

SOURCE	Obama-Biden Transition Project documents
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Obama-Biden Transition Project Campaign Crossover Policy

To: Presidential Transition Team
From: Office of General Counsel
Subject: OFA and PTT Resources

A number of Presidential Transition Team (“PTT”) members are joining the PTT from Obama for America (“OFA”). Many of you have asked questions about the rules that guide potential cross-over between the knowledge and resources they acquired at OFA and their work for the PTT.

In general, it is the policy of the PTT to limit mingling between OFA and PTT*. Below are answers to some frequently asked questions. If you have any further questions, please contact the Office of the General Counsel for the Transition.

May I use my personal laptop, which was formerly owned by OFA, to access files and email addresses while working in the Transition office?

Yes.

May I use my Transition equipment for campaign-related work?

No. You should use your Transition equipment (including email, blackberry, lap-top) and office space for the official business of the Transition team only. While the Office of the President-elect is not a federal or Executive Branch agency, it is a quasi-governmental entity and receives federally-appropriated funds pursuant to the Presidential Transition Act. Accordingly, Transition employees cannot engage in any partisan political activity, fundraising, or commercial promotion using Transition resources.

You may use your Transition email to accept resumes and updated contact information from people you met on the campaign.

May I use my Transition office or equipment to promote political causes?

No. While the Office of the President-elect is not a federal or Executive Branch agency, it receives federally-appropriated funds pursuant to the Presidential Transition Act. Accordingly, Transition employees cannot engage in any partisan political activity or commercial promotion using Transition resources.

May I use lists generated at the campaign for Transition work? For example, I have lists of staff, volunteers, voters, and constituency group member.

If a list generated for campaign purposes has commercial value OR is not publicly available, you may not use it for Transition purposes. The same holds true for other documents: if they have commercial value or are not publicly available, you may not use them for Transition purposes.

May I use knowledge gained at the campaign for Transition work including files and documents produced during the campaign?

Yes. As in any employment change, former campaign staff bring experience and knowledge gained on the campaign to the Transition. It is consistent with the important purpose of the Transition that staff utilize their full range of knowledge and experience including that gained in their prior employment to ensure an orderly transition of power from one Executive to the next. The same holds for files and documents, with the exception of the lists and other materials having commercial value or which are not publicly available discussed in the previous question.

*See Section 3 of the Presidential Transition Act of 1963, as amended. 3 U.S.C. § 102 note.



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