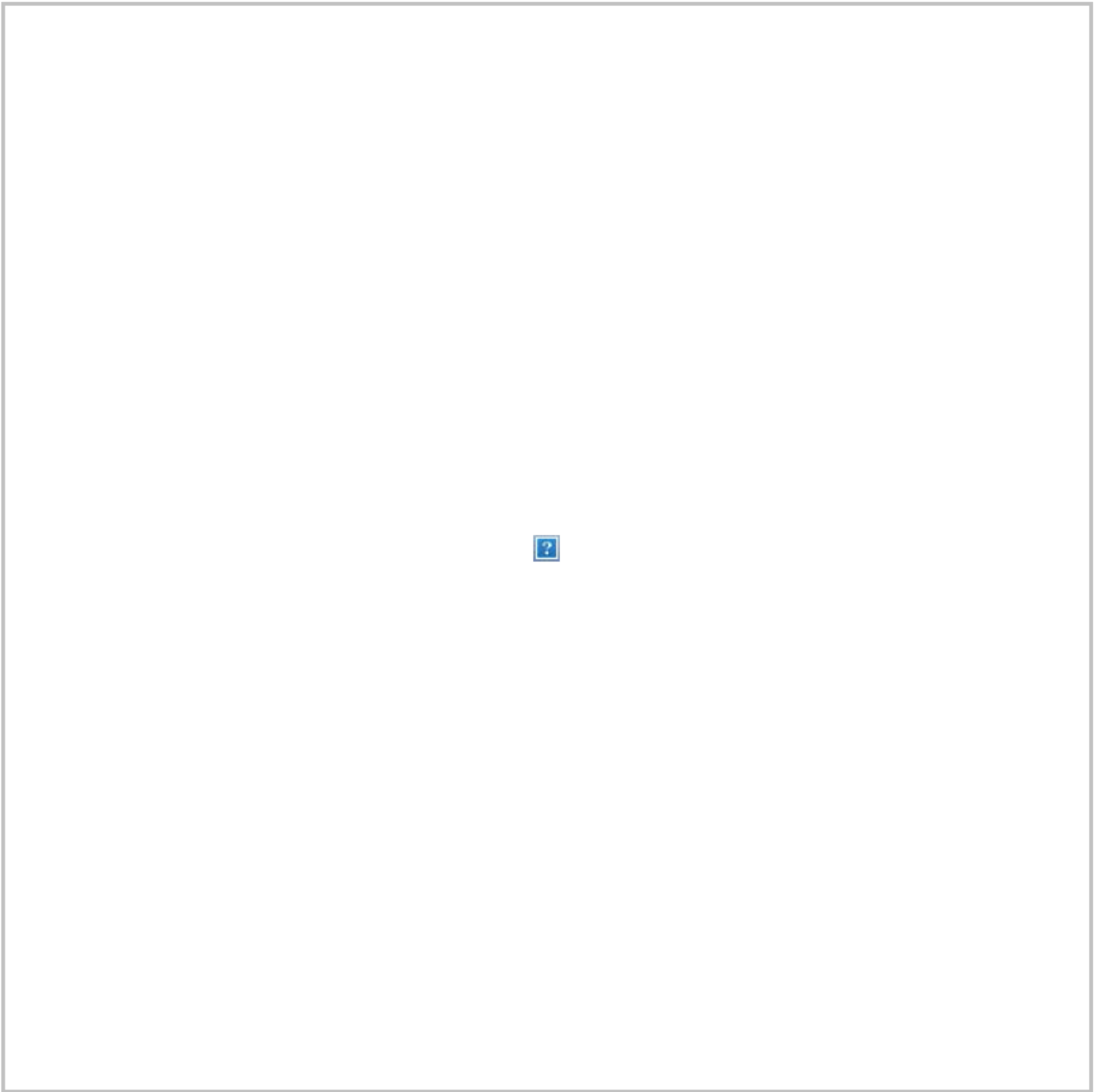


Spotted on the Internet:

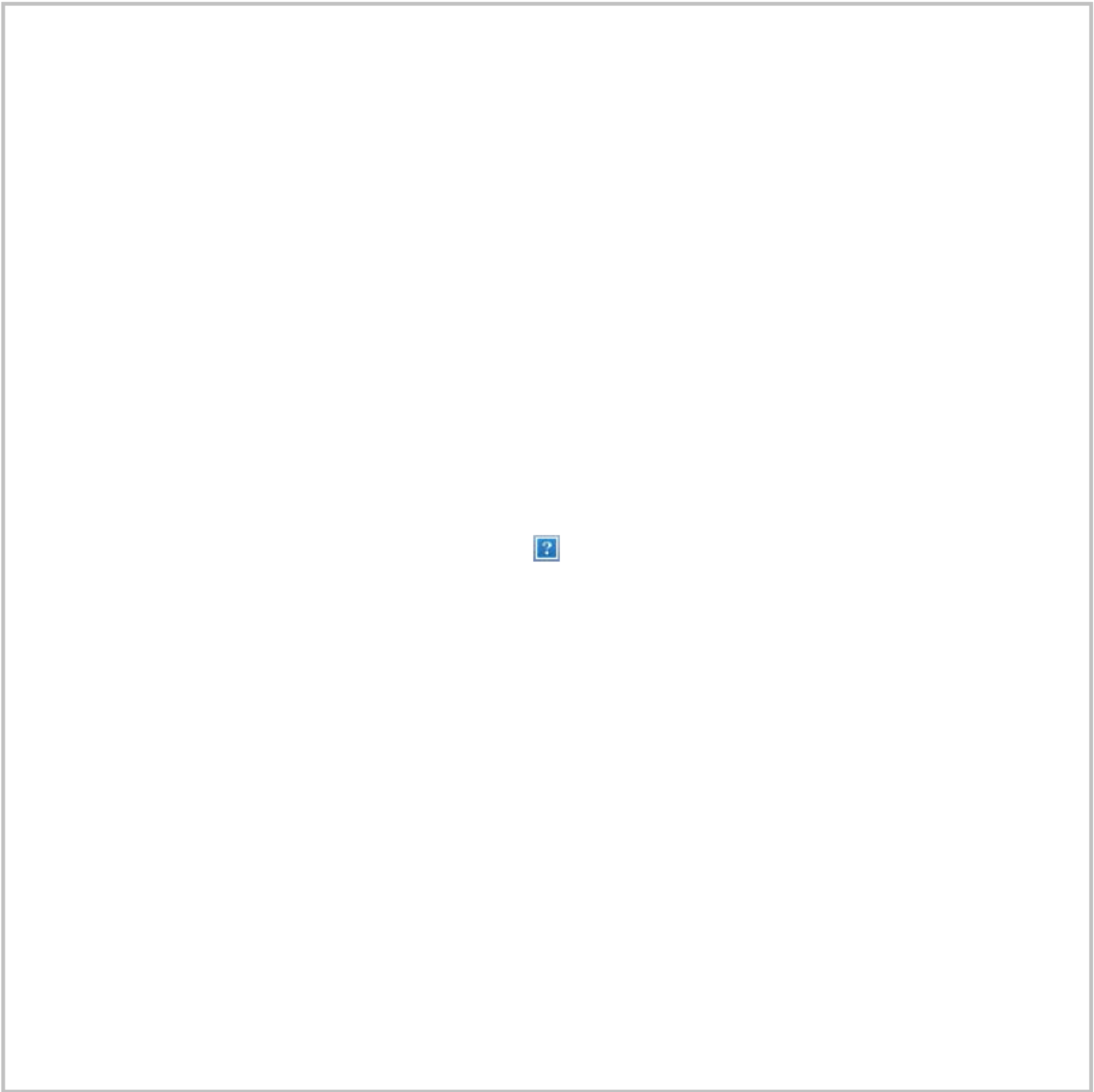




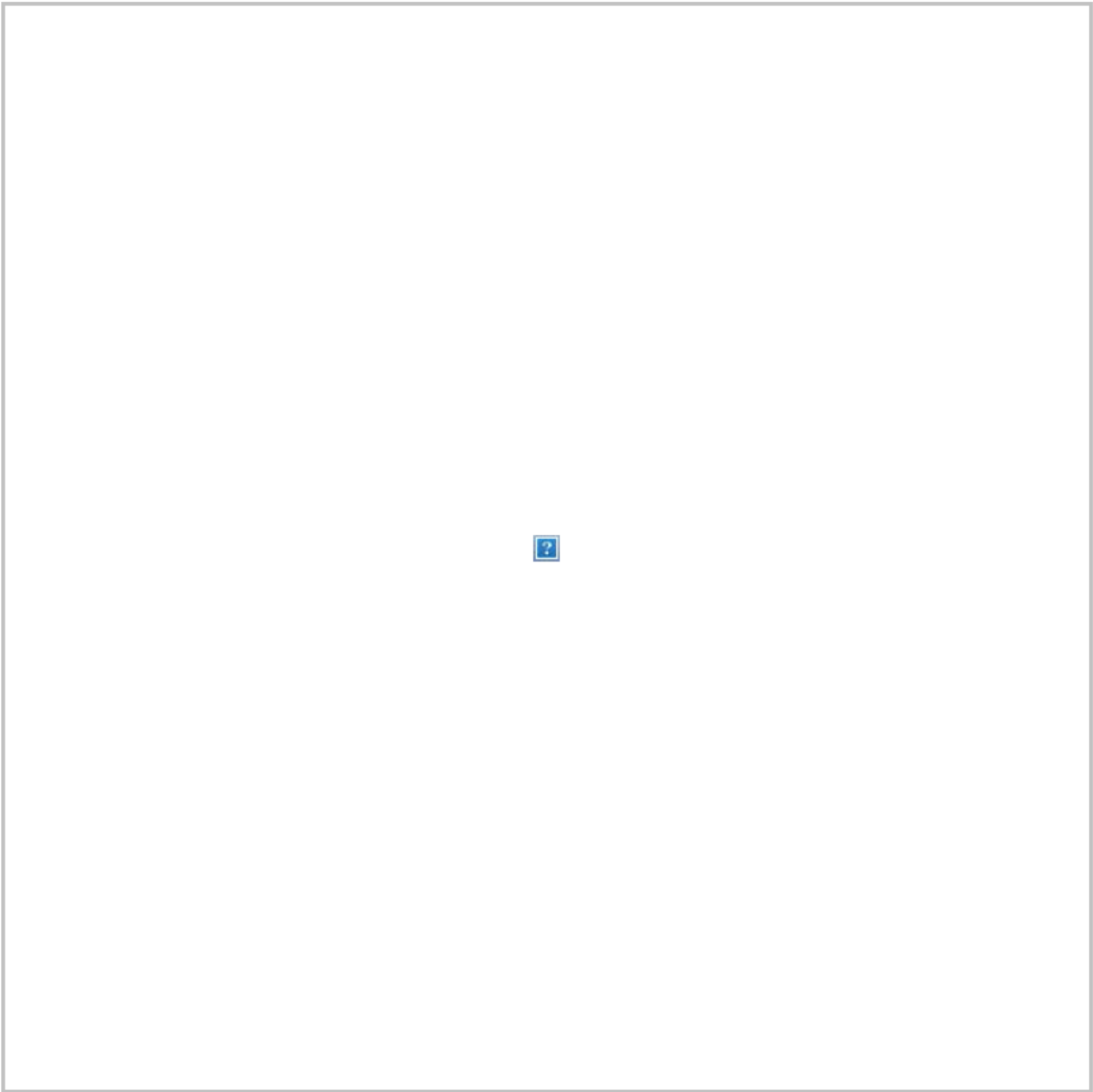
Bobby Scott and Charles Rangel celebrated Founders Day for Alpha Phi Alpha:



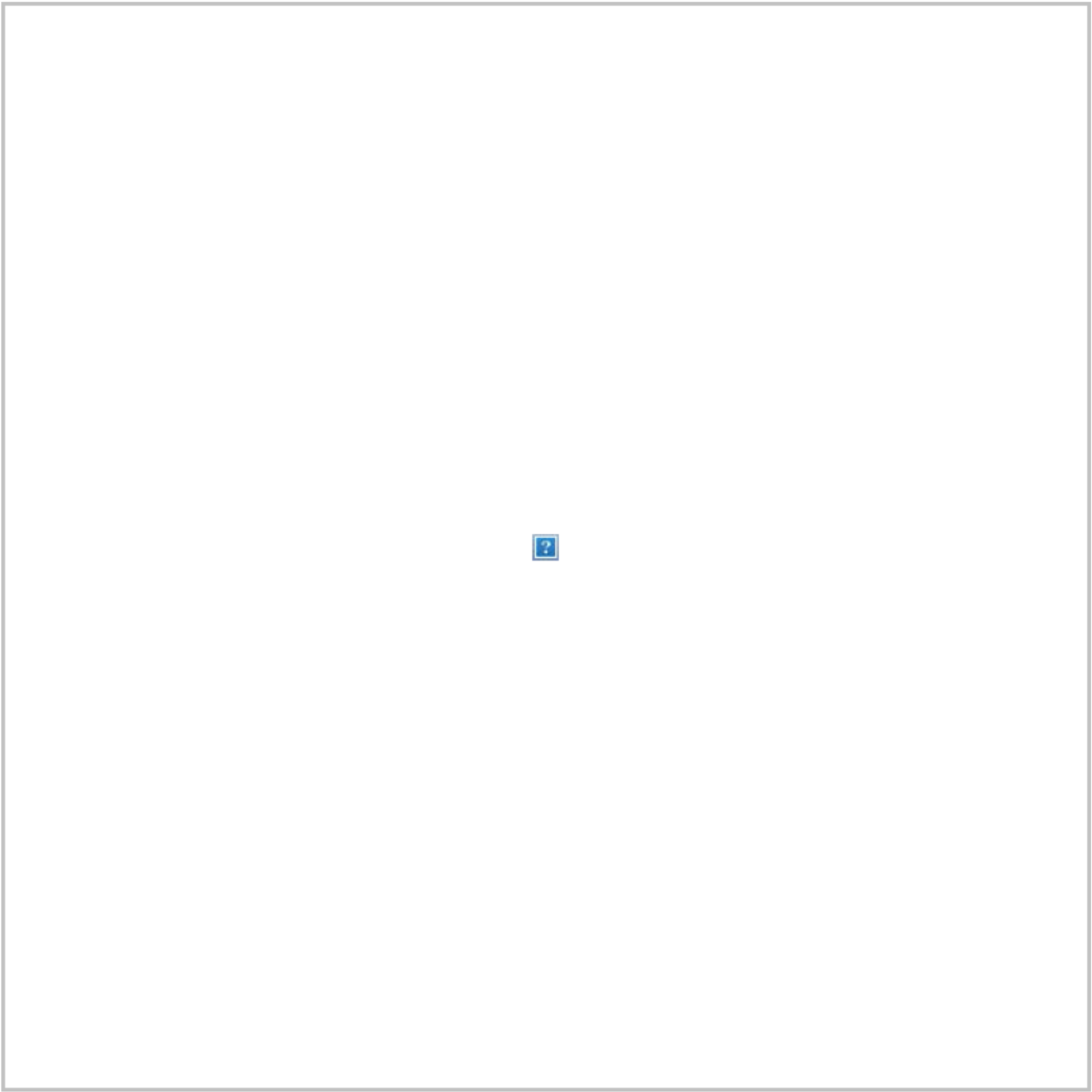
Outgoing House members have left their offices:

