

Public Papers of the President

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What We Will Cover Today

- Introduce the Office of the Federal Register and its duties
- Explain the Public Papers of the Presidents (PPP)
- Describe the PPP digitization project
- Explain of the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents / Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents (DCPD)
- Demonstrate how to find these publications on govinfo

Office of the Federal Register

- Part of the National Archives and Records Administration
- Created in 1935
- Federal Register was OFR's first publication in 1936
- Code of Federal Regulations came soon after
- More publications added over time
- Additional duties
 - Electoral College
 - Constitutional amendments

OFR Publications

Federal Register (FR)

Public Inspection List (PIL)

Federal Register Index

United States Government Manual

Privacy Act Compilation

**Public Papers of the Presidents
(PPP)**

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)

CFR Index and Finding Aids

List of CFR Sections Affected (LSA)

Slip Laws (public and private)

US Statutes at Large

**Daily Compilation of Presidential
Documents (DCPD)**

Public Papers of the President

- Papers, speeches, and remarks given by the President during a six-month period of the administration
- Also includes
 - Photo of the President at the start of the book (frontispiece)
 - Foreword from the President
 - Photo portfolio in middle of book
 - Three indices (subject, name, document categories)
- Is considered a special edition of the Federal Register

PPP History – Predecessors

- James D. Richardson compiled the messages and papers of the Presidents covering the period 1789 to 1897
- Published under congressional authority between 1896 and 1899
- Other private compilations were issued later
- By mid-20th century, many Presidential papers were only available as mimeographed White House releases or as reported in the press

PPP History – NHPC

- National Historical Publications Commission recommended the establishment of an official series of publications that would contain Presidential writings, addresses, and remarks of a public nature
- The Commission's recommendation was incorporated in regulations of the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register
- Code of Federal Regulations title 1, part 10

PPP History

- The OFR first produced the Public Papers of the President in 1957 in response to the NHPC recommendation
- Administrations prior to 1957 were published retroactively
- In the past, some years had 1, 2, or 3 books – now the standard is 2 books per year
- During the Carter administration in the 1970s, the PPP expanded to include additional material from the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents:
 - Digest of Other White House Announcements
 - Nominations Submitted to the Senate
 - Checklist of White House Press Releases
 - Presidential Documents Published in the Federal Register
- PPP first placed online in December 2009

PPP Digitization Project

- GPO performed a quality check then digitized the following PPP books:
 - Herbert Hoover (4 books – March 4, 1929 to March 4, 1933)
 - Harry Truman (8 books – April 12, 1945 to January 20, 1953)
 - Dwight Eisenhower (8 books – January 20, 1953 to January 20, 1961)
 - John Kennedy (3 books – January 20, 1961 to November 22, 1963)
 - Lyndon Johnson (10 books – November 22, 1963 to January 20, 1969)
 - Richard Nixon (6 books – January 20, 1969 to August 9, 1974)
 - Gerald Ford (6 books – August 9, 1974 to January 20, 1977)
 - Jimmy Carter (9 books – January 20, 1977 to January 20, 1981)
 - Ronald Reagan (15 books – January 20, 1981 to January 19, 1989)
 - George H.W. Bush (4 books – January 20, 1989 to December 31, 1990)
- Available govinfo in July of 2019

Compilation of Presidential Documents

- The Compilation of Presidential Documents is composed of the Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents and its predecessor the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents
- Documents are edited for accuracy and annotated with additional information to provide an authoritative record of the Presidency
- It is considered a special edition of the Federal Register

Documents in the DCPD

- Proclamations, Executive orders, memorandums, and other Presidential documents originally published in the Federal Register
- Speeches and remarks
- Press conferences
- Communications to Congress and Federal agencies
- Statements regarding bill signings and vetoes
- Appointments, nominations
- Reorganization plans
- Resignations
- Retirements
- Acts approved by the President
- Nominations submitted to the Senate
- White House announcements
- Press releases

WCPD / DCPD History

- Code of Federal Regulations Title 1, Chapter 10
- Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents first published in 1965
- Provided a broader range of Presidential materials on a more timely basis
- The Weekly Compilation, a print publication, was superseded by the online Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents on January 20, 2009

Production Process

DCPD



Receiving

- Includes only documents issued by the White House Office of the Press Secretary (OPS).
- OFR assigns each document a number based on chronology and document type. The DCPD number is found at the end of each document and is used to identify documents on govinfo. Sample DCPD Number: DCPD201900509.
- OFR White House editor loads text received via email from OPS into custom DCPD template; composes headings, subheads, and text notes; transmits to OFR editors to perform editorial work.

