

RELEASE IN PART  
B6

---

**From:** Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 8, 2011 4:10 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Fw: Guest List for the First Lady's Box at the President's Address to Congress

---

**From:** King, Colleen [redacted]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 08, 2011 03:43 PM  
**To:** King, Colleen [redacted]  
**Subject:** Guest List for the First Lady's Box at the President's Address to Congress

B6

Dear Chiefs of Staff and WH Liaisons:

Please see below the guest list for the First Lady's box at tonight's address.

Thank you.

--Cabinet Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 8, 2011

**Guest List for the First Lady's Box at the President's Address to Congress**

**Jeffrey Immelt**

Jeffrey R. Immelt is the ninth chairman and CEO of GE, a post he has held since September 7, 2001. Immelt currently serves as the chairman of the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness. Immelt has held several global leadership positions since coming to GE in 1982, including roles in GE's Plastics, Appliance, and Medical businesses. In 1989 he became an officer of GE and joined the GE Capital Board in 1997. In 2000, Immelt was appointed president and chief executive officer. Immelt has been named one of the "World's Best CEOs" three times by Barron's, and since he began serving as chief executive officer, GE has been named "America's Most Admired Company" in a poll conducted by Fortune magazine and one of "The World's Most Respected Companies" in polls by Barron's and the Financial Times. Immelt is also a member of The Business Council, and he is on the board of the New York Federal Reserve Bank. Mr. Immelt earned a B.A. degree in applied mathematics from Dartmouth College in 1978 and an M.B.A. from Harvard University in 1982. He and his wife have one daughter.

**Steve Case**

Steve Case, currently chairman & CEO of Revolution LLC and chairman of the Startup America Partnership, is one of America's most accomplished entrepreneurs and philanthropists. Steve co-

founded America Online in 1985, and under his leadership, AOL became the world's largest and most valuable Internet company. In 2005, Steve founded Revolution LLC, focused on investing in and building disruptive, innovative, consumer-facing companies such as Zipcar, LivingSocial and Exclusive Resorts. Earlier this year at the White House, Case helped launch the Startup America Partnership, an independent private-sector coalition delivering strategic and substantive resources to help entrepreneurs start and scale companies across the U.S., in response to the President's call to action. Case also serves as a co-chair of the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and is a member of the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness, where he co-chairs the working group on high-growth companies. In addition, Steve chairs the Case Foundation, which seeks to tap new technologies and entrepreneurial approaches to help strengthen the social sector.

### **Darlene Miller**

Darlene Miller is a small business owner and CEO of Permac Industries, a precision machining company custom manufacturing precision parts for customers worldwide in virtually all industries located in Burnsville, Minnesota. Miller currently serves as a member of the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness. She started working as a Sales Representative at Permac in 1992, became part owner in 1993 to 100% ownership of the company in 1994. Under Miller's leadership Permac Industries was named the U.S. Chamber Small Business of the Year for the entire USA in 2008. Miller is currently a member of the U.S. Chamber Board of Directors and Advisory Council, board of directors for PMPA and MPMA (Manufacturing Trade Associations), and the Minnesota Valley Medical Manufacturers network (MEDNET), which she co-founded in 2006.

### **Kenneth Chenault**

Kenneth Chenault is the Chairman and CEO of American Express Company. Ken Chenault joined American Express in September 1981 and assumed his current responsibilities as CEO and Chairman in 2001. Chenault currently serves as a member of the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness. Chenault serves on the boards of American Express and several other corporate and nonprofit organizations, including IBM, The Procter & Gamble Company, the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health, the National Center on Addiction & Substance Abuse at Columbia University, the Smithsonian Institution's Advisory Council for the National Museum of African American History & Culture, and the World Trade Center Memorial Foundation. He also is on the boards of the Partnership for New York City, The Business Council and the Business Roundtable and serves as Vice Chairman of each of these organizations.

### **Richard Trumka**

Richard Trumka is the president of the AFL-CIO. Mr. Trumka was elected president of the AFL-CIO in September 2009. His election followed 14 years of service as Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO. Trumka is a third-generation coal miner from Nemacolin, Penn., began working in the mines at age 19. Trumka currently serves as a member of the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness. As a member of UMWA Local 6290, he served as Chairman of the Safety Committee. He soon became an activist in the Miners for Democracy reform movement. Trumka worked in the mines for more than seven years, supporting himself while attending Pennsylvania State University, where earned a Bachelor of Science degree, and through Villanova University, where he received a law degree. He served four years on the legal staff of the United Mine Workers before returning to the coal mines in 1979. He was elected to the UMWA executive board in 1981 and elected international president in 1982.

