Inventory for FOIA Request 2004-0576-F

Records on James Oberwetter

Extent
63 folders

Access
Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Bush Presidential Records, Bush Vice Presidential Records, and Quayle Vice Presidential Records is governed by the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 USC 552 as amended) and the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 USC 22) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright
Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (Title 17, USC) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Provenance
Official records of George Bush’s presidency and vice presidency are housed at the George Bush Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Processed By
Staff Archivists, July 2008. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Related Collections N/A

Scope and Content
The materials in FOIA 2004-0576-F are a selective, not necessarily all inclusive, body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials.

FOIA 2004-0576-F contains materials relating to James “Jim” Oberwetter who served President George H.W. Bush in the following roles:
1970 - Press Secretary for Congressman George Bush
1980 – Delegate to Republican National Convention for George Bush
   Co-Chairman for the Reaga/Bush campaign in Dallas County
1984 – Co-Chairman of the VIP committee for the Dallas Republican Host Committee for the
   Republican National Convention
   Dallas County co-chairman of the 1984 Reagan-Bush campaign
1985 – Member of the Fund for America’s Future (PAC formed by Vice President Bush)
1987 to 1988 – State Director of “Texans for Bush”
1988 – Vice-Chairman of Texas Victory ’88
   Delegate to the Republican National Convention for George Bush
1988 to 1989 – Member of the transition team in the Office of the President-elect
1990 – Appointed to serve as Member of the U.S. International Cultural and Trade Center
   Commission (ICTC)
1992 - Texas State chairman for the Bush-Quayle campaign

James Oberwetter was a personal friend of the Bushes, as well as a political ally. Therefore, this
collection of materials contains many private records which are not open to the public.

Bush Presidential Records include the following type of documents:

The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) Alphabetical Files contain correspondence
between James C. Oberwetter and White House staff regarding various issues, such as requests for
materials, appearances, recommendations, events, newspaper reports, and Mr. Oberwetter’s appointment
to the U.S. International Cultural and Trade Center Commission (ICTC), as well as letters from
constituents regarding requests for George Bush’s attendance at or taped messages for events; memos
between White House staff having to do with scheduled events, correspondence, or various requests;
notes from Chase Untermeyer to James C. Oberwetter regarding newspaper articles; a copy of a Bush
Inauguration photograph; a newspaper article written about the Bush Administration; and a James C.
Oberwetter resume.

The WHORM Subject File categories contain coversheets, such as White House Tracking Sheets, fax
coversheets, and routing slips; clearance forms for potential appointees, as well as correspondence and
gifts forms; correspondence between James C. Oberwetter and George Bush and/or White House staff
regarding the State Visit of President Saleh, Oberwetter’s appointment to ICTC, requests for meetings,
recommendations, gifts, appointments, and sentiments of appreciation. There are also letters from
constituents with recommendations, thoughts on the economy, congratulations on the inauguration, and
letters from George Bush or White House staff to constituents dealing with gifts, congratulations on
retirements, service awards, a petition from the Korean community, and George Bush’s attendance at
events. Included in these materials are transmittal memos which route other correspondence and
memoranda between George Bush and/or White House staff regarding appointments, service letters for
appointees, and sympathy telephone calls; a note from George Bush to James C. Oberwetter in thanks
for taking part in the State Visit of President Saleh; and press releases, which announce the appointment
of James C. Oberwetter to the ICTC and Bill Melton as the 1991’s “Most Valuable Public Official.” There
are also White House news summaries of this time period. Printed material consists of brochures for the
Texas Public Policy Foundation and Nominations for the Sixth Annual Edward J. Devitt Distinguished
Service Award; a Proclamation of honor to Elmo B. Hunter for his service as Judge; a partial copy of
“Making Government Work;” newspaper articles regarding the “Most Valuable Public Officials,”
(specifically Dallas County Treasurer Bill Melton), Bush Administration policies, and Ross Perot; magazine
articles about Governor Tommy Thompson, and educational training; a book excerpt from “Biographical
Directory of the Governors of the U.S.;” and a petition from the Korean Community. Finally, these records
contain a James C. Oberwetter resume.
The Staff and Office Files consist of Presidential Appointment forms for James C. Oberwetter; correspondence between James C. Oberwetter and White House staff regarding information for his appointment to the ICTC, and discussion of various books of interest; a printout of Dallas Water Utilities citations issued to Hunt Products Company, Inc.; and appointment memorandums for James C. Oberwetter, as well as members of the National Advisory Council on Educational Research and Improvement. Printed material includes §1106 International Cultural and Trade Center Commission and a newspaper article regarding a “Point of Light.” There is also a James C. Oberwetter resume.

Bush Vice Presidential Records include the following type of documents:

The Name Files consist of coversheets, such as routing slips and scheduling tracking sheets; George Bush letters of thanks and rebuttal on issues, and correspondence between James C. Oberwetter and George Bush or White House staff regarding articles, recommendations, requests for meetings, photographs, congratulatory messages, and attendance at events; notes which route correspondence; and printed materials, such as magazine articles about congressmen, the 1988 primaries, President Bush’s tax disclosures, an invocation given by President Bush, and a political cartoon.

The WHORM Subject Files consist of coversheets, such as routing slips and a correspondence form; correspondence between George Bush and James C. Oberwetter and other constituents regarding the English Language Amendment, available positions, and requests for Vice President Bush at events; notes having to do with scheduling; and printed material, which consists of newspaper articles on GOP legislators, and the English language amendment.

The Staff and Office Files consist of correspondence, a list of participants, memos, and a note regarding the delegation to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Berlin airlift.

System of Arrangement

Records that are responsive to this FOIA request were found in six collection areas—Bush Presidential Records: WHORM Alphabetical Files; Bush Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files; Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files; Bush Vice Presidential Records: Name Files; Bush Vice Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files; and Bush Vice Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files. As policy, WHORM Alphabetical Files and WHORM Subject Files are processed at the document level. Staff and Office Files are processed at the folder level, that is, individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area.

The WHORM Subject File compiled by the White House Office of Records Management is comprised of a series of documents assigned a letter/number combination and filed in a subject category. A complete listing of the subject categories including a detailed description of each category is available in our research room and on our website at http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu/research/find/whorm/whorm.html.

Please note that a single asterisk "*" indicates that the category is entirely processed and open.

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2004-0576-F.

Bush Presidential Records: WHORM Alphabetical Files

Name
Oberwetter, James (Jim)
## Bush Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files

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Bush Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files

Advance Office
  Peggy Hazelrigg Files
  Oberwetter, Mr. James C., 2900 InterFirst One Building, Dallas, Texas 75202 [OA/ID 03783]

Counsels Office
  Appointment Files
  Member James Curtis Oberwetter US International Cultural and Trade Center Commission [OA/ID 20143]

National Service Office
  Gretchen Pagel Files
  Oberwetter [OA/ID 05708]

Personnel Office
  Presidential Appointment Files—Personnel Addendums File
  Oberwetter, Eleanor A. [OA/ID 07055]

Bush Vice Presidential Records: WHORM Name Files

Name
  Oberwetter, James

Bush Vice Presidential Records: WHORM Subject File

ED003 (Post '85) Case Number: 496290VP
PL009 Case Number: 507179VP
Bush Vice Presidential Records: Staff and Office Files

Operations, Administration, and Staff Secretary Office
Thomas Collamore Files—Personnel Files [OA/ID 14427]

Last modified: 07/14/2008