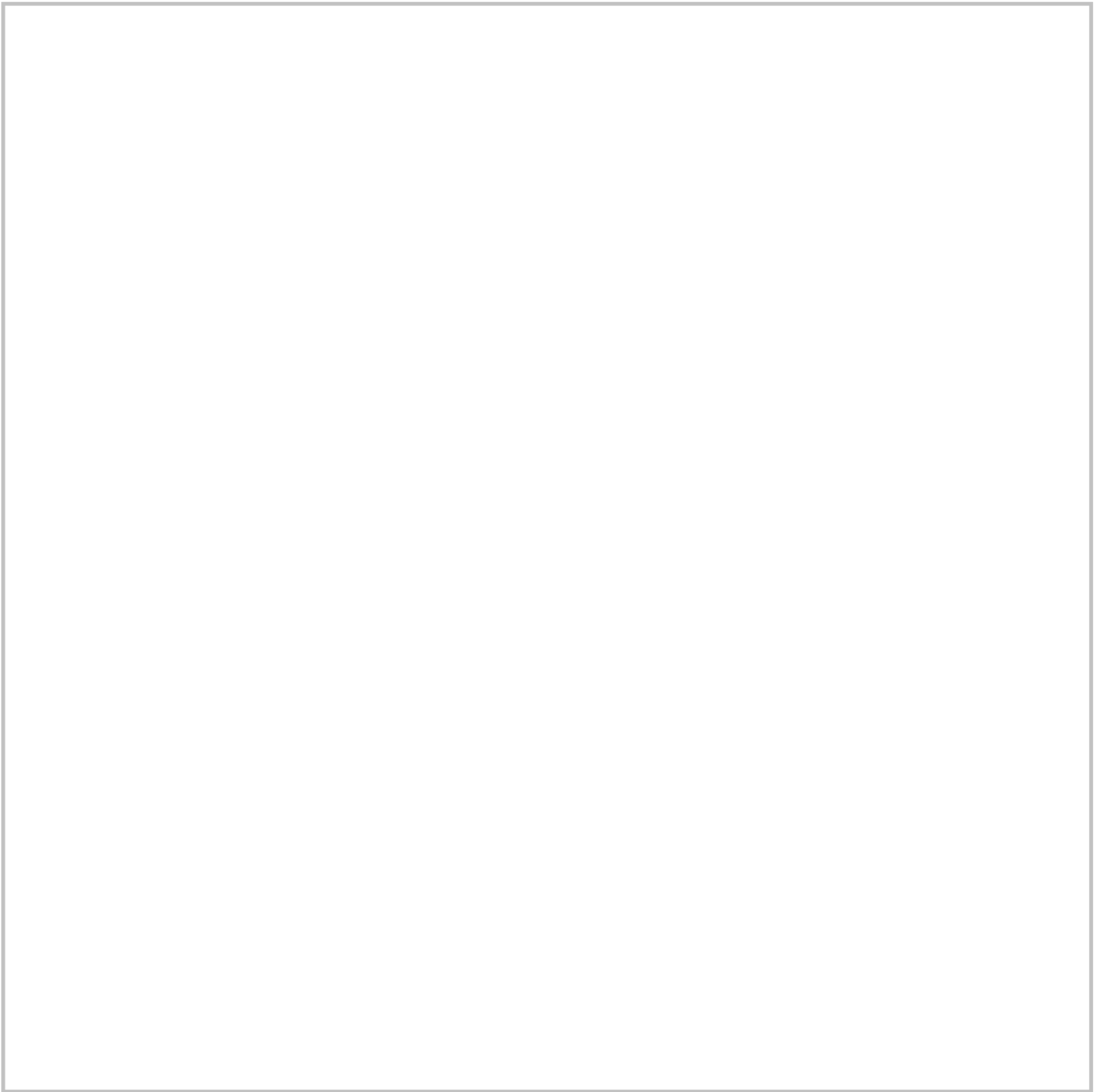


Heidi Heitkamp ran into some tourists from Fargo, N.D. in the lobby of Trump Tower:

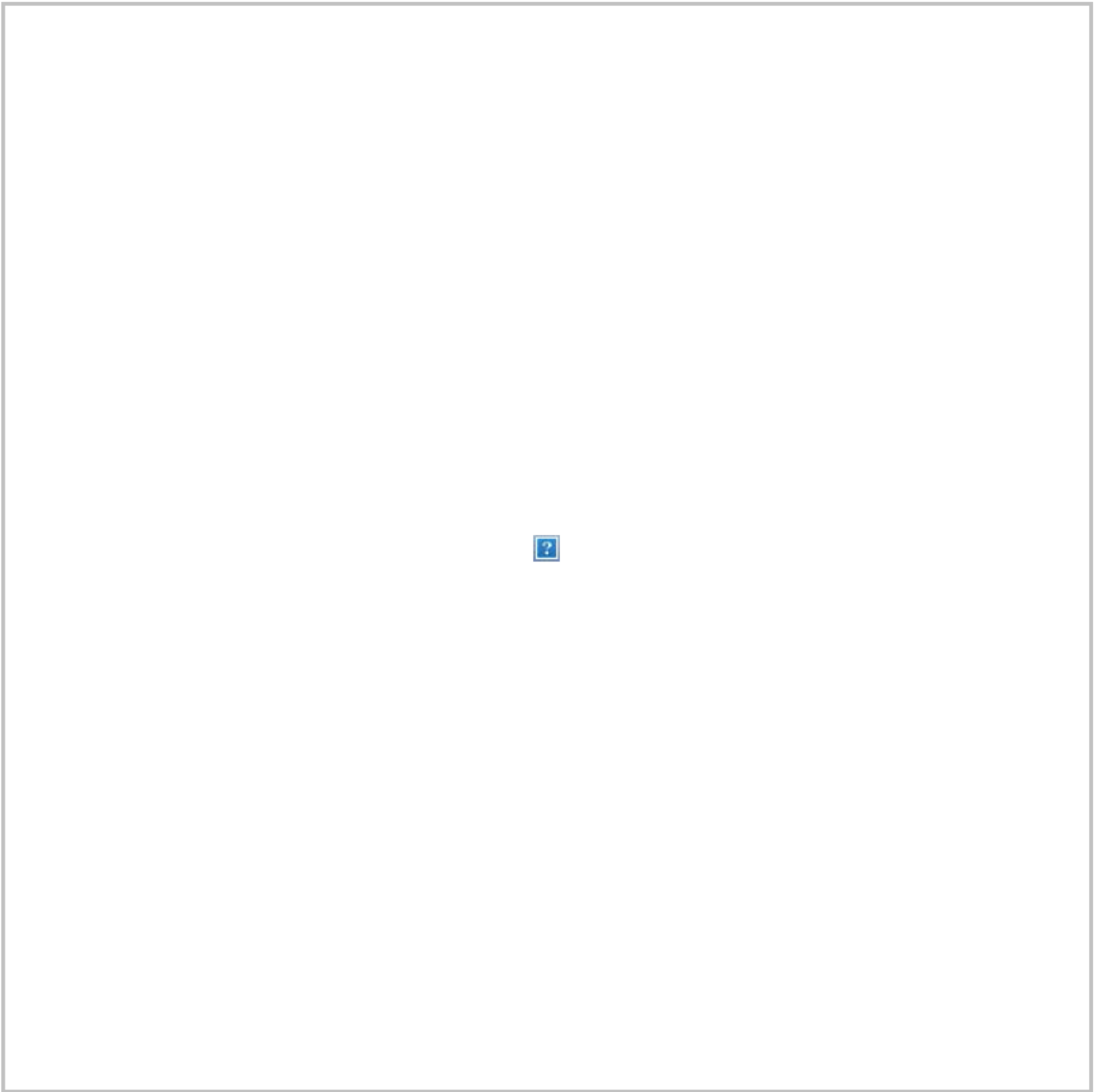


Heitkamp also joked about riding the elevator with the Naked Cowboy (click to watch):

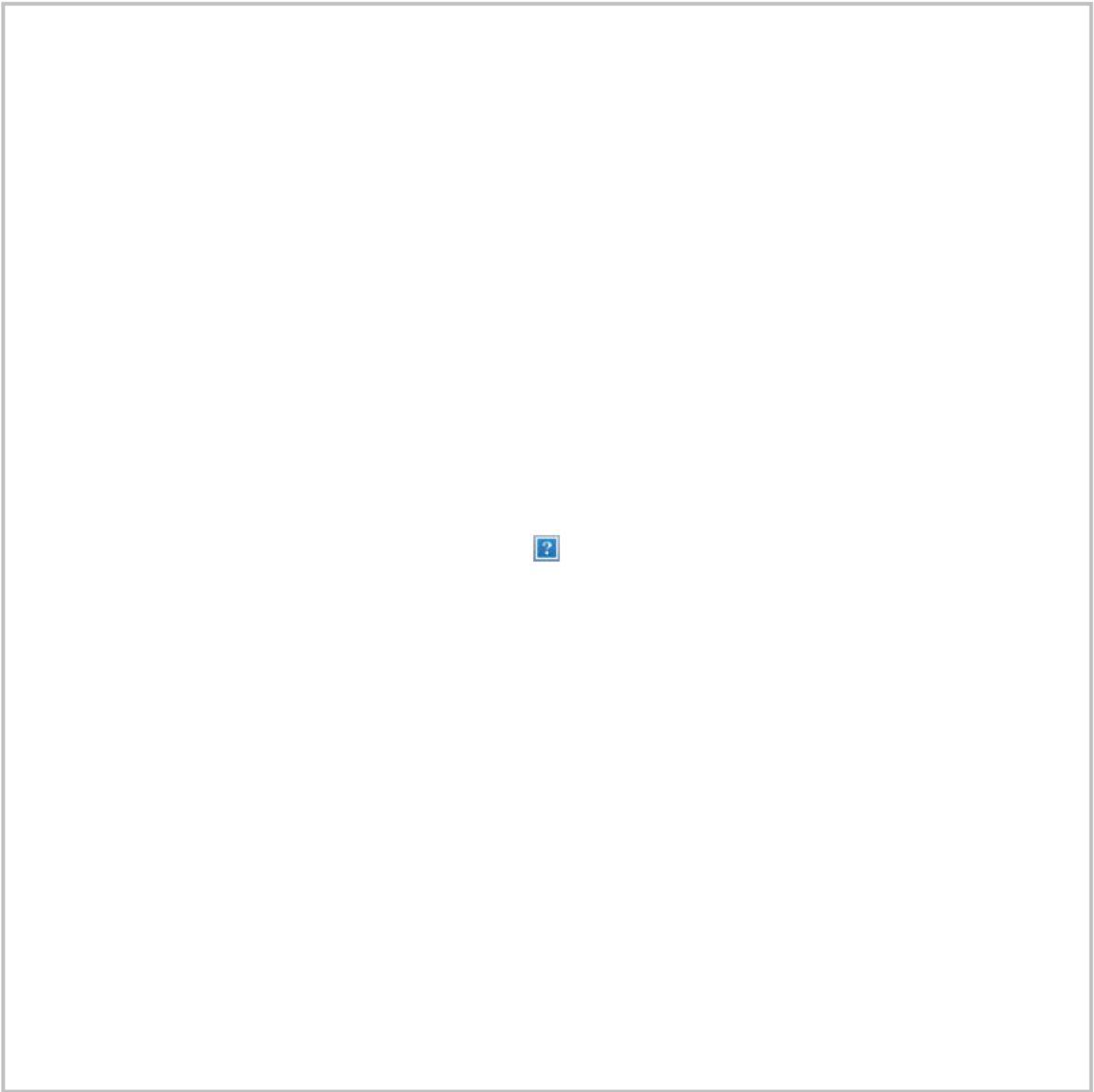




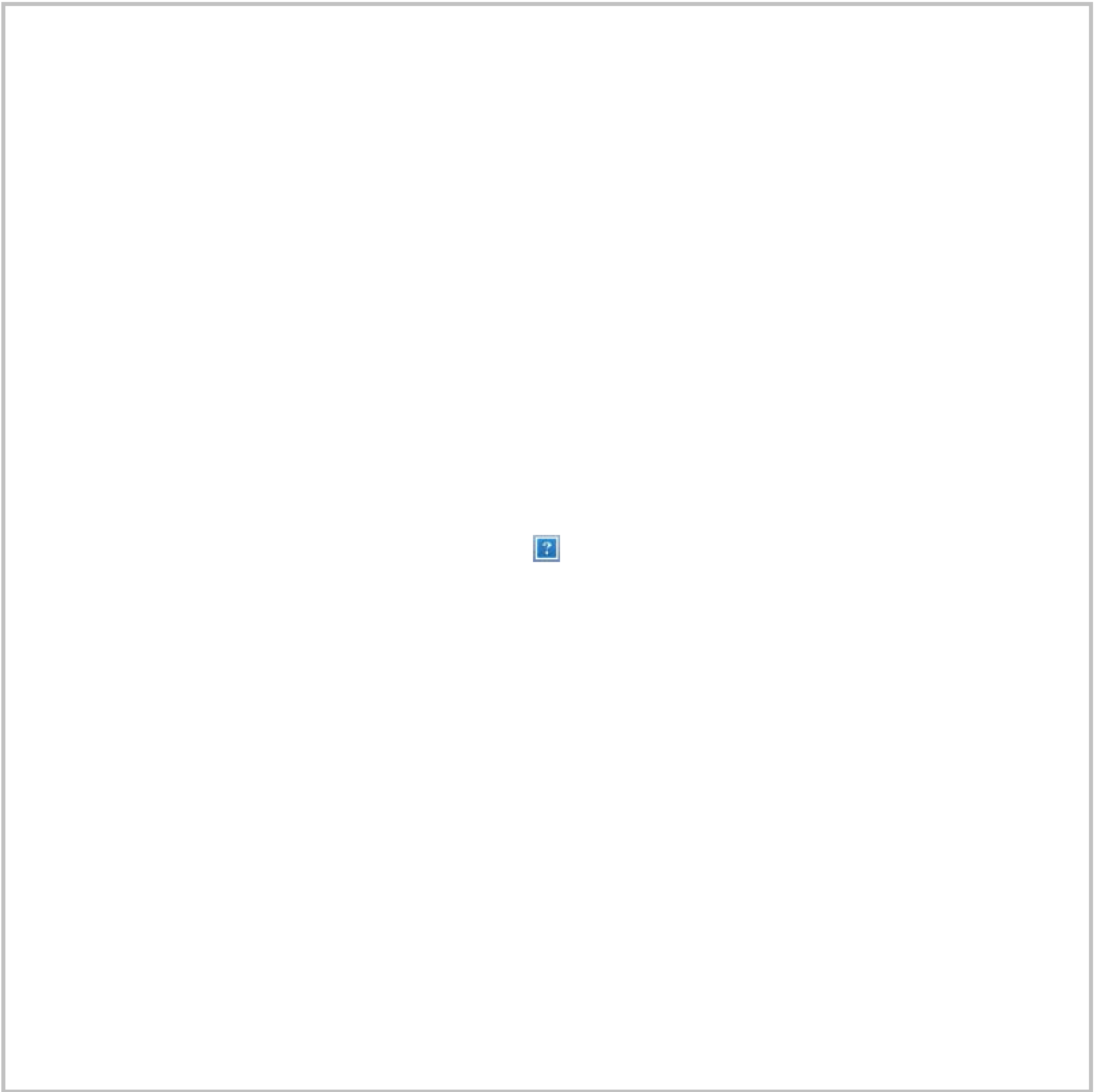
Sheila Jackson Lee did the Mannequin Challenge:



