

## Information for the 56<sup>th</sup> Presidential Inauguration

### Contact Information

The Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies is responsible for all inaugural events at the U.S. Capitol, including the Oaths of Office for the President and Vice-President.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the staff of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies at (202) 224-2228. Additional information may also be found on our website: <http://www.inaugural.senate.gov>

### Tickets

All official tickets to the Inaugural Ceremonies are provided free of charge. The Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies distributes tickets for the ceremonies at the U.S. Capitol directly to Members of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. The Committee does not provide tickets to the public.

Tickets to the ceremonies will be distributed in January, the week before the ceremonies.

- **Tickets cannot be mailed to constituents, so offices are encouraged to develop a distribution plan prior to receiving their allocation.**

House and Senate office buildings will be open on Monday, January 19, 2009, (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day) to allow constituents to pick up their tickets to the inaugural ceremonies, should offices choose to provide this service.

The Committee does not require any personal information such as dates of birth or social security numbers; there is no need to collect such information from constituents requesting tickets. However, all guests will be required to go through vigorous security screening. A list of prohibited items will be made available in January and we encourage you to pass this information on to those constituents receiving tickets.

Offices should advise constituents that the event is historically cold and wet. The crowds will be very large and guests will likely be outside in the cold for at least three hours.

### Access to the U.S. Capitol

The U.S. Capitol will be closed to the public from 5:00pm on Saturday, January 17, 2009, until 3:00pm on Tuesday, January 20, 2009. Public tours will resume on Wednesday, January 21, 2009.

- **Congressional staff will not be allowed access to the U.S. Capitol on Inauguration Day.**
- **Members should be advised that no events or meetings -- public or private -- will be allowed in the U.S. Capitol on Inauguration Day, even in personal offices.**

## **Parking**

Parking on the Capitol Complex will be severely limited on the Inauguration Day. All staff and visitors are strongly encouraged to take public transportation.

## **Balls, Galas, Parties and Parade**

The President-elect will form a Presidential Inaugural Committee (PIC) immediately after the election. The Presidential Inaugural Committee is solely responsible for all balls, galas, receptions, parties, and the official Inaugural Day parade. Ticket requests for these events should be directed to the PIC.

Requests to participate in the official Inaugural Day parade or to provide entertainment at all balls, galas, receptions or parties should in the interim be referred to the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee. A participation application can be found on the AFIC website along with other information at <http://www.jfhqncr.northcom.mil/afic/about.html>. After requests are collected, they are submitted to the Presidential Inaugural Committee for participant selection.