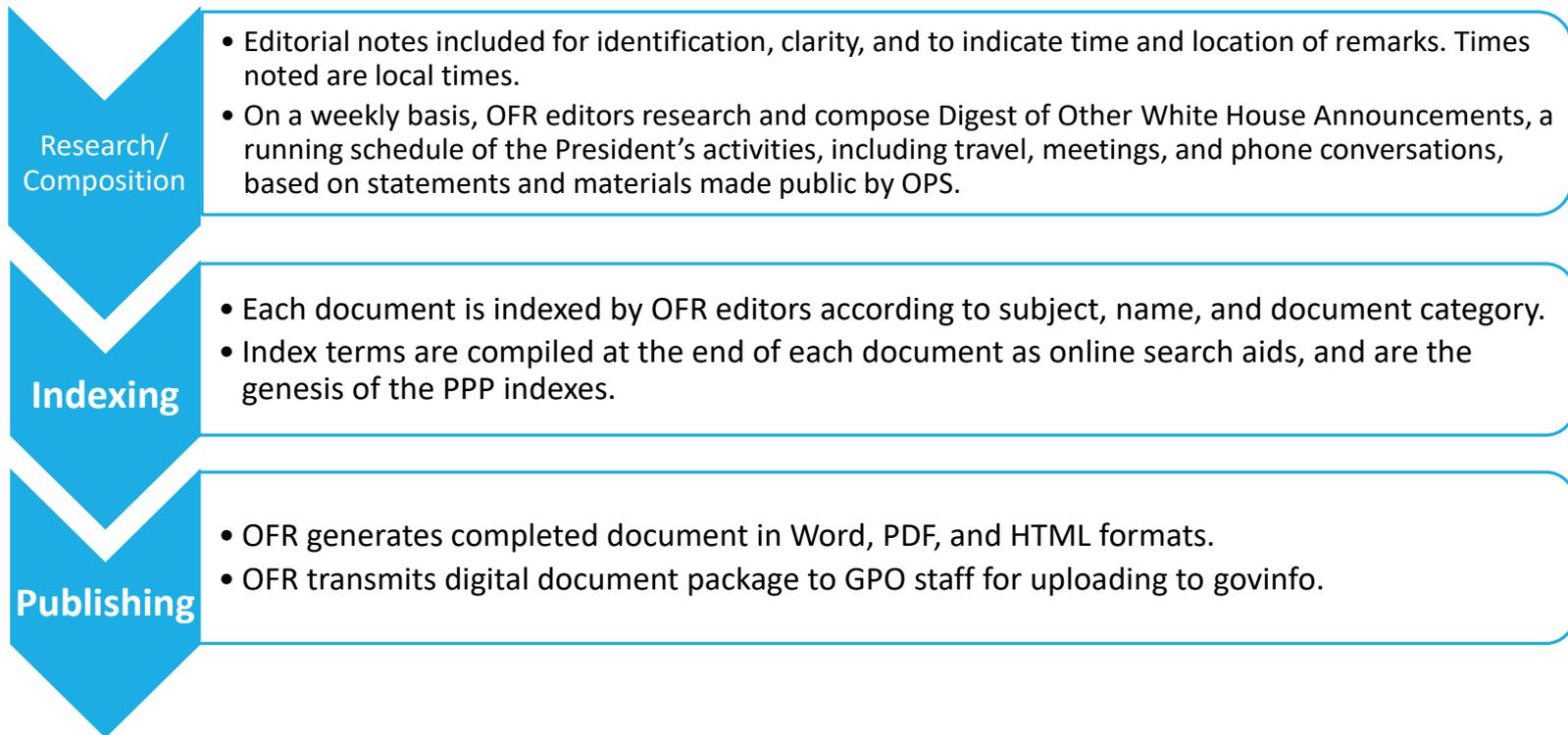


Editing

- OFR editor checks remarks against audio/video recording and amends OPS transcript as needed. Signed documents are checked against the original, when available. Each document reviewed by a second editor.
- Documents are edited for style (spelling, capitalization, hyphenation, etc.) according to GPO Style Manual and in-house guidelines. Grammatical or other verbal missteps are NOT corrected unless indicated by OPS. Documents reflect the President's words as originally spoken.

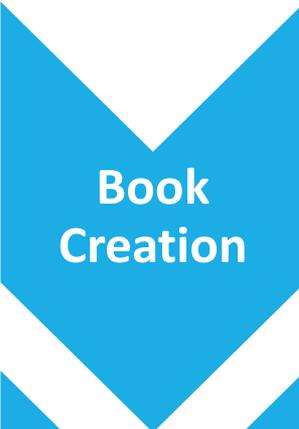
Production Process

DCPD (cont'd)



Production Process

Public Papers



Book Creation

- DCPD items (excluding Pres Docs published in Federal Register) uploaded weekly into FrameMaker desktop publishing software to build Public Papers volumes.
- FrameMaker converts DCPD index tags into Subject, Name, and Category indexes at back of each volume.
- Four appendixes added, including App. D: table listing Pres Docs published in Federal Register.
- Foreword signed by President uploaded to frontmatter, highlights achievements from 6-month period.



Editing and Photos

- All text and indexes reviewed by OFR editors for stylistic consistency, accuracy, comprehensiveness, and formatting.
- OFR editors select photos from White House flickr account, compose captions, and work with GPO graphic designers to create 8-page photographic portfolio (approx. 20 photos) and frontispiece.

Production Process

Public Papers (cont'd)



Production and Publication

- Upon completion of editorial process, OFR submits PDF of entire book to GPO for printing and binding. OFR performs inspections at each stage of publication process.
- In addition to clothbound public copies, a personalized, handcrafted leather volume is delivered to the President.
- OFR editors create XML version of entire book; create digital package including PDF book, XML book, and photographic portfolio and captions; submit to GPO for online publication.

DCPD and WCPD on govinfo

- www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/CPD
- Available online
 - Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents 1993 – 2009
 - Daily Compilation of Presidential Documents 2009 – 2019

PPP on govinfo

- www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/PPP
- Volumes of the Public Papers of the Presidents from 1929 (Herbert Hoover) to 1991 (George H.W. Bush) are digitized files
- 1992 and subsequent are “born digital”
- Note: The Public Papers for President for Franklin D. Roosevelt were not published by the National Archives but by a private printer (before the commencement of the official Public Papers series) and are not currently available on govinfo