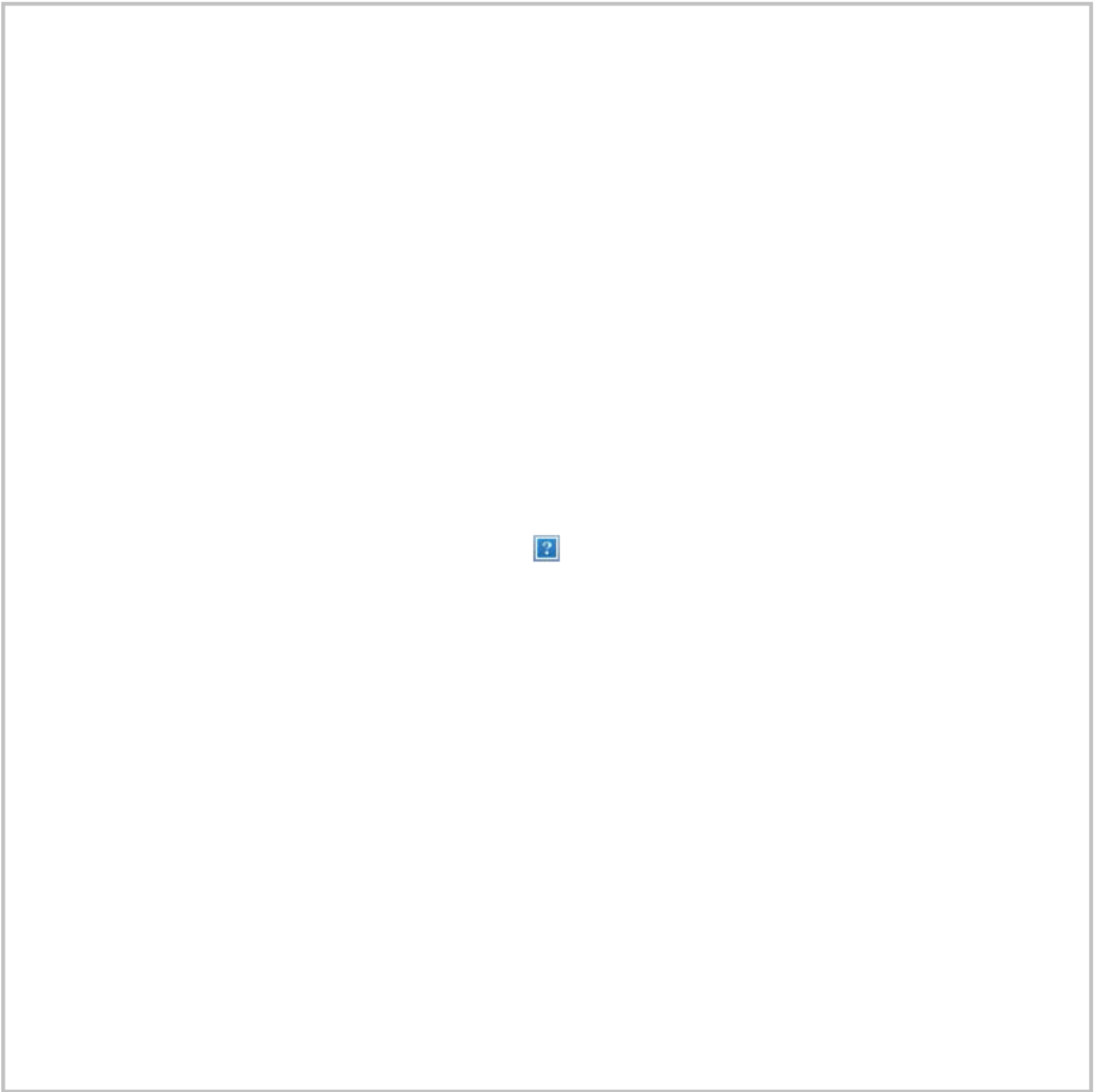
The Chaffetz family bumped into Kevin Spacey in DC:



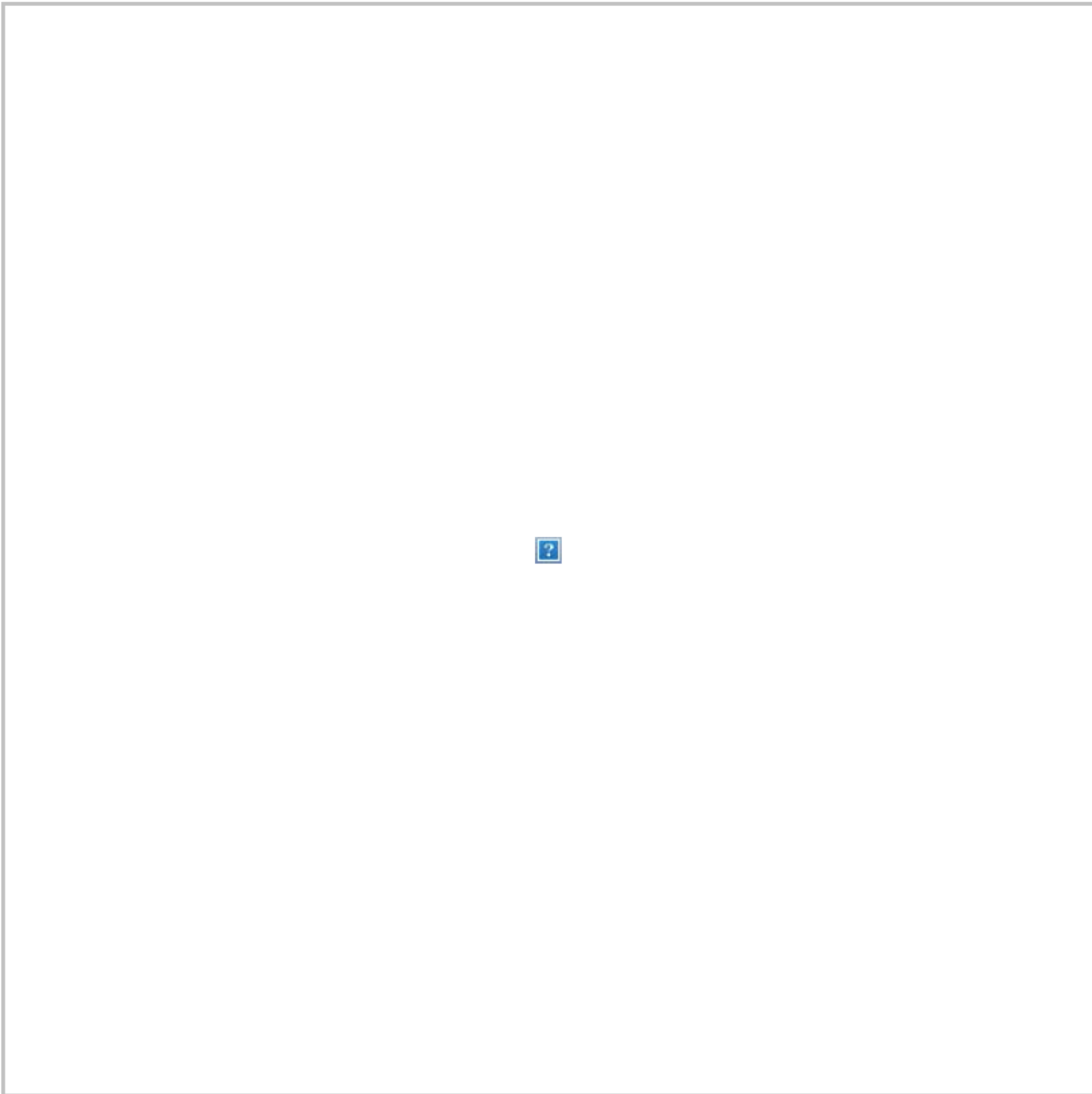
The McCains celebrated four generations:



Finally, let this tidbit sink in:



And check out this story:



DAYBOOK:

In Trump's world: Trump formally announces General James Mattis as his pick for secretary of defense. Trump also meets with former U.S. attorney Deborah Yang, Rep. Mick Mulvaney (R-S.C.) and Catherine Templeton, president of the government relations firm Brawley Templeton.

At the White House: Obama has no public events scheduled. Joe Biden speaks about financial regulation at Georgetown University and then presides over the Senate vote on the 21st Century Cures Act.

On Capitol Hill: The Senate meets at 3 p.m. to work on the 21st Century Cures Act. The House meets at 2 p.m. for legislative business, with six suspension votes until 6:30 p.m. Orrin Hatch sits down with Jeff Sessions.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"I didn't see this one coming," Paul Ryan admitted of Trump's win in a ["60 Minutes" interview that aired last night](#). "If you would've put last year into a movie script and taken it to Hollywood two years ago, they would've laughed you out of the room because it wouldn't have been believable." Despite Ryan's arms' length support of Trump during the campaign, the speaker told Scott Pelley that he and Trump have decided to "let bygones be bygones" and the GOP Congress is ready to help the

new president pass bills. His top priority will be repealing and replacing Obamacare. Ryan said, in January, Congress would use budget reconciliation to set the stage for repealing the healthcare bill while working to replace it. Also at the top of the list are slashing the corporate tax rate (Ryan favors lowering it to 20 percent, Trump wants 15 percent); rebuilding the military and securing the border.

GOOD READ FROM ELSEWHERE:

-- **Yahoo's Katie Couric went to Russia to interview Edward Snowden, who denies that he's a traitor or a spy.** Asked about Trump's tweet that he betrayed the U.S., Snowden replied: "I wonder when it is that he thinks America was great, because if you remember what we did to traitors in 1776 and afterwards, we made them president. We're a country that was born from an act of treason against a government that had run out of control. Now, this is not to say that breaking the rules is something that should happen all the time. But we should always make a distinction that right and wrong is a very different standard than legal and illegal. The law is no substitute for morality here or then... I would not have done it if I didn't believe it was right. I definitely would say-- it's pretty sketchy there. But look, every act of progression in our nation's history has involved tension with law. Whether it was the abolition of slavery, whether it was the enfranchisement of women whether it was the birth of our nation, laws were broken. And that's because the laws were wrong." ([Watch Katie's full interview here.](#))

NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:

-- **Today is one of the milder and more tranquil days in a week that brings bouts of precipitation and then a blast of Arctic air, [the Capital Weather Gang forecasts.](#)** Sleet and rain are likely Tuesday and then another round of showers is possible Thursday. The coldest air of the season spills into the region Friday through Sunday when highs are likely only in the 30s. **Today:** After the overnight rain, clouds decrease this morning with sunshine becoming dominant by afternoon. Temperatures rebound, with highs climbing above 50 degrees.

Redskins lost to the Arizona Cardinals, 31-23

-- **The Redskins lost 31-23 to the Arizona Cardinals.** ([Recap by Master Tesfatsion](#))

For the second week in a row, the defense really was to blame. ([Mike Jones column](#))

But Jay Gruden lost it on the whole team after the loss. [From Jerry Brewer's column](#): "Standing outside the locker room, you could hear the coach berating his team, his words thundering through cinder block walls, almost strong enough for snooping ears to translate into sentences. He didn't have to justify his anger. He was responding to the most deflating moment of a convulsive season, three hours of slovenly poor football in a game that began and ended with infuriating displays of incompetence. If Gruden possessed a hammer, he had to use it. He pounded that thing for a good two minutes. ... With four weeks remaining and Washington now trailing Tampa Bay by a half game for the final playoff spot in the NFC, Sunday's loss at University of Phoenix Stadium — and Gruden's enraged demand for better — will go down as the defining moment of the season."

-- **Maryland fracking opponents are pushing hard for a state law to prohibit the controversial gas-extraction method, but lawmakers seem more likely to extend the existing moratorium on the practice during the upcoming legislative session.** ([Josh Hicks](#))

-- **A former athletic trainer at Archbishop Carroll High School has been arrested and charged with**

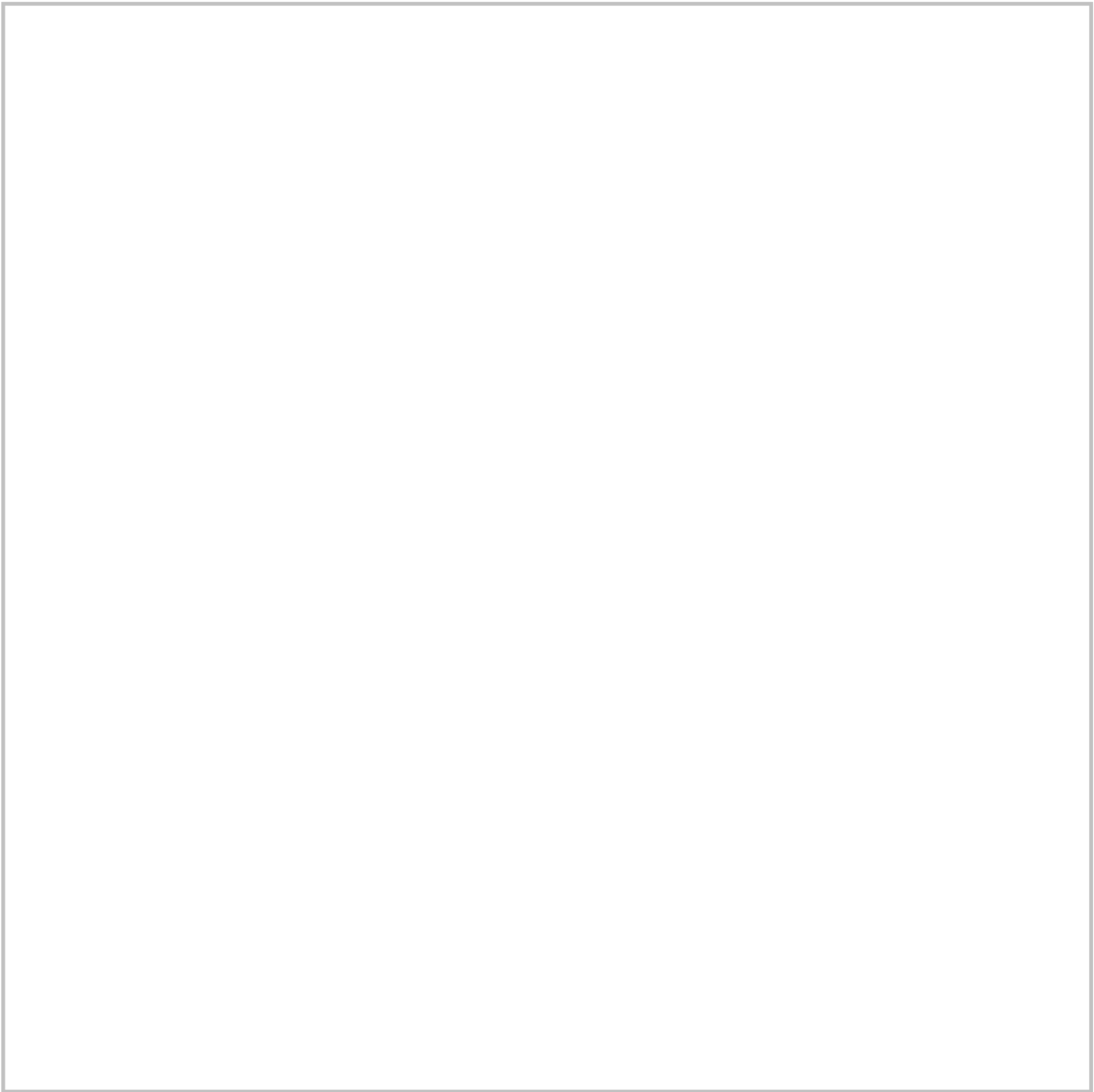
sexually abusing a female student at the Catholic school in Northeast Washington, according to D.C. police and the archdiocese. Jimmy Augustin, 33, is charged with a single misdemeanor count of sexual abuse of a minor. The Archdiocese of Washington said in a statement that Augustin has been fired. ([Peter Hermann](#))