**Governor Martin O'Malley**

Governor Martin O'Malley is currently serving his second term as governor of Maryland. He also serves as the chair of the Democratic Governors Association and co-chair of the National Governor's Association's Special Committee on Homeland Security and Public Safety. Prior to assuming the governorship, O'Malley served on the Baltimore City Council from 1991 to 1999, was appointed assistant state's attorney for the city of Baltimore, and then served as the Mayor of Baltimore for two terms. As Governor, O'Malley has focused on job creation by spurring innovation in all sectors of business, academia, and government. O'Malley holds a BA from Catholic University and JD from the University of Maryland. He and his wife, Katie, a District court judge have four children.

**Mayor Mark Mallory**

A lifelong Cincinnati, Mallory was elected Mayor of Cincinnati in 2005 and won a second term in 2009. In 1994, he succeeded his father, Majority Floor Leader William L. Mallory, Sr., in the Ohio House of Representatives. Four years later, he moved to the Ohio Senate where he rose to the position of Assistant Minority Leader. He is the first directly-elected black Mayor of Cincinnati and holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati.

**Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa**

Antonio Villaraigosa was first elected mayor in 2005, then re-elected in 2009. He is the current resident of the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM). In 2008, Mayor Villaraigosa passed a sales tax increase to invest in creating 166,000 transportation jobs in Los Angeles. As president of USCM, he has led a bipartisan coalition of 165 mayors in support of an extension of the transportation reauthorization bill.

**Dr. Albert Green**

Dr. Green is CEO of Kent Displays, a rapidly expanding small business in Kent, Ohio, and serves on its Board of Directors. He has held these positions since joining the company in June 2007. In February, Dr. Green participated in the "Winning the Future Small Business Forum" in Cleveland. As Kent Displays CEO, he has used his unique skill set to drive development and commercialization of the company's Reflex™ No Power LCDs for several high growth applications including eReaders, eWriters, electronic skins and eCard displays. Since Dr. Green took the reins of Kent Displays CEO in 2007, he has guided the company's transition from a focus on research and development to product development and manufacturing. Under his leadership, Kent Displays successfully launched the award-winning Boogie Board LCD Writing Tablet in 2010 and formed Improv Electronics, a Kent Displays subsidiary focused on consumer products. The tablet's writing surface is a flexible Reflex LCD manufactured on the world's only roll-to-roll LCD production line, which began operation in 2008 at the company's headquarters in Kent, Ohio. This successful consumer product has driven a doubling of revenue and employment in the past 2 years.

**Jan Heister**

Jan Heister is president and chairperson of the Board of Directors for Premier Tooling and Mfg., Inc. in Peosta, Iowa. Jan participated in a small business session during the Rural Economic Forum in Peosta, Iowa last month. Jan originally became involved in the office and administrative operations of Premier to relieve James Heister of a number of duties in these areas. These duties have expanded over the past few years to encompass her current total management of the company. Prior to joining Premier, Jan worked in hospital and clinic settings as a Registered Nurse. While working in the hospital she served as supervisor of an operating room, recovery room, and charge nurse on the

medical-surgical unit. She has also worked 12 years as an office nurse in an orthopedic clinic. Jan is a graduate of The Finley Hospital School of Nursing.

### **Philip Maung**

Philip Maung is a small business owner and founder of Hissho Sushi, a 200-employee company headquartered in southwest Charlotte that trains sushi chefs and distributes ingredients for the food across the country. The company was founded 13 years ago. The company has grown consistently in the past decade, including a 62 percent increase in revenues last year. Philip Maung arrived in America with just \$13 in his pocket and a dream of making a new life. He pursued the emerging supermarket sushi industry and spent years learning every facet of the sushi business. In 1998, Philip and his wife Kristina pooled their finances to form Hissho Sushi and founded the company in the family dining room. The company began providing fresh sushi daily to supermarkets and cafes. Today, Hissho Sushi is a dynamic foodservice and distribution company managing and operating more than 400 sushi bars across the U.S. Their 46,000 square foot, state-of-the-art headquarters are located in Charlotte, NC.

### **Gracey Ibarra**

Gracey Ibarra, a mother of two children, is a 2009 high school graduate and has earned her Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certification. Gracey enrolled in the WIA Youth Program through Inter-County Community Council, which combined education with clinical experience and led her to a career in the medical field. She currently works as a CNA in a nursing home.

### **Joseph Kidd**

Joseph Kidd, a 30 year old father, joined the U.S. Navy in 2003 and completed Hospital Corpsman School. Upon graduation, Kidd received his orders to Naval Hospital Okinawa, in Japan. Once his rotation was complete, he moved to Camp Lejeune, NC. While at Camp Lejeune, Kidd was attached to a Marine Corps command, and deployed to Iraq in 2007. After he returned from Iraq, his daughter was born in January of 2009, and he was deployed again in May of 2009 as part of the 22D Marine Expeditionary Unit. Once Kidd returned, he was appointed to the Emergency Room at Camp Lejeune and later became the Leading Petty Officer. In April 2011, Kidd received his separation orders. In August, Kidd was one of five veterans to eat lunch with President Obama in Cannon Falls, MN during the rural bus tour. Kidd asked the President to help with credentialing programs that would allow a service member to take his or her skills from the military directly into the private sector. The President's staff is now actively working on the concept of a "career ready military." In late August, Kidd returned to school and studying pre-nursing.

