


Office of the Sergeant at Arms  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-6634

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TO: All Members of Congress

FROM: Paul D. Irving   
Sergeant at Arms

DATE: January 13, 2014

SUBJECT: **State of the Union Address**

On **Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 9:00 PM**, the President will deliver the State of the Union address before a Joint Session of Congress. Security measures for this event will have a major impact on access in and around the Capitol.

### **GALLERY TICKETS AND TICKET PICKUP**

All Members receive one ticket which may be used by your spouse, immediate family, Congressional staff, or another guest. A permanent staff person with valid Congressional ID and a **printed copy of the Guest Information Form confirmation page** (available on the Sergeant at Arms website – see below for instructions) may pick up the ticket at the Rayburn House Office Building Appointments Desk on **Monday, January 27, from 8:30 AM until 4:00 PM, and on Tuesday, January 28 from 8:30 AM until 4:00 PM**. Please note that tickets must be picked up from the Rayburn Tunnel Appointments Desk; **they are not delivered to your office**. The Rayburn Appointment Desk is located adjacent to the Rayburn Subway on the G3 level. Questions regarding tickets, ticket pickup, or seating in the Gallery, may be directed to the Division of Protocol and Chamber Operations at 225-0067.

### **ACCESS TO THE HOUSE GALLERY**

Galleries open for ticket holders at 7:30 PM. ***Ticket holders who are unaccompanied by a Member, must access the House Gallery via the Cannon or Rayburn Tunnels.*** Staff from the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and the Capitol Guide Service will be posted to assist ticket holders. Please note that Members, their families, and any Member escorting a guest with a ticket to the Gallery may enter the Capitol through any entrance on the evening of January 28. For ticket holders who may have accessibility needs, please contact the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services at 224-4048 as soon as possible.

To gain access to the House Gallery on January 28, the following items are necessary: ***a ticket to the State of the Union Address AND a valid Congressional ID. If your guest does not have a valid Congressional ID, you must complete and submit a Guest Information Form online via the Sergeant at Arms Intranet site:***

<http://saa.house.gov/>

***Guest Information must be submitted electronically no later than COB Thursday, January 23.*** Your guest's name will appear on an access list maintained by the U.S. Capitol Police. Guests will be required to present a

photo ID and should refrain from bringing electronic devices with them to this event. For identification purposes we request that spouses wear their Spouse pins on the evening of the State of the Union Address and have a photo identification card.

### **ACCESS TO THE CAPITOL**

At 5:30 PM or immediately after the House recesses – whichever is later – access to the House wing of the Capitol will be restricted; only Members and staff who have an office in the Capitol will be allowed into this area. ***All other ticketholders are required to enter the Capitol from the House Office Buildings via the Cannon or Rayburn Tunnels beginning at 7:30 PM.***

### **ACCESS TO THE HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS**

Access to the office buildings for Members, their spouses, staff and visitors on the evening of the State of the Union Address is unchanged.

### **STREET CLOSURES**

At 7:00 PM, the U.S. Capitol Police will restrict access to the Capitol grounds, closing all streets around the Capitol and the office buildings (see attached map). If you need to gain access to the Capitol Grounds by vehicle please use one of these locations on the House-side of the Capitol complex:

- First and C Street, S.E.
- New Jersey Avenue and D Street, S.E.
- Washington and C Street, S.W.

Vehicle access at these locations will be limited to Members of Congress and their spouses, and vehicles with a valid House parking permit with at least one vehicle occupant possessing a valid Congressional ID.

Because of the limited space available for motorcade arrivals and departures, access to the Capitol Plaza and Drives is restricted to official motorcades only. Members must park in either their office building space or on New Jersey Avenue.

### **FLOOR ACCESS**

Due to the large attendance anticipated for the State of the Union Address, the rule regarding the privilege of the Floor will be strictly enforced. Staff authorized for Floor access during Legislative Business will not be admitted to the Floor without a separate credential. Member's guests, family, and children are not permitted on the Floor.

### **TOURS**

Because of security preparations for this event, ***public and staff-led tours will be suspended at Noon on January 28, 2014.*** The Capitol Visitor Center (CVC) will also close at Noon. Tours will resume on a normal operational schedule on Wednesday, January 29. For further information regarding tours, please contact the Office of Visitor Services at 593-1762.

If you have further questions, please contact my office at 225-2456.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

# CAPITOL COMPLEX TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS

## State of the Union Address

### January 28, 2014

### In Effect 7:00 PM through 11:00 PM