-- **Be careful on the roads: Three men impersonating police officers pepper-sprayed and punched a pregnant woman before robbing her.** A woman was driving through Worcester County, Md., near Whiton and Snow Hill roads about 6 p.m. Thursday when a black Chevrolet SUV flashed red and blue lights at her. Thinking she was being stopped by the police, the woman pulled over. 'She said the first suspect approached the driver side of the car and sprayed pepper spray into the vehicle before spraying it onto a towel that he held over her face,' state police said in a statement. The pregnant woman got out of the car and then was punched in the stomach by the man who pepper-sprayed her, police said. A second person wearing a gold badge on a chain around his neck was armed with a small black gun and stole the woman's purse." ([Lynh Bui](#))

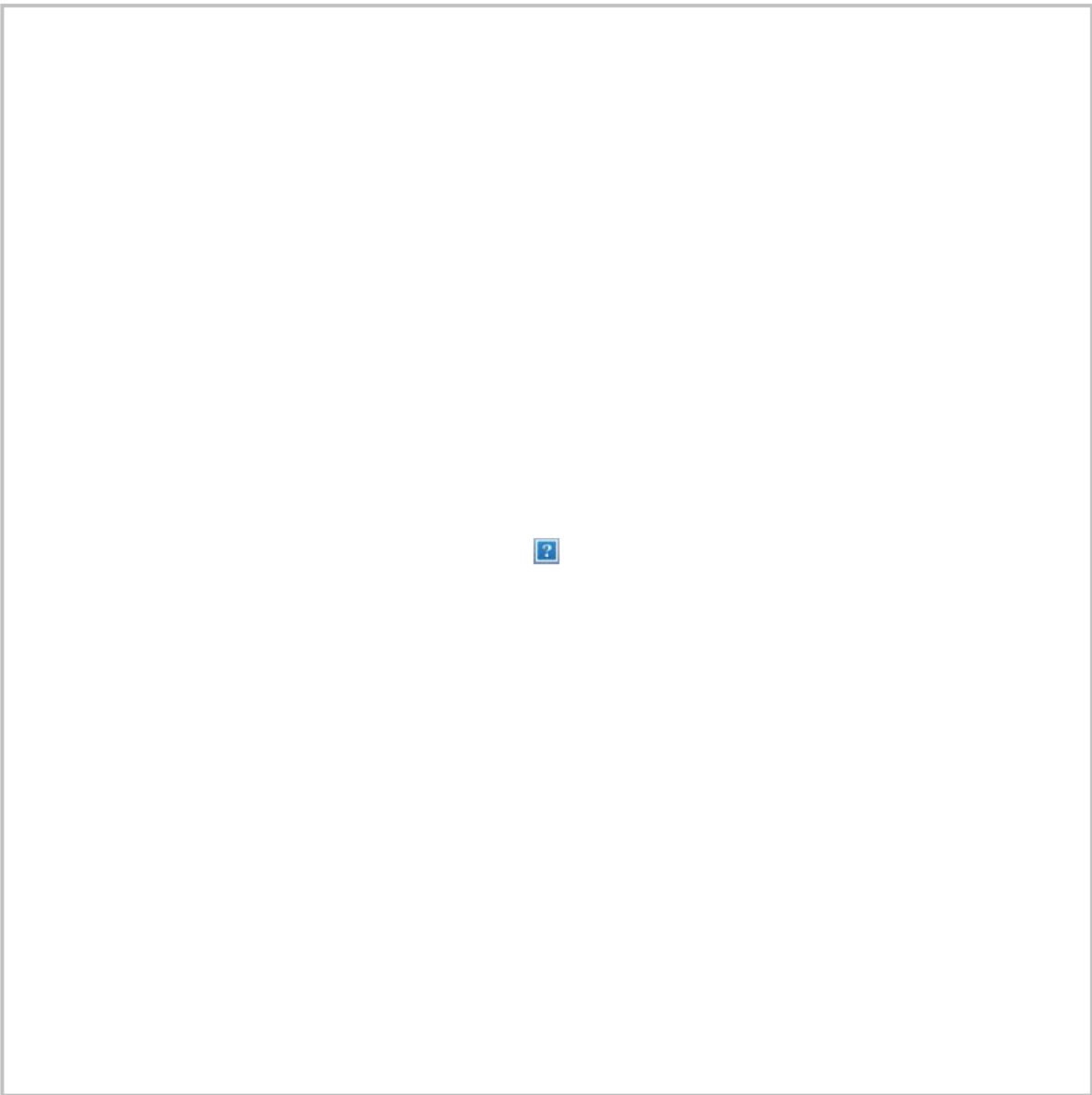
-- **Censorship watch:** A school district in the eastern shore of Virginia has pulled copies of "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" from classrooms and libraries while it weighs whether it should permanently ban the American classics because of the books' use of racial slurs. In response to a formal complaint from a parent, Accomack County Public Schools Superintendent Chris Holland said the district has appointed a committee to recommend whether the books should remain in the curriculum and stay in school libraries. ([Moriah Balingit](#))

VIDEOS OF THE DAY:

George Stephanopoulos asked Pence about Trump's tweet claiming millions of people voted illegally. "That claim is groundless," the ABC host told the vice president-elect. "There's no evidence to back it up. Is it responsible for a president-elect to make false statements like that?" What followed was an awkward exchange in which Pence attempted to defend Trump's false claim for about three minutes. "Well, it's his right to express his opinion as president-elect of the United States," Pence said, adding that it is one of the things he finds "refreshing" about Trump. Stephanopoulos persisted: "Why is it refreshing to make false statements?" Click to watch:

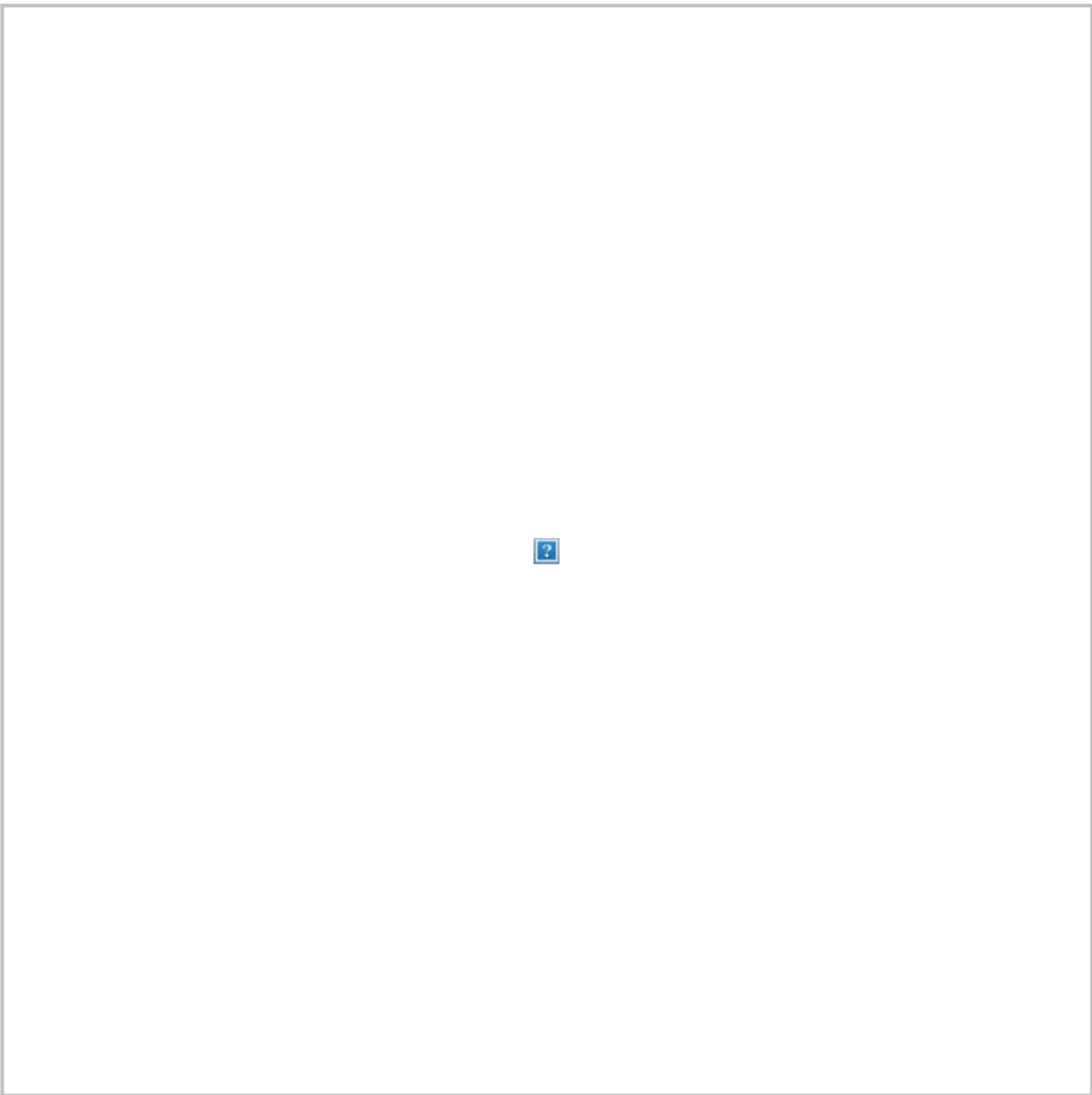


SNL spoofed conspiracy theory TV shows in this sketch about Clinton:



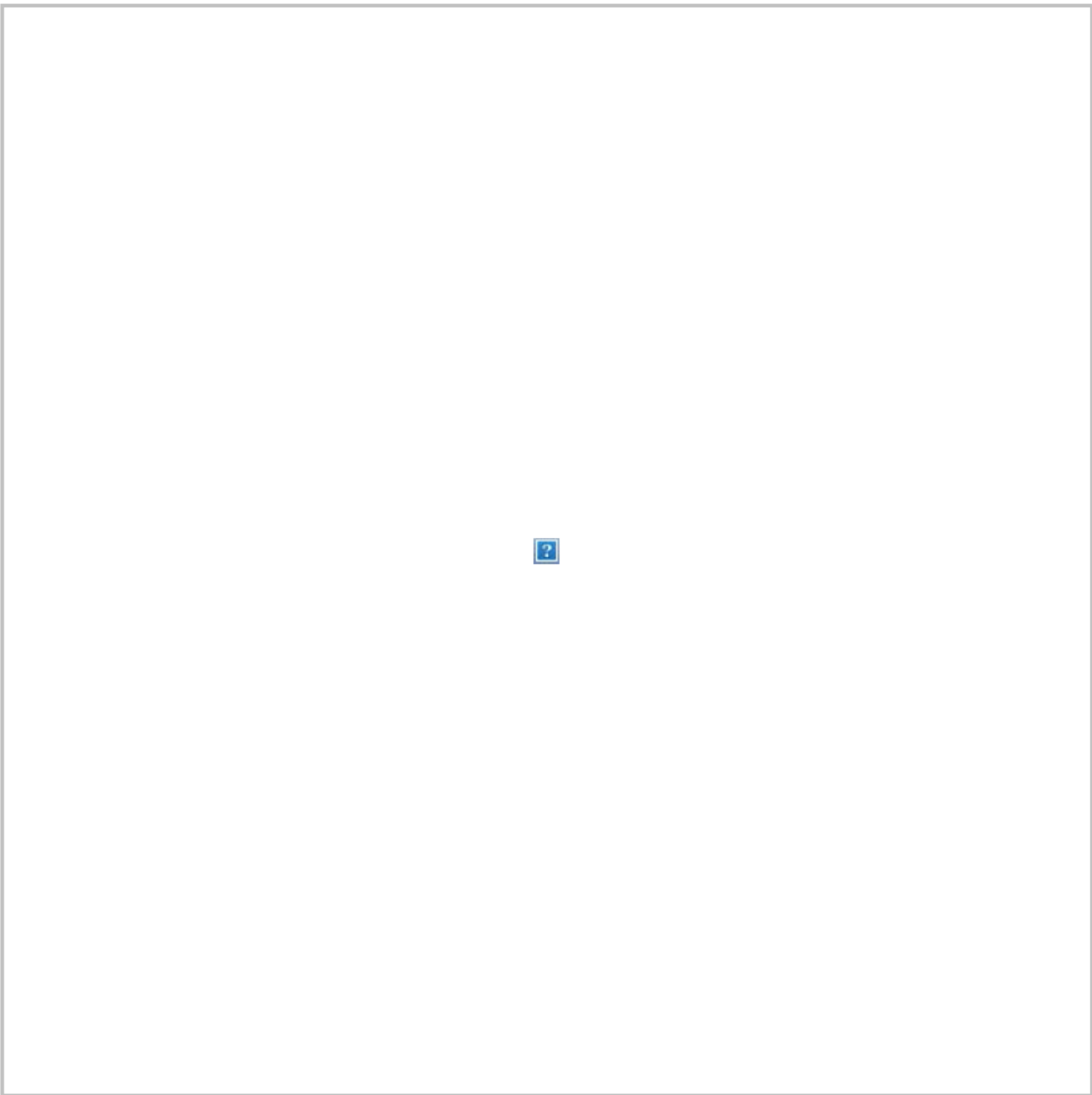
The Hunt for Hil - SNL

Here's SNL's cold-open sketch about Trump's Twitter habit:



