

Inauguration Ceremonies

January 20, 2009
The Capitol of the United States of America
City of Washington

LOCATIONS OF GATES AND GUEST SECTIONS FOR TICKET HOLDERS



Please Note: All Entrances Accessible

Entrance will only be granted at Gate indicated on Admission Ticket.

Please Note: Screening Entry Points have been updated, especially Silver – Mall Standing Area.

Ticket holders will be required to pass through security screening.

Packages, coolers, thermos bottles, mace, pepper spray, weapons, and supports for signs or posters ARE PROHIBITED.

The Citizen Media Law Project at Harvard University's Berkman Center for Internet & Society provides legal assistance, education, and resources for individuals and organizations involved in online and citizen media. The CMLP also provides research and advocacy on free speech, newsgathering, intellectual property, and other legal issues related to online speech.



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DOCUMENTING THE 2009 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

Information to help you understand and comply with security measures and other requirements while documenting the Inauguration.



CITIZEN MEDIA
LAW PROJECT



WHERE YOU CAN GO

While documenting the Inauguration, you can go anywhere the general public can go, but certain areas will be off-limits to you without tickets or official press credentials.

Most inaugural events are open to the public, free of charge. One exception is the "Swearing-In" on the steps of the Capitol Building, which requires a ticket. Security screening gates for ticketholders will open at 8:00am on January 20 and the formal program begins at 11:30am. Guests not through the screening points by 11:30am may not be allowed to enter.



Those without tickets can view the ceremony from the National Mall, which is under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, just west of the Capitol Building. Publicly accessible areas will be clearly marked, and security personnel will be present if you have questions about where you can and cannot go.

At both ticketed and non-ticketed events, press areas will be demarcated for members of the media who have applied for and been granted official press credentials.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

You can take still photographs, record video, and interview other Inauguration attendees at all inaugural events, provided that you comply with security regulations about what to bring (below) and don't create a disruption or otherwise interfere with security efforts.

Before interviewing someone, get the person's permission. If possible, get written permission or record verbal permission on video. Explain to the individual what you intend to do with the video (such as uploading it to the Internet) and get their permission to use their name and likeness for that purpose.

IN CASE OF TROUBLE

If you are interested in covering demonstrations or protests, it is a good idea to avoid any appearance that you are participating or engaging in disruptive behavior of any kind. Avoid wearing insignia, carrying signs, or joining in chants with protest participants. You should also obey the orders of police and other security personnel. If you believe that these officials are acting unlawfully, try to document the names and titles of those involved, and the contact information of witnesses to the incident. If possible, photograph or videotape the misconduct.

In case of trouble, The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press has a hotline for journalists (800-336-4243), and The Student Press Law Center has one for student journalists (703-807-1904). You can reach the American Civil Liberties Union's D.C. chapter at 202-457-0800.



WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT BRING



Hand held still and video cameras are allowed. Microphones appear to be allowed as well. **Tripods, backpacks and large bags (exceeding 8"x6"x4"), including camera bags, are not permitted.** Prohibited items include.

- ❖ Firearms and ammunition
- ❖ Explosives of any kind
- ❖ Knives, blades, or sharp objects
- ❖ Mace and/or pepper spray
- ❖ Sticks or poles
- ❖ Pocket or hand tools, such as "Leatherman"
- ❖ Packages
- ❖ Backpacks
- ❖ Large bags
- ❖ Duffel bags
- ❖ Suitcases
- ❖ Thermoses
- ❖ Coolers
- ❖ Strollers
- ❖ Umbrellas
- ❖ Laser pointers
- ❖ Signs
- ❖ Posters
- ❖ Animals (other than service animals)
- ❖ Other items that may pose a threat to the security of the event as determined by and at the discretion of the security screeners