### **John Raftery**

John Raftery served in the U.S. Marine Corp with 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division and currently serves as the president and CEO of Patriot Contractors, a construction firm, specializing in interior and exterior architectural specialties. A service-disabled, veteran-owned company founded in 2007, John has seen growth in revenues and employees each and every year of operation. Today, Patriot Contractors has 21 employees. In 2010, John's company generated revenues that hit \$2M, and he is on track to exceed \$5M in 2011. John is a 2007 graduate of the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans at Syracuse University and holds a BBS from Dallas Baptist University.

### **Nicole Gentile**

Nicole Gentile, married with two children, is a third grade teacher at Marion-Sterling Elementary in Cleveland, Ohio. She is at risk of being laid off given the district's budget situation. Thirteen of her colleagues are also at risk of being laid off.

### **Kelcie Fisher**

Kelcie Fisher is currently a senior at Open High, a Blue Ribbon school located in downtown Richmond, Virginia. Open High School will be 100 years old this year and needs to be modernized. Born and raised in Richmond, Kelcie has been a part of the Richmond Public Schools family throughout her entire educational career.

### **Hector R. Sealey**

Hector Sealey began working with Fort Myer Construction in August 2006 and continues as corporate director of safety, risk management and compliance officer for the corporation. Sealey has 18 years of safety and quality control management experience and 4 years of project management, with an overall of 30 years experience in the construction industry. Hector, along with almost a million workers, is at risk of losing his job if Congress does not act and the transportation bill expires. Hector joined President Obama in the Rose Garden when he called for a clean extension of the transportation bill last month.

### **Kirk Bergstrom**

Kirk Bergstrom, 43, is a project engineer with Denver Transit Partners (DTP), the consortium of investment, engineering, construction and operations and maintenance companies currently executing the \$2 billion Eagle Public-Private Partnership in Denver, Colorado. The Eagle P3 Project is a new commuter railroad line that will connect Downtown Denver and Denver International Airport and also downtown with a portion of western Denver. Before the Eagle P3 Project, Kirk was going to have to leave his family and travel back-and-forth to Kansas to work on another construction project. DTP, thanks to this federally funded project, was able to give him a career close to his home.

### **David Catalano**

In 2006 David Catalano co-founded Modea, a digital advertising agency in Blacksburg, VA. In five short years as president, Catalano and his executive team have grown the company 75-100% each year - eclipsing \$10 million in annual revenue. Catalano has been able to maintain his home in rural Virginia and build a globally competitive company, highlighting the importance of the need to provide high speed broadband access to all parts of the country. Modea has hired over 80 creative professionals from across the country. In the late 90s Catalano came to Blacksburg, VA to pursue a degree at Virginia Tech. Halfway through his senior year, Catalano put his degree on hold to co-found a product marketing agency producing content for the largest e-commerce sites on the web. After leading it to profitability in 2005, Catalano left the company to finish his Finance degree and start Modea.

### **Dannie and Sabrina Mangrum**

Dannie Mangrum is a Maryland corrections officer and Sabrina is getting her teaching degree at Coppin State. The couple has two sons and a daughter, and is earnestly anticipating the adoption of three foster children. A tax cut would benefit their family as they are looking for ways to provide for their children and their education.

### **Jessica Pickett**

Technician Jessica T. Pickett joined Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department in April 2006 where she currently functions as a field Firefighter/Medic. Technician Pickett is actively involved with the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 2068 and serves as the Chairperson of the EMS Committee. Technician Pickett was awarded the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Certificate of Valor in 2010 for actions involving personal risk and demonstration of judgment beyond the expected performance of duties. Prior to joining the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, Technician Pickett studied Biological Sciences at The George Washington University in Washington, DC and was a George C. Marshall Scholar and Rhodes Scholarship finalist.

### **Marlena Clark**

**Marlena Clark** is a graduate of Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) and a resident of Maryland. After working a number of minimum wage jobs and worrying about her future, she decided that her local community college would provide the best opportunity for a career path to success. She worked two jobs, as a housekeeper and a bartender, while taking courses in the Information Systems Security program at Anne Arundel. While enrolled at community college, Marlena was involved in a mentoring program focused on retaining women in IT careers and was able to participate in an internship at a local IT company. She is now a full-time systems engineer at the company, supporting the sales team and customers with networking solutions. As part of her ongoing outreach on community colleges, Dr. Biden visited Anne Arundel Community College last September to highlight the school's workforce development programs.

### **Tamara Washington**

Tamara Washington is a single mother, taking care of her 3 year old son Amir, in Torrance, CA. Tamara believes her hard work will enable her to provide quality healthcare and education for her son. While it has not been easy, many programs and organizations were there to help, including subsidized employment in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Emergency Contingency Fund, which allowed her to obtain a job that enabled her to support her son.

###