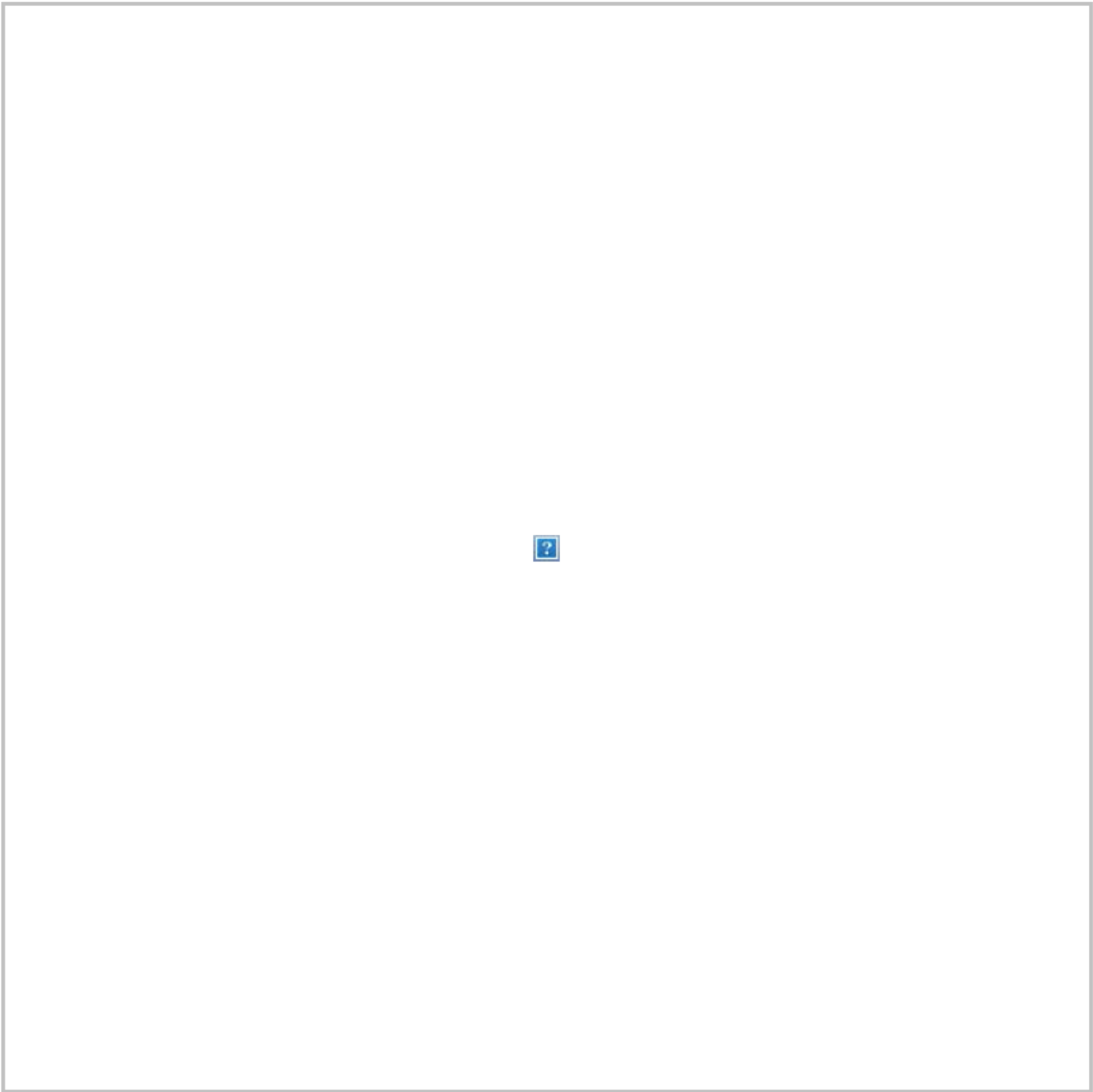
Classroom Cold Open - SNL

A recap of his relationship with the show:

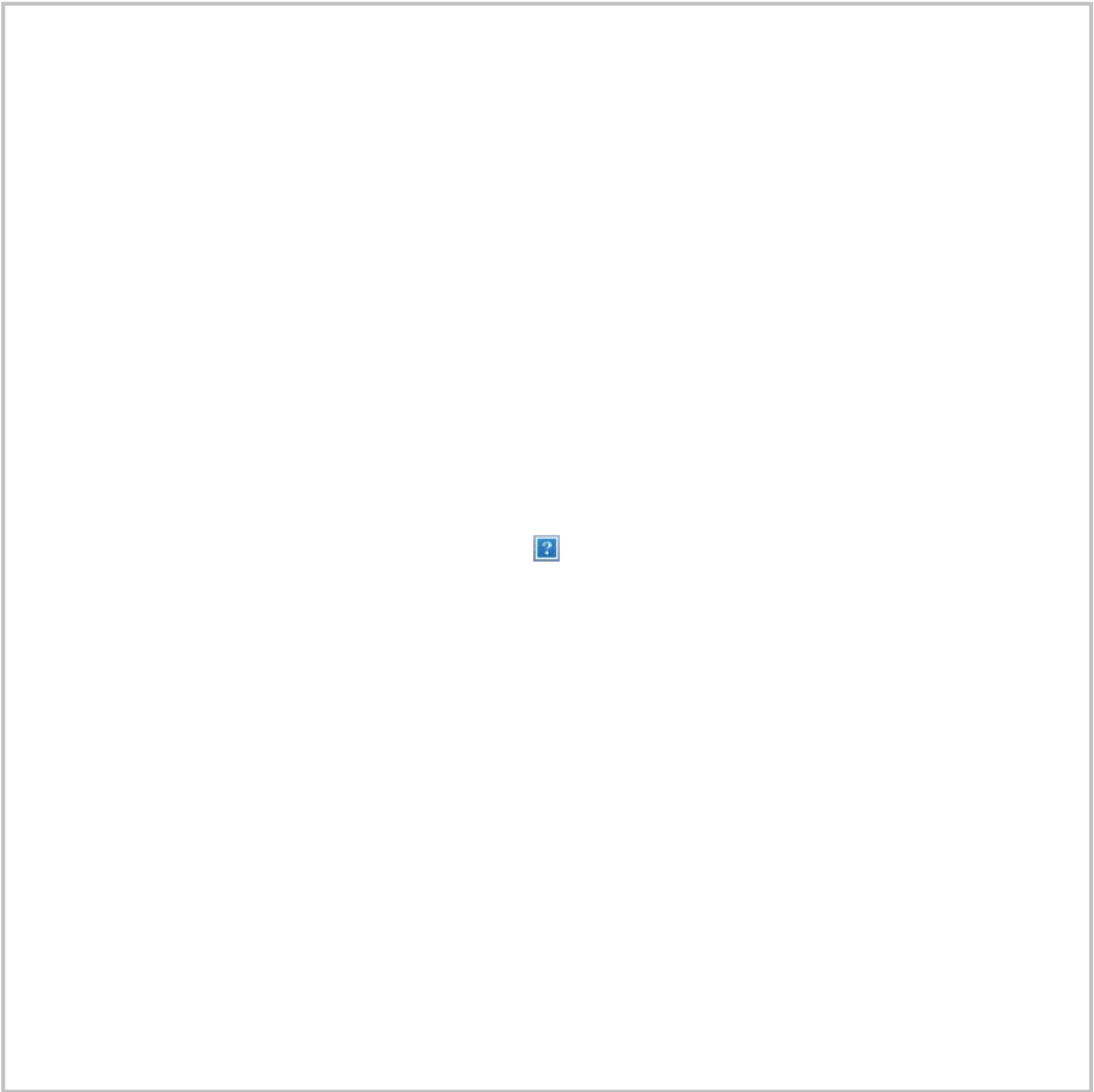


Donald Trump's history with 'Saturday Night Live'

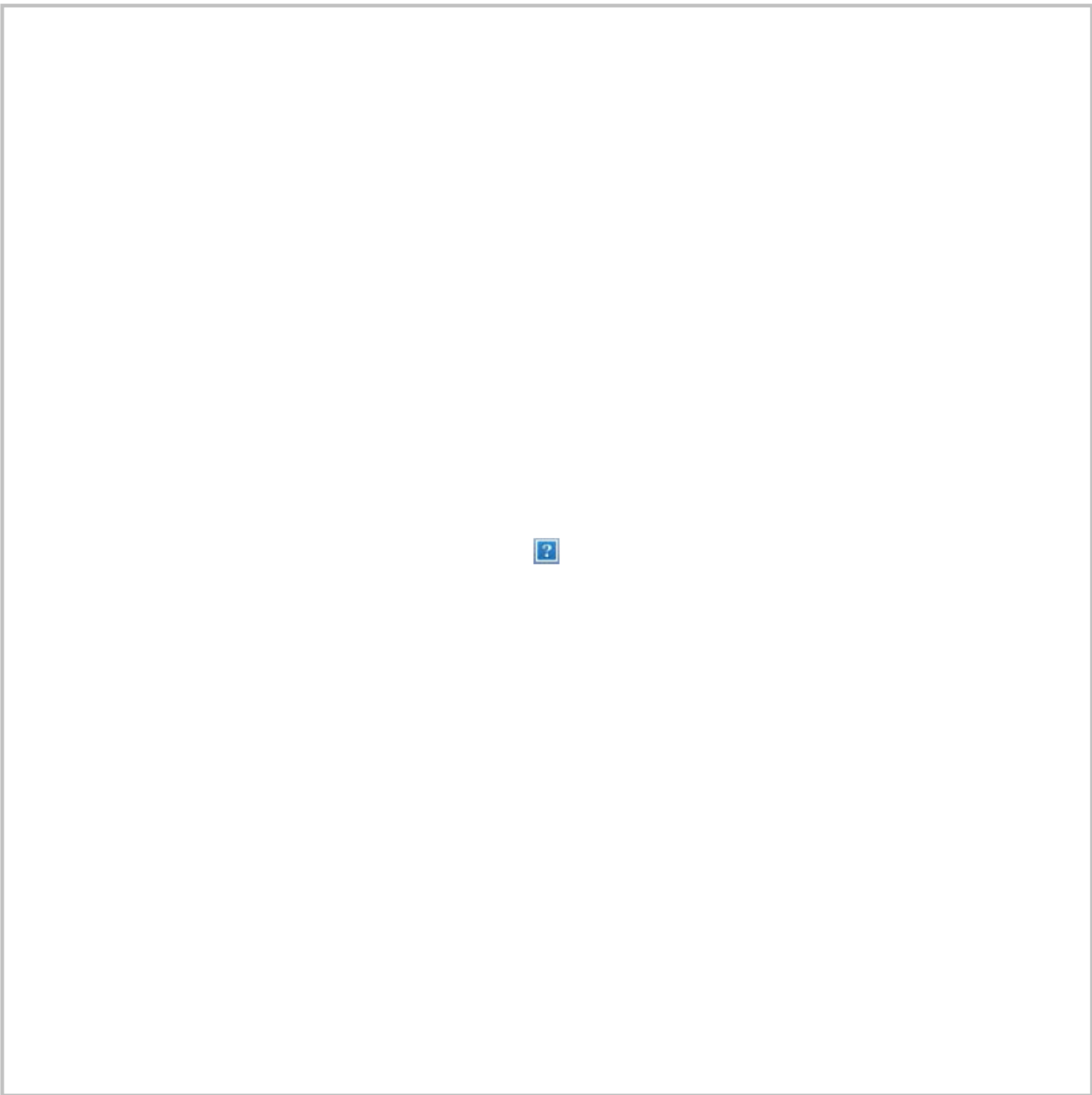
That Taiwan company that does the zany animations envisioned Trump's phone call with its president:



Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-Texas) is very angry at the Architect of the Capitol for trying to shut down his outdoor barbeque (click to watch):

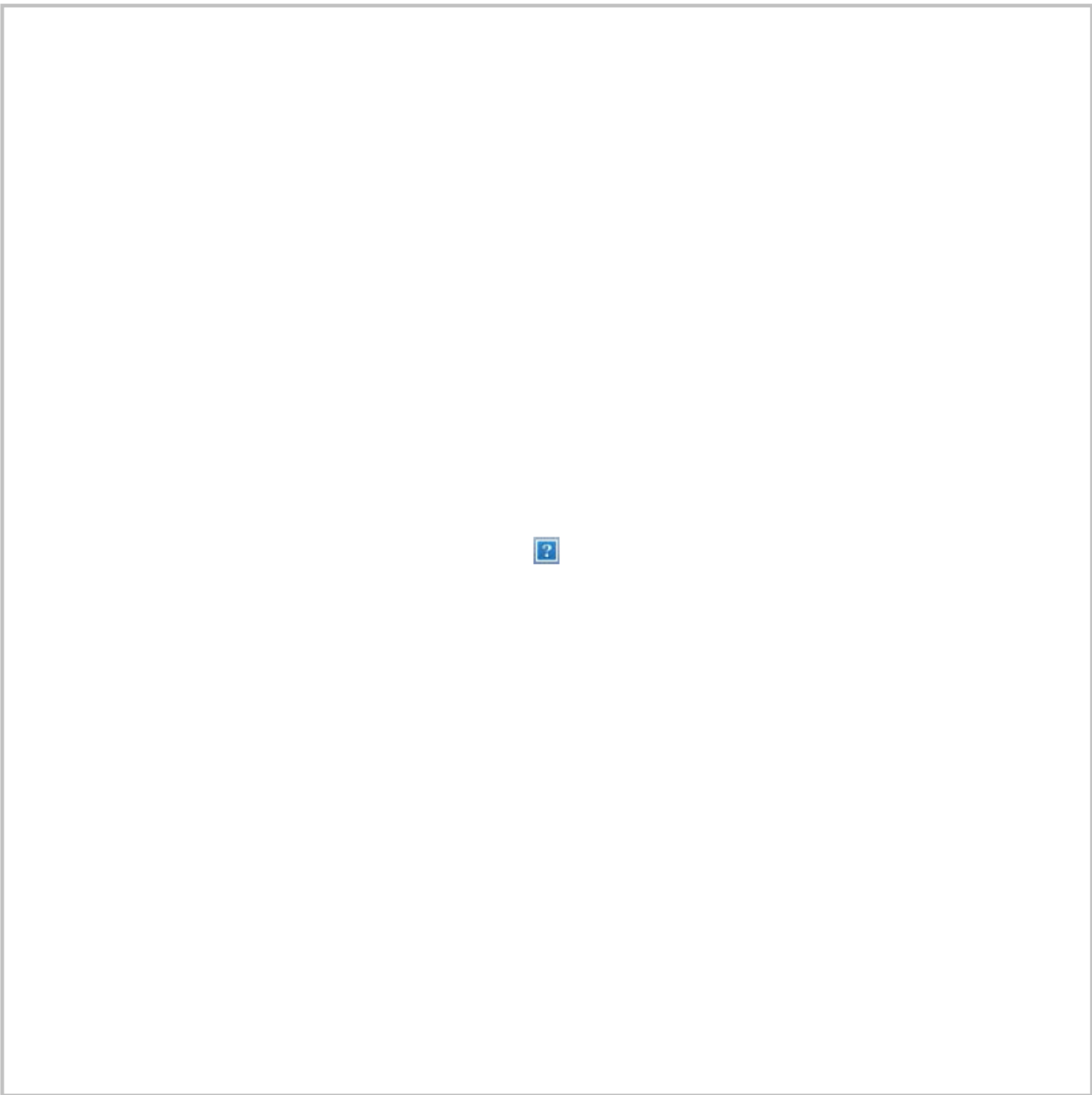


Matthew Broderick tried out his Trump impression:



