

# Casting Light on The Deep State

## First in a series of articles

In September, Judicial Watch gathered a distinguished panel in Washington, D.C. to discuss the “Deep State,” that collection of unelected officials and bureaucrats who have a permanent place in the halls of government and assume they know better than the president and the American people.

Christopher J. Farrell, JW’s Director of Investigations and Research, moderated the discussion. Joining him were:

- **Sebastian Gorka**, former Deputy Assistant to the President and author of *New York Times* bestseller *Defeating Jihad: The Winnable War*
- **Diana West**, journalist and author of *American Betrayal: The Secret Assault on Our Nation’s Character*
- **Todd Shepherd**, investigative reporter with *The Washington Examiner*
- **James Peterson**, senior attorney at Judicial Watch

Chris Farrell made a revealing observation about the demographics of Washington D.C., where the Deep State resides:

“Ninety-four percent of Washington, D.C. voted for Hillary Clinton. When that population gets up in the morning and goes to work and staffs the departments and agencies of the government, they’re generally anti-President Trump.

“That’s the leadership of each of the departments and agencies. That is what a new administration faces. And, traditionally, the Left is quite comfortable with the organs of the state and the levers of management. They love policies and programs and departments, and you find, generally speaking, the Right doesn’t.”

During his seven months in the Trump administration, Sebastian Gorka witnessed the Deep State first hand:

“One hundred twenty-five national security leaks in the first 126 days of the administration, so that’s practically one a day. That is seven times the number of national security leaks under the Bush administration or the Obama administration taken as an average in the first six months — not twice, not three times, seven times the number of leaks. According to Congress, of those initial leaks, at least 60 of them were of serious national security matters.

“When you sit in a meeting of the National Security Council, which is the highest decision making

**JW Special Report “Exposing the Deep State”**

★ ★ ★

**“We are learning now about the outrageous efforts by the CIA, the FBI, the NSA to insert themselves into the presidential campaign, into the political process in order to destroy his [Trump’s] candidacy and presidency.”**

~ *Diana West, journalist and author*

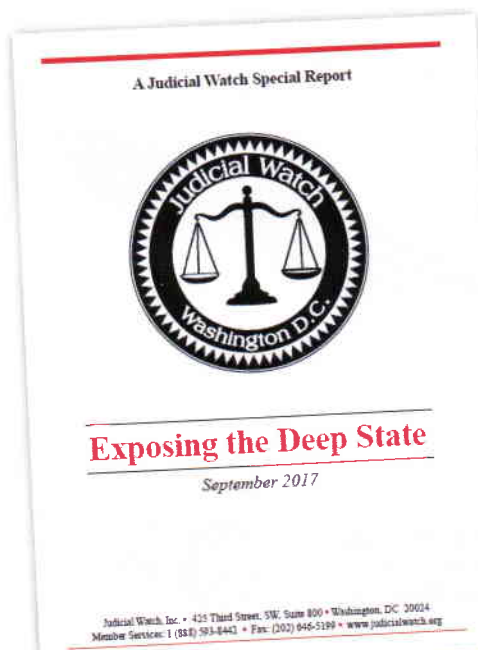
★ ★ ★

body on policy in the United States government, with every high-ranking representative of the administration, whether it’s State Department, DOD, CIA, NSA, and you listen to a discussion for more than an hour, and not one person in the room or on the outstations on the video teleconference ever mentions the name of the president, what his objectives are or what he said in Riyadh or Warsaw or in front of the joint session of Congress, we have a very serious problem because they are there not to serve their own understanding of what the nation needs, but to serve the vision of the new CEO.”

Diana West sees the Deep State as a direct challenge to President Trump:

“It’s important to remember that it was Donald Trump himself who provoked the Deep State to expose itself. We can see this in what we’re learning now about the outrageous efforts by the CIA, the FBI, the NSA to insert themselves

**See DEEP STATE page 14**



## Deep State

From page 13

into the presidential campaign, into the political process in order to destroy his candidacy and presidency.

“I just have to wonder why they are not under serious investigation. Why is their continued survival not dependent on major reform and new transparency? It is Trump who is imperiled. The extent to which the Deep State is succeeding, the extