



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 27, 2023

Dear Mr. President,

As we have been discussing since the end of the last Congress, I will be stepping down as White House Chief of Staff after completing an orderly handoff to my successor.

Your confidence in me to do this job has been the honor of a lifetime. The opportunity to work with the most talented, diverse, determined, and collegial White House staff ever – a team that I love so much – has been the highlight of my career.

The halfway point of your first term – with two successful years behind us, and key decisions on the next two years ahead – is the right time for this team to have fresh leadership. I have served longer than eight of the last nine Chiefs of Staff, and have given this job my all; now it is time for someone else to take it on.

It has been a privilege to be a part of your successful Presidential campaign, the transition, and your first two years at the White House. We have been “counted out” many times, and yet, we have come back each time to continue making progress for the American people. In the face of major challenges at home and abroad, your record has been indisputably historic.

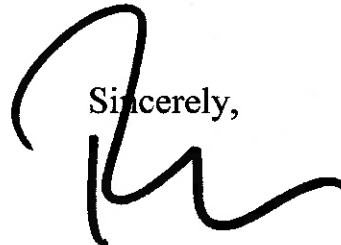
You passed the most significant economic recovery legislation since FDR; managed the largest land war in Europe since the Truman era; enacted the most sweeping infrastructure law since Eisenhower; named more judges in your first year than any President since JFK; passed the second-largest health care bill since LBJ; signed the most significant gun safety bill since Clinton; and enacted the largest climate change law in history. You did it all in the middle of the worst public health crisis since the Wilson era, with the smallest legislative majority of any newly elected Democratic President in a century.

And the record does not stop there. You used your executive powers to take historic steps on student debt relief, marijuana reform, racial equity, and economic competition when Congress failed to act. You have reduced COVID deaths by more than 80% since taking office, while reopening schools and businesses. You have created more jobs than any President in his first two years, cut the unemployment rate to the lowest level in 50 years, and reduced the deficit by more than any President in American history.

For me, it has been quite a journey. Thirty-six years ago, on the day I returned from my honeymoon, I joined your Senate staff. Leaving and returning to your staff several times since, my work for you has defined my life, both personally and professionally. In good times, you were the first to call when each of my children was born – and decades later, the first to congratulate me when they got engaged. In bad times, you were the first to console me when my father passed away years ago, and over the past two months, you have supported me in spending time away from the White House with my ailing mother. For almost four decades, your compassionate friendship and Dr. Biden’s abiding warmth have been woven into the tapestry of the Klain family. I am filled with gratitude.

In closing, if you choose to run in 2024, I look forward to doing whatever I can to help your campaign, as I did for your 1988, 2008, and 2020 campaigns. I will always be a Biden supporter and advocate in whatever I do next.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ron Klain', written in a cursive style.

Ron Klain