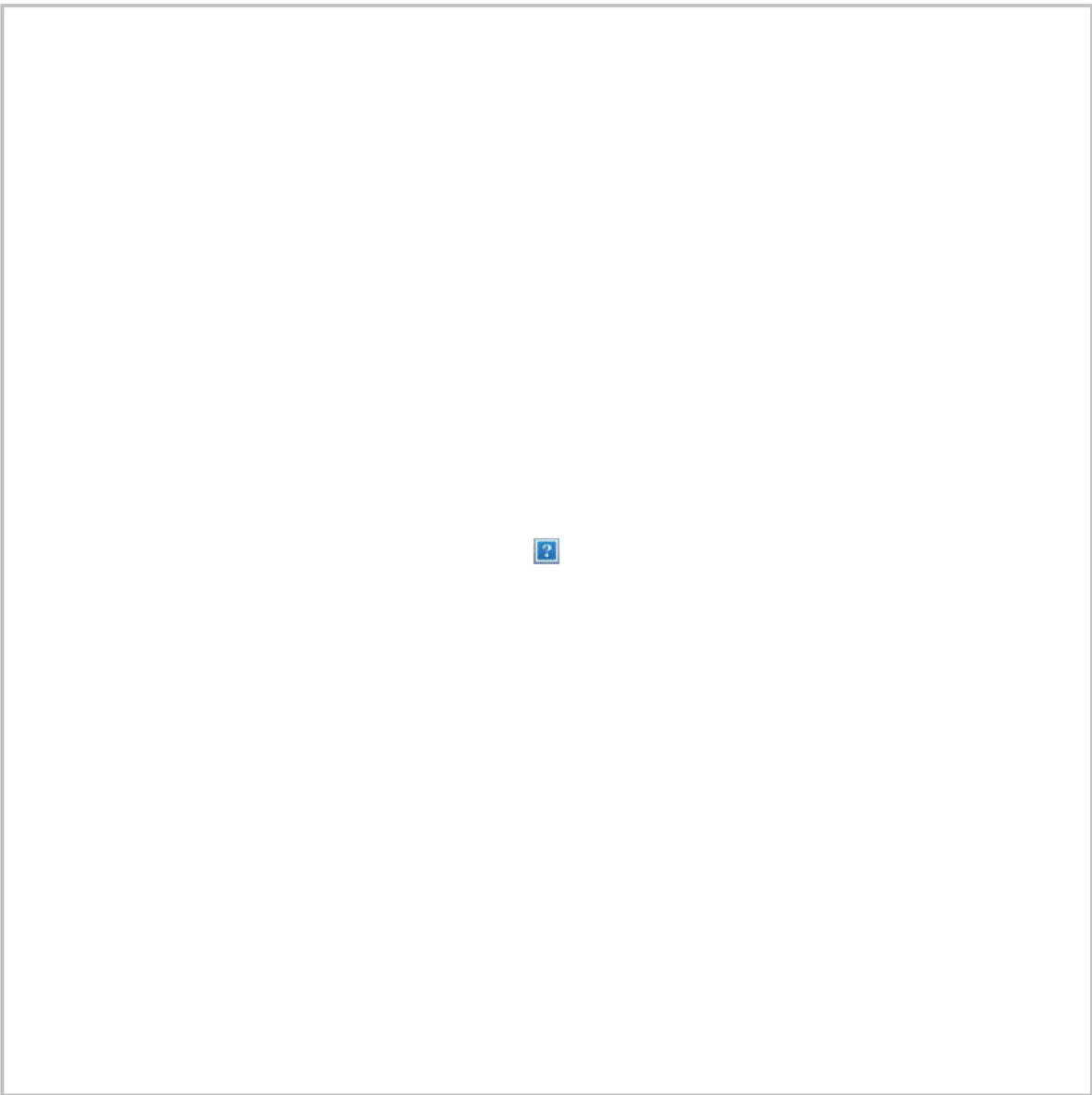
Matthew Broderick Nails His Donald Trump Impression

Stephen Colbert reviewed the latest developments from Trump's transition:



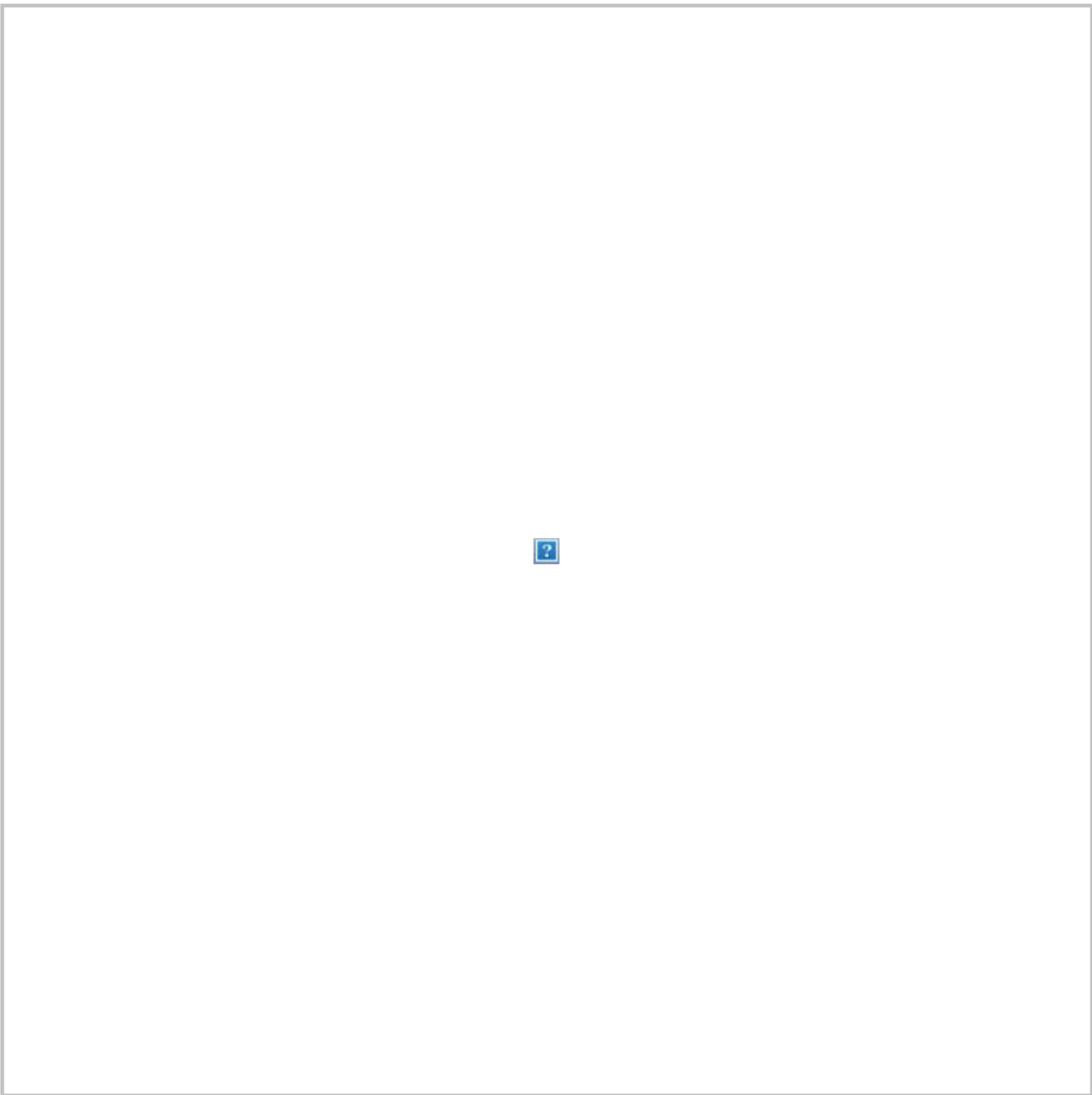
Trump Will Soon Acquire Mass Text Capability

Conan O'Brien imagined more phone conversations between Obama and Trump:



Even More Leaked Phone Calls Between Donald Trump & Barack Obama - CONAN on TBS

Here's the uploaded audio of Clinton and Trump aides arguing about the election:



Clinton and Trump aides in heated argument

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From: [Jim Robertson](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Friday, October 21, 2016
Date: Friday, October 21, 2016 10:53:01 AM

The Senate and House are not in session

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Government Executive reports that if Donald Trump contests the election results, the GSA Administrator could have a difficult time fulfilling her function of ascertaining the election's "apparent" new president-elect and vice president-elect and thereby releasing transition funds and other resources to the winning candidates. [GSA Chief Could Be in the Hot Seat if a Defeated Trump Won't Concede](#)

ABC affiliate *WHSV-TV* reports that Congressman Bob Goodlatte, chair of the House Judiciary Committee, requested a specific investigation in a letter to the inspector general of the U.S. State Department. According to *ABC*, the Congressman cites to potential conflicts of interest in connection with those hired to review Ms. Clinton's State Department emails as part of the recent FBI investigation. [Judiciary Committee head alleges possible Clinton email conflict of interest, seeks probe](#)

The Washington Times reports that an ICE agent has been charged with bribery for using his position as an Immigration and Customs Enforcement - Homeland Security Investigations agent to obtain deferrals of deportations and other immigration benefits for non-citizen foreign nationals. [ICE agent, suburban Detroit attorney charged in bribery case](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

The Washington Post reports that federal prosecutors will charge a former National Security Agency contractor with violating the Espionage Act in what is thought to be the largest theft of classified government material ever. The article notes that the contractor took at least 50 terabytes of data including personal information about government employees. [Government alleges former NSA contractor stole 'astonishing quantity' of classified data over 20 years](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 3, October 10 – November 11

From: [Jim Robertson](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Friday, October 28, 2016
Date: Friday, October 28, 2016 11:30:01 AM

The Senate and House are not in session

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Politico reports that Vice President Joe Biden is on Candidate Clinton's short list for Secretary of State. [Clinton eyes Biden for secretary of state](#)

Politico reports that in the most recently released tranche of hacked emails former Clinton policy adviser Anne-Marie Slaughter recounts to New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman that it was a common practice for State Department personnel to use personal email accounts to conduct government business. [Clinton adviser: 'EVERYONE' at State Department used private email](#)

The Washington Post reports on the approaching peak season for revolving door hiring activity, quoting one lobbyist headhunter who describes the imminent movement of government officials into the lobbying community as "musical chairs of biblical proportions." [It's about to become a very busy time for K Street headhunters](#). In a separate article it discusses the first rule of transition for donors looking for appointment in a new administration: "you do not talk about transition...." [Angling for a White House job? Probably best not to talk about it](#)

The Chicago Tribune reports that Donald Trump's federal tax audit could pose a conflict of interest if he wins the election and appoints the next Internal Revenue Service chief. [Trump's broad businesses pose conflict tests, specialists say](#)

Reuters reports that a Brazilian prosecutor investigating potentially corrupt investments made by state pension funds said the real estate company run by Donald Trump appears to have benefited "suspiciously" from a massive redevelopment of Rio de Janeiro's port ahead of the Olympics. [Brazil prosecutor says Trump franchise may have benefited from corruption](#)

The Guardian reports on the connection between Donald Trump's financial interests in the Dakota Access oil pipeline and his policy positions on energy infrastructure projects. [Dakota Access pipeline company and Donald Trump have close financial ties](#)

A *Fortune Magazine* editorial connects capitalism, the public trust, and pay-to-play politics. It opines that public companies that participate in pay-to-play schemes destroy the public trust at their existential expense. The editorial further proposes that while public trust is one casualty of pay-to-play relationships, the legitimacy of the capitalist system may be the ultimate victim of such behavior. [Legalized Corruption](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 3, October 10 – November 11

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Agency Wide; News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Monday, November 7, 2016
Date: Monday, November 07, 2016 11:13:02 AM

The Senate meets in a pro forma session.

The House is in recess and will reconvene on Monday, Nov. 14.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Politico reports that President Barack Obama plans to ask the thousands of political appointees across his administration to submit letters of resignation effective on Inauguration Day. [Obama to ask his political appointees to clear way for Clinton](#)

E&E Publishing, LLC reports that EPA officials who have overseen consequential enforcement cases and hot-button regulations will be in high demand from corporate legal offices, law firms and lobby shops. [Big bucks await officials who take revolving door](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 10 – November 11

From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Monday, October 17, 2016
Date: Monday, October 17, 2016 11:27:12 AM

The Senate meets in a pro forma session.

The House is not in session.

Legislative and Related News

The Washington Post and *Houston Herald* discuss various senate staffers hired by lobbying firms. [7 Blunt staffers who walked through the revolving door to lucrative lobbying careers](#)
[Top lobby firm eyes new chemical law as big business driver](#)

The New Orleans Advocate reports that former Rep. Jefferson is challenging his corruption conviction in light of the decision in *McDonnell*. [Ex-U.S. Rep. Bill Jefferson files new challenge to corruption conviction](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Various outlets discuss alleged conflicts raised by recently leaked emails from the Clinton Campaign. [Hacked emails raise possibility of Clinton Foundation ethics breach 'Take The Money!!': Emails Show How Clinton Campaign Manages Lobbyist Donations Hillary's Emails Allowed Clinton Foundation Donors To Get Favors On A 'Global Scale' Haiti and Africa Projects Shed Light on Clinton's Public-Private Web](#)

Fox News and *CBS* report that Rep. Chaffetz accused the State Department and the FBI of being involved in a quid pro quo scheme, saying that recently disclosed emails are “a flashing red light of potential criminality.” [New FBI files contain allegations of 'quid pro quo' in Clinton's emails FBI denies collusion over Hillary Clinton email classification](#) Meanwhile, *The American Spectator* reports that a former US Attorney has alleged that there is a revolt within the FBI over agency leadership pursuing “paranoid, delusional and vindictive” measures to prevent negative information leaking out to the public. [The FBI in open revolt against a deceitful director.](#)

JSTOR discusses a 2007 paper published in the *American Journal of Political Science* that found that trust in government appears to correlate over the long term to measures of interpersonal trust and civic engagement. The research found that trust in government trailed both measures. [WHAT AFFECTS OUR TRUST IN GOVERNMENT?](#) The original paper is available [here](#).

The Daily Caller discusses the allegation that a FWS assistant director improperly gave preferential treatment to a private organization by giving a directive to do a single-source award. The piece briefly notes that the US Attorney's Office declined to prosecute. [DOJ Won't Prosecute Wildlife Official Behind Sketchy PR Contract](#)

Government Executive reports that the Navy's “Fat Leonard” corruption scandal has resulted in another guilty plea. [Another Guilty Plea in Navy's 'Fat Leonard' Bribery Case](#)

The Private Equity Hub reports that the SEC and DOJ are targeting pay-for-play schemes involving public pension funds. [SEC official says agency on the lookout for public-pension pay-to-play](#)

Miami Herald reports that IGs “have made more than 15,000 recommendations that have been ignored across the federal government.” The piece alleges that “eight inspectors general are stymied by their agencies who refuse to give them the documents they request for audits or investigations.” [Government ignores audit findings that could save billions, senators conclude](#)

NPR discusses the alleged scandals involving the Clinton and Trump foundations. [There's Really No Comparison Between The Trump And Clinton Foundations](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 3, October 10 – November 11

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Agency Wide: News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Monday, October 24, 2016
Date: Monday, October 24, 2016 10:57:25 AM

The Senate meets in a pro forma session.

The House is in recess and will reconvene on Monday, Nov. 14.

Legislative and Related News

Roll Call reports that a judge has upheld a bulk of federal corruption charges against former Rep. Chaka Fattah but dropped other convictions related to mail and bank fraud. The federal judge did not agree with Fattah's attorneys when they asked him to consider the pivotal Supreme Court ruling that overturned the conviction of former Virginia Gov. Robert McDonnell in his own case. [Judge Upholds Chaka Fattah Conviction](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

FEDWeek reports that the Office of Government Ethics recently issued guidance on post-employment restrictions applying to many federal employees, with certain additional restrictions applying to senior and "very senior" Executive Branch officials. [Guidance Issued on Post-Employment Restrictions](#)

Politico reports that with polls pointing to the likelihood of a Clinton win, her transition team is hiring staff, culling through the résumés of possible Cabinet nominees and reaching out to key Democrats for input, according to people familiar with the process. [Clinton's transition team hits the gas pedal](#)

Politico reports that more than a dozen people who expect — or simply hope — to be tapped by Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump have already reached out to top D.C. lawyers for help in sifting through their finances and business dealings in anticipation of being nominated to a top post in the next administration. The article discusses what potential nominees have to complete, including "a detailed financial disclosure form for the Office of Government Ethics." [Want a presidential appointment? Step 1: Oppo research on yourself](#)

USA Today reports that the trove of hacked emails from Clinton campaign manager John Podesta shows Hillary Clinton's easy relationship with Wall Street as she collected millions of dollars in speaking fees, as well as attempts by foreign governments to curry favor with a former president, Bill Clinton, while dangling offers of donations to his family foundation. The article notes that while there's no evidence of textbook "pay to play" or that the Clintons granted favors in exchange for donations, combined, the emails feed cynicism many voters in both parties have about politicians. [WikiLeaks exposes what voters disdain — and candidates fail to fix](#)

The Guardian reports that ethics and legal scholars say that Donald Trump's notion of creating a supposed "blind trust" for his businesses, if he becomes president, that would let his children run the Trump Organization without an independent trustee is unfeasible. [Could a President Trump avoid conflicts of interest? Experts aren't convinced](#)

NJ.com discusses why Donald Trump's proposals for ethics reform fall short of what is needed. [Trump's ethics plan: 5 problems with his vow to 'drain the swamp'](#)

The Orange County Register opines that a foundation tied to a government official cannot avoid the

appearance of conflict of interest, even when ethics rules are followed and that, therefore, if Hillary Clinton wins on Nov. 8, the first action she takes as president elect should be the dissolution of the Clinton Foundation. [If Clinton wins, foundation must be closed](#)

The Wall Street Journal reports that the political organization of Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe gave nearly \$500,000 to the election campaign of the wife of an official at the Federal Bureau of Investigation who later helped oversee the investigation into Hillary Clinton's email use. [Clinton Ally Aided Campaign of FBI Official's Wife](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

Government Executive reports that Donald Trump promised his administration would implement a hiring freeze across the federal government if he is elected. [Trump Pledges Governmentwide Hiring Freeze](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 10 – November 11

From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Thursday, October 6, 2016
Date: Thursday, October 06, 2016 10:16:49 AM

The Senate convenes at 10:30 a.m. for a *pro forma* session.

The House is in recess and will reconvene on Monday, Nov. 14.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Federal News Radio reports that DHS' Deputy Secretary plans to step down on October 28. [Homeland Security Deputy Secretary stepping down](#) *Daily Caller* notes that this is the same official that "both the DHS and OGE had declined to fully pursue an ethics investigation against..." [DHS Deputy Secretary Resigns After Investigation Shows Agencies Didn't Look Into His Ethics Violations](#)

Vox continues its series on the history of presidential transitions. In this article it briefly discusses the Ethics in Government Act, stating that it "is one reason the length of time taken to fill vacancies in government has increased in recent years." [Jimmy Carter changed presidential transitions forever](#)

The New York Times opines on the difficulty in obtaining financial information that could reveal conflicts of interests that candidates at both the national and local levels may have. [Why It's So Hard to See Politicians' Financial Data](#)

Washington Examiner opines that newly released emails from the State Department show that government employees "teamed up with" the Clinton Foundation "to perform donor maintenance, craft messaging on key policies and put together lists for both diplomatic and philanthropic events." [New emails show intersection of Clinton Foundation, State Dept., paid speeches](#)

Washington Examiner reports that federal records show that Ms. Clinton as Secretary of State "padded" the Foreign Affairs Advisory Board with friends and donors. [Clinton filled State Dept. board with friends, family and donors](#)

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette discusses the alleged conflicts of interests Mr. Trump and Ms. Clinton have with Deutsche Bank. [Potential business conflicts seen in Trump's ties to Deutsche Bank, but Clinton also under scrutiny](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 10 – November 11

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS


Preventing Conflicts of Interest
in the Executive Branch

From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Thursday, October 20, 2016
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2016 1:59:35 PM

The Senate meets in a pro forma session.

The House is not in session.

Legislative and Related News

The Tampa Bay Times reports that an ethics complaint was filed against Rep. Murphy for allegedly using congressional staff to conduct opposition research on him. [Republicans accuse Patrick Murphy of U.S. House ethics violation over 2014 oppo book](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Government Executive lists 3 common ways that employees misuse government resources. [Misuse of Office Resources Could Cost You Your Clearance](#)

Chicago Tribune and *The Atlantic* discuss allegations of pay-to-play schemes involving the Clinton Foundation and the State Department. [Clinton struggles to defend 'pay-to-play' criticism during final debate](#) [Clinton Still Hasn't Faced Questions About Pay-to-Play Head On](#)

PoliZette alleges that newly leaked emails indicate several conflicts of interest Mr. Clinton had while Ms. Clinton was Secretary of State. [WikiLeaks: Clintons Have Over '500 Different' Conflicts of Interest](#)

Washington Examiner reports that one of the attorneys hired to review FOIA requests related to Ms. Clinton's emails was previously employed by the law firm that represents Ms. Clinton. The piece reports that the IG for the Intelligence Community raised the possibility that the arrangement at least created the appearance of a conflict of interest. [State: No conflict of interest in hiring lawyer from Clinton's firm](#)

Financial Advisor reports that the alleged revolving door between the SEC and the financial service industry may be slowing for attorneys. [At SEC, Revolving Door May Be Revolving More Slowly](#)

The Washington Post and *Politico* report that a coalition of good government groups called on the presidential transition teams to adopt stricter ethics rules to govern the transition. [Clinton and Trump transitions must follow strict ethics rules, groups say](#) [Watchdogs push Clinton, Trump to toughen Obama's ethics rules](#) The letter is available [here](#).

Reuters reports that a CFTC senior regulator "is being thrust into the spotlight after the agency fined her former employer." However, the piece notes that the employee was recused from handling or commenting on matters involving her former employer. [RPT-CFTC regulator oversaw compliance at firm accused of illegal trades](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 10 – November 11

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS


Preventing Conflicts of Interest
in the Executive Branch

From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Thursday, October 27, 2016
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2016 12:04:49 PM

The Senate and House are not in session.

Legislative and Related News

The Hill reports that Speaker Ryan may face a tough re-election for the speakership come January. [Ryan has little margin for error in Speaker vote](#)

TPM and *The Week* report that Rep. Chaffetz promised that if Ms. Clinton is elected his committee will hold hearings looking into the interactions between the Clinton Foundation and the State Department. [Rep. Chaffetz Promises 'Years' Of Clinton Investigations If She's Elected Inside the GOP plot to undermine Hillary Clinton's presidency](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Fed Week reports that OGE released new ethics training materials. [New Ethical Training Materials Released](#)

Multiple outlets discuss various aspects of the transition. [Important Legal Aspect of the 2016 Election That No One Is Talking About](#) [Would Hillary Clinton Appoint a 'Team of Rivals'-Style Cabinet as President?](#) [Trump Camp Denies Report It's Cutting Back On Transition Efforts](#) [Podesta tops Clinton's short list for chief of staff](#) [One more way lobbyists could support Hillary Clinton](#)

Outlets report recently leaked documents show a “complicated mingling” between the Clinton Foundation’s money raising efforts and paid speeches of Mr. Clinton. [Inside 'Bill Clinton Inc.': Hacked memo reveals intersection of charity and personal income](#) [Aide: He arranged for \\$50M in payments for Bill Clinton](#) [Memo reveals interplay between Clinton Foundation, personal business](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11
Senate: October 10 – November 11

Best regards,

Brandon A. Steele
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From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Thursday, September 22, 2016
Date: Thursday, September 22, 2016 10:36:59 AM

The Senate reconvened at 9:30 a.m.

The Senate reconvened at 9:30 a.m. and began a period of morning business. The Senate is expected to resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 5325, the legislative vehicle for the continuing resolution.

The House reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

The House reconvened at 10 a.m. for morning hour and will meet at noon for legislative business. First and last votes expected from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Legislative and Related News

The Hill reports that Sen. Warren “made clear” that if Ms. Clinton is elected her administration should not be filled with officials tied to Wall Street. [Warren: Let's keep Wall Street out of a Clinton Cabinet](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Various outlets opine on the conflicts of interest posed by a Trump presidency. [A Trump presidency would be an ethical thicket](#) [Trump's Giant Conflict of Interest Just Got Bigger](#)

Federal News Radio and *Government Executive* discuss a report on IGs conducted by the Association of Government Accountants. The report “finds that recruitment, retention and resources are challenges for the IG community.” [2016 a year of ‘opportunities and challenges’ for agency IGs](#) [Inspectors General Want Expanded Powers, Survey Finds](#)

Columbia Daily Tribune reports that public trust in the federal executive branch climbed 8% to 51% in the latest Gallup survey. [Trust in government jumps a bit](#)

Pacific Standard alleges that the Clinton Foundation has a pro-business strategy and that it is not a purely charitable enterprise. [Parsing the Pro-Corporate Ethics of the Clinton Foundation](#) *MarketWatch* alleges that speaking fees paid to Mr. Clinton overlap with the work of the Foundation. [Bill Clinton’s speaking fee overlaps with foundation work](#)

The Wall Street Journal reports that the campaign of Gary Johnson failed to qualify for public funds to assist in transition planning. [Gary Johnson Fails to Qualify for Public Funds for Transition Planning](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 3, October 10 – November 11

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS


Preventing Conflicts of Interest
in the Executive Branch

From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Thursday, September 29, 2016
Date: Thursday, September 29, 2016 2:01:03 PM

The Senate is not in session.

The House is not in session.

Legislative and Related News

NPR reports that Congress reached a deal to fund the government through December. [Congress Reaches Agreement To Fund Government Until December](#)

Roll Call reports that the House Ethics Committee rebuked Rep. McKinley for failing to heed their recommendation to remove his name from an engineering firm he founded. [Ethics Committee Rebukes Rep. David McKinley](#)

Politico alleges that loopholes in the law allowed former Sen Bayh to influence public policy while never registering as a lobbyist. [Evan Bayh's shadow lobbying](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

The Hill alleges that OGE quietly imposed stricter ethics rules on federal employees seeking post-employment in the private sector. The piece reports that this rule change is the most significant update to OGE's standards since 1993. The piece says that a "government official simply knowing that a private-sector entity is interested in them can activate restrictions." [Finding a new job just got more complicated for federal employees](#)

NPR discusses the alleged revolving door between the FDA and the private sector. [A Look At How The Revolving Door Spins From FDA To Industry](#)

Washington Free Beacon reports on the concern that a Federal Reserve board governor negotiating for a future job with the Clinton Campaign is a potential conflict of interest. [Fed Chair Does Not Believe Fed Official in Negotiations With Clinton Campaign Is Conflict of Interest](#)

The Wall Street Journal briefly mentions the SGE arrangement of an assistant to Sec. Clinton while at State. The piece notes that Sen. Grassley believes the arrangement was an abuse of the program. [Hillary Clinton's Key Aide Huma Abedin Is a Lightning Rod for Attacks](#)

Mother Jones alleges that the foreign banks that hold Mr. Trump's debt present a conflict of interest. [Trump's Huge Conflict of Interest With a Big Foreign Bank Keeps Getting Worse](#)

Federal News Radio discusses an MSPB report that showed 20% of federal HR officials disclosed that political hires do not receive comprehensive training on merit system principles. [Political hires slow to receive MSPB hiring, workforce training](#)

The Washington Post reports that Charles Phalen was selected to lead the new National Background Investigations Bureau. [Veteran CIA man to lead new background investigations bureau](#)

Executive Gov reports that Glenn Fine will be nominated as the next IG of DoD. [Obama to Nominate Glenn Fine as DoD Inspector General](#)

Bloomberg discusses the costs associated with a presidential transition. [What is the cost of a presidential transition?](#)

Politico reports on the Trump Campaign's transition team. [Trump's new brain trust](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 3, October 10 – November 11



From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Tuesday, November 8, 2016
Date: Tuesday, November 08, 2016 12:11:13 PM

The Senate is not in session.

The House is in recess and will reconvene on Monday, Nov. 14.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

The Washington Post reports on the oral argument in *National Labor Relations Board v. SW General, Inc.* This case concerns the interpretation of the “notwithstanding clause” of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; specifically, whether the clause only is triggered if the nominee is a first assistant who moved up to the top job. The Respondent argued that the law prohibits a person from being both the acting officer and later the nominee unless that person served as the first assistant to the office in question for at least 90 of the prior 365 days. The government argued that the clause only applied to first assistants who automatically become acting officer, and accordingly that someone who was not a first assistant could serve as acting officer and later be nominated to the same position. The piece opines that the Court did not appear supportive of the government’s position. Print Edition, Nov. 8, 2016, at A13.

Politico reports that former Sen. Udall and former Gov. Gregoire are on the short list for Interior secretary should Ms. Clinton be elected. [Udall, Gregoire said to be on Clinton's short list for Interior secretary](#)

CIO discusses the presidential transition. The piece notes that many CIOs are political appointees who will exit the government during the transition. [How federal CIOs will navigate the presidential transition](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 10 – November 11



From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Tuesday, October 4, 2016
Date: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 10:45:02 AM

The Senate and House are not in session.

Legislative and Related News

ABC reports that sentencing for Rep. Fattah is pending the outcome of his appeal in light of SCOTUS' *McDonnell* decision. [Ex-US Rep. Fattah's Sentencing on Hold Amid Bribery Appeal](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

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The Daily Caller opines that both OGE and DHS have refused to fully pursue an ethics investigation against an official in ICE, despite an IG report allegedly finding that the official gave preferential treatment to company owned by Ms. Clinton's brother. The piece states that the director of OGE may recommend that the head of an agency launch an investigation if the director has reason to believe a violation has taken place, but that the director failed to recommend an investigation in this case. The piece states that OGE did not respond to a request for comment. [DHS Refuses To Investigate Top Official Who Fast-Tracked Visas For Hillary's Brother](#)

The Washington Post publishes an opinion piece from a HLS government ethics professor that discusses why criminal conflict of interest prohibitions do not apply to the executive. [Ethics rules would have little impact on a President Trump](#)

Fed Week discusses the 2015 agency ethics program questionnaire. [OGE Provides Overview of Ethics Program](#)

Connecticut Law Tribune opines on the future of political corruption cases in light of *McDonnell*. The piece believes that the decision is not a free pass for corruption, but rather a commentary on the importance of accurate jury instructions. ['McDonnell' and the Future of Political Corruption Cases](#)

Government Executive opines that nominating Mr. Trump's son for Interior secretary would run afoul of federal nepotism laws and civil service guidance. [Might Trump's Hunt-Loving Son Bump Into Federal Nepotism Law?](#)

Vox discusses how the presidential transition process changed over time. [How the presidential transition process has evolved over time](#) *Bloomberg* also discusses the transition. [Navigating the presidential transition](#)

Federal Times reports on an investigative report, issued by the EPA's Office of Inspector General after a whistleblower tip, which revealed that inspections, notices of violation, and noncompliance files from an unsecured mixed-use file room were improperly disposed of because of shortcomings in the office's "internal controls." [EPA OIG finds improperly managed records at regional office](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 3, October 10 – November 11



From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Tuesday, October 18, 2016
Date: Tuesday, October 18, 2016 11:29:54 AM

The Senate and House are not in session.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Bloomberg reports that a “proposed rule from the Office of Government Ethics would clarify that federal financial disclosure rules, including a law signed in 2012 that imposed additional disclosure requirements on federal workers in policy-making positions, are focused on high-level employees.”

[PROPOSED STOCK ACT RULE PUTS FOCUS ON HIGH-LEVEL EMPLOYEES](#)

CNN and *New York Post* report that Mr. Trump has proposed government ethics reform, including tighter restrictions on post-employment lobbying. [Trump calls for government ethics reforms This is Donald Trump’s plan for government ethics reform](#)

Morning Consult reports that Reps. Upton and Walden question the independence of the IG for the FCC. [Upton, Walden Question Independence of FCC Inspector General](#)

USA Today reports on an alleged nexus between lobbyists and the State Department during Ms. Clinton’s tenure as Sec. of State. [Companies used Clinton fundraisers to lobby State Department](#)

The Daily Caller reports that leaked emails show internal discussions within the Clinton campaign concerning whether Ms. Clinton should advocate for tougher bribery laws. [Anti-Bribery Laws ‘REALLY Dicey Territory’ For Hillary](#)

Outlets discuss various aspects of the transition. [Hey Americans: Our presidential transition process could be a lot worse Michael Bloomberg as Secretary of State in a Clinton presidency? Meet the Duo Responsible for a Smooth Presidential Transition](#)

Executive Branch Agency and Related News

The Week opines that alleged conspiracy theories connected to the 2016 election could result in the murder of federal officials. [Donald Trump's conspiracy mongering is a serious political emergency](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 3, October 10 – November 11

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS


Preventing Conflicts of Interest
in the Executive Branch

From: [Brandon A. Steele](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Cc: [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Tuesday, October 25, 2016
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 12:48:32 PM

The Senate and House are not in session.

Legislative and Related News

AL reports that an ethics complaint was filed against Sen. Sessions, alleging that he violated Senate rules by questioning the integrity of the US election system. [Clinton-tied group files ethics complaint against Jeff Sessions](#)

WPRA reports that Rep. Langevin has corrected 6 years of financial disclosure forms because he did not report loans he obtained against the value of two of his properties. [Congressman Langevin corrects 6 years of financial disclosures](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Washington Free Beacon questions whether Mr. Podesta violated ethics rules while working as a special adviser on energy policy to the White House while simultaneously corresponding with his prior employer on an energy initiative in California. [Podesta Kept Up With Former Investment Firm Employer While at White House](#)

AOL discusses the Chapman University survey that found that Americans surveyed most feared government corruption. [Americans' worst fears revealed: Government corruption ahead of terrorism, finances](#)

The Washington Post has a video of Mr. Trump discussing his ethics reform proposals. [Trump explains how he would fight 'government corruption' as president](#)

The Telegraph reports that a Super PAC supportive of Mr. Trump has been soliciting foreign donations with the promise that a donation would ensure access to Mr. Trump should he win the election. [Donald Trump faces foreign donor fundraising scandal](#)

Washington Examiner reports that the Deputy Director of the FBI is facing pressure to step down because he did not recuse himself from the Clinton investigation even though a close associate to Ms. Clinton donated to his wife's campaign in 2015. [FBI No. 2 pressured to resign over McAuliffe donations to wife](#)

Vox ponders what becomes of President Obama's appointees during the transition. [The first big question about the Clinton transition](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 10 – November 11

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS


Preventing Conflicts of Interest
in the Executive Branch

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Agency Wide; News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Wednesday, October 5, 2016
Date: Wednesday, October 05, 2016 10:51:56 AM

The Senate is not in session.

The House is in recess and will reconvene on Monday, Nov. 14.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Federal News Radio reports that the Office of Special Counsel wants to remind federal employees of a few Hatch Act guidelines meant to keep political activity out of the workplace. [Keep politics out of the office to comply with Hatch Act](#)

Western Journalism refers to yesterday's *The Daily Caller* article in stating that the Department of Homeland Security and the Office of Government Ethics have declined to investigate the Tony Rodham case. [Hillary Clinton's Brother Likely To Avoid Ethics Probe After Obama Administration Declines To Investigate](#)

Politico reports that an ethics agreement Hillary Clinton signed before she took office as Secretary of State permitted foreign countries to continue to fund Clinton Foundation programs. The article notes however, that new foreign government donors and significant increases were supposed to be cleared in advance by State Department ethics officials and in several instances, they were not. [Yes, the Clinton Foundation has accepted millions from foreign governments](#)

Cato Institute discusses capture in financial regulation and opines that the most fruitful avenue for reducing regulatory capture is to impose more checks-and-balances on our agencies. [Capture and Ignorance in Financial Regulation](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 10 – November 11

From: [Jennifer Matis](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#); [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Wednesday, October 12, 2016
Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2016 10:07:26 AM

The Senate meets in a pro forma session.

The House is in recess and will reconvene on Monday, Nov. 14.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

The Atlantic looks at whether, if elected, Trump's business interests would violate the provision in 5 U.S.C. app 502 prohibiting any senior noncareer officer of the government from permitting his or her name to be used by any firm that "provides professional services involving a fiduciary relationship." The article acknowledges that OGE regulations exempt the president and vice president from the category of "officer" for purposes of the ban, but notes that Congress said "no such thing" in the actual statute. The article also notes that OGE has "officially stated that the president should observe the main conflict-of-interest law as a matter of policy, even though he is not bound to do so by law," citing DAEOgram 83x16 (10/20/83). [Can a President Trump Keep His Business Intact?](#)

Politico reports that hacked emails released this week reveal that Chelsea Clinton flagged "serious concerns" about potential conflicts of interest at the Clinton Foundation. [Chelsea flagged 'serious concerns' about Clinton Foundation conflicts](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 10 – November 11

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Agency Wide: News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Wednesday, October 19, 2016
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:32:46 AM

The Senate and the House are not in session.

Legislative and Related News

Roll Call reports that Donald Trump's new proposals to overhaul government ethics and lobbying regulations are unlikely to become law. [Congress Unlikely to Move on Trump Ethics Plan](#)

IndyStar reports that the House Ethics Committee is reviewing an unspecified allegation about Rep. Marlin Stutzman and will respond by the end of November. The article notes that the nature of the allegation and the Ethics Committee's view of it have not been made public. [House ethics panel reviewing Stutzman allegation](#)

The Hill, *Politico* and *Time* report that Donald Trump called for term limits in Congress as part of his new ethics reform proposal. [The Hill - Trump proposes term limits for Congress](#); [Politico - Trump calls for congressional term limits](#); [Time - Donald Trump Proposes Term Limits for Congress](#) In a related story, *The Hill* also reports that Donald Trump called for a ban on both White House and Congressional officials fundraising during working hours. [Trump calls for halt to govt. staffers fundraising during work hours](#)

Breitbart reports that although Washington has long been known for its "revolving door," where former lawmakers in Congress leave the halls of Capitol Hill for lobbying firms, the latest revolving door trend in Congress is former members serving on corporate boards. [Bloomberg: Eric Cantor Was Highest-Paid Corporate Board Member in 2015](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Time compares Donald Trump's new ethics plan to what Hillary Clinton has supported this election season and what President Barack Obama implemented in office. [How Donald Trump's New Ethics Plan Stacks Up to Hillary Clinton's and Barack Obama's](#)

The Daily Caller reports that a nonprofit watchdog filed a lawsuit against the Department of State to force the agency to turn over ethics records for former secretary of state and democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton and her staff. [State Dept Sued Over Hillary Clinton's Ethics Records](#)

11alive.com reports that at least a dozen of the companies that gave money to the Clinton family foundations lobbied the State Department, using lobbyists who doubled as major Clinton campaign fundraisers. [Companies used Clinton fundraisers to lobby State Department](#)

Boston Globe reports that Hillary Clinton has yet to spell out a plan to curb corporate influence and conflicts of interest in her White House should she win — leaving the billion-dollar lobbying industry closely watching for signs of change to Washington's revolving door. [Clinton has been unclear on curbing lobbyist influence](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11
Senate: October 10 – November 11

From: [Jennifer Matis](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#); [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Wednesday, October 26, 2016
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2016 11:24:12 AM

The Senate and House are not in session.

Legislative and Related News

Federal Times reports on plans in the House to pass “minibus” spending packages to fund the government after the continuing resolution expires in December. [Long-term CR looms as Pelosi pans Ryan's 'minibus' plan](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Politico reports that Hillary Clinton’s presidential transition team has put in place strict rules that limit the influence of lobbyists in crafting the nominee’s policy agenda. [Clinton sticks with Obama’s strict lobbying rules — for now](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

Federal News Radio reports on the ways in which compliance with section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act presents challenges for agencies’ release of records pursuant to the FOIA. [FOIA committee mulls Section 508 responsibilities](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: October 3 – November 11
Senate: October 10 – November 11

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Agency Wide: News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Wednesday, September 21, 2016
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2016 10:04:49 AM

The Senate reconvened at 9:30 a.m.

The Senate reconvened at 9:30 a.m. and will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to the expected legislative vehicle for a continuing resolution (HR 5325). At 11:15 a.m., Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., or a designee will be recognized to offer a motion to discharge the Senate Foreign Relations Committee from consideration of a joint resolution that would block the latest U.S. arms sale to Saudi Arabia (S J Res 39). Following up to three hours of debate, the Senate will vote on the motion to discharge.

The House reconvenes at 12:00 p.m.

The House reconvenes at noon for legislative business and is expected to consider a bill (HR 5461) that would require Treasury to report on the known assets of the political and military leader of Iran and a bill (HR 3438) that would postpone the implementation new federal rules that have an economic impact of \$1 billion or more until all legal challenges are completed. The chamber is also expected to consider measures under suspension of the rules and take final votes on 19 bills previously debated under suspension of the rules.

Legislative and Related News

Government Executive reports that Congress' budget stalemates and pattern of end-of-session continuing resolutions could be eliminated under a new set of reform proposals detailed by Sen. Mike Enzi, chairman of the Budget Committee. [Senate Budget Chairman Proposes a Cure for Congress' Addiction to Continuing Resolutions](#)

The Hill reports that Rep. Steny Hoyer said that he's expecting the House to be in session next week to address a stopgap spending bill, known as a continuing resolution (CR), which has stalled in the Senate as negotiators haggle over a series of controversial riders. [Hoyer predicts funding bill debate will drag into next week](#)

Politico reports that the Senate voted 89-7 on Tuesday evening to move forward on a bill that eventually will be used to fund the government through Dec. 9 and deliver \$1.1 billion to fight the Zika epidemic. [Senate advances budget deal that doesn't exist yet](#)

Multiple outlets report that John Boehner, former House Speaker who resigned last year, is joining Squire Patton Boggs, a Washington-based law firm long known for its lobbying work. The firm's announcement states that Mr. Boehner will not lobby Congress in his new role at the law firm but will instead serve "as a strategic adviser to clients" in the United States and abroad on global business development. [The New York Times - Former House Speaker John Boehner Joins Washington Law Firm](#); [Politico - Boehner joins Squire Patton Boggs](#); [The Washington Post - Former Speaker John Boehner heads to K Street](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

[Richard Painter, former chief White House ethics lawyer for President George W. Bush, and Norman Eisen, former chief White House ethics lawyer for President Obama, opine in *The Washington Post* that a Trump presidency would be ethically compromised. The opinion also notes that counsel for a President Hillary Clinton would have to address actual or apparent conflicts posed](#)

by the Clinton Foundation. [A Trump presidency would be ethically compromised](#)

- [BuzzFeed](#) reports that the Department of Justice has proposed Deutsche Bank pay a \$14 billion penalty to settle claims related to its activities in the lead-up to the financial crisis and notes that if Donald Trump is elected president, Deutsche will have a man in the White House whose commercial fortunes are closely linked to being able to borrow money from it and whose businesses owe the bank hundreds of millions of dollars. [Would President Trump Be Able To Punish The Bank He Owes Hundreds Of Millions To?](#)

- [Mediaite](#) reports that Bill Clinton denied that his daughter Chelsea Clinton staying on the board of the Clinton Foundation would present a possible conflict of interest if his wife Hillary Clinton were elected president. [Bill Denies Chelsea Clinton Staying on Foundation Would Be Conflict of Interest: 'We All Know People'](#)

- **Next Scheduled Recess:**

House: October 3 – November 11

Senate: October 3, October 10 – November 11

From: [Jim Robertson](#)
To: [LEGTEAM](#)
Subject: Matter of Interest
Date: Friday, September 23, 2016 2:01:39 PM

The Committee on House Oversight and Government Reform as has held a number of hearings related to Secretary Clinton's use of a private email server to conduct State Department business. In connection with those hearings, the Committee yesterday issued a statement primarily in response to a congressional subpoena ignored by a former State Department employee. However, in part of the statement, the Committee noted that the purpose of the investigation included, among other things, determining any changes to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 that could help prevent future occurrences of the sort under inquiry.

“The oversight and legislative purposes of the investigation at issue here, described more fully immediately below, include, but are not limited to: (1) seeking information about former Secretary Hillary Clinton's use of a private, non-secure email server during her time at the Department of State, as well as the transmittal of classified national security information on that server; (2) examining the circumstances that resulted in the failure to preserve federal records arising during Secretary Clinton's tenure, as required by the Federal Records Act, and to produce such records pursuant to Congressional requests or requests made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and; (3) determining what, if any, changes to the Federal Records Act of 1950, Freedom of Information Act of 1966, Ethics in Government Act of 1978, or any other federal law(s) may be necessary to prevent these or similar circumstances from recurring.”

<http://www.cq.com/alertmatch2/316731438?0&deliveryId=7966299&uid=testimony-4961179&srcpage=alertemail>

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: OGE FOIA FY 17/029
Date: Tuesday, December 06, 2016 12:07:35 PM

Please excuse the profane language that follows. The language is a direct quote from the FOIA request seeking emails from any OGE employee.

OGE received a FOIA request for a copy of “each email sent on November 8th, November 9th, November 10th, or November 11th of this year (2016) to or from any of employee of the Office of Government Ethics, which contains the word ‘Trump,’ ‘Clinton,’ ‘Fuck,’ ‘Fucking,’ ‘Fucked,’ ‘Shit,’ and/or ‘Damn.’”

Please search your email accounts for any records responsive to this request and provide any responsive records by COB December 13, 2016.

If you do not have any responsive records, please reply with a “no records” response.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Liz

Elizabeth D. Horton
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Visit OGE’s website: www.oge.gov
Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Supervisor MailGroup](#)
Subject: OGE FOIA
Date: Tuesday, December 06, 2016 12:02:58 PM

Good afternoon Supervisors.

Please be aware that I will be sending out the following email agency-wide because of a FOIA request seeking emails from any OGE employee. I wanted to alert you in case you receive any questions or comments.

Please excuse the profane language that follows. The language is a direct quote from the FOIA request seeking emails from any OGE employee.

OGE received a FOIA request for a copy of “each email sent on November 8th, November 9th, November 10th, or November 11th of this year (2016) to or from any of employee of the Office of Government Ethics, which contains the word ‘Trump,’ ‘Clinton,’ ‘Fuck,’ ‘Fucking,’ ‘Fucked,’ ‘Shit,’ and/or ‘Damn.’”

Please search your email accounts for any records responsive to this request and provide any responsive records by COB November 13, 2016.

If you do not have any responsive records, please reply with a “no records” response.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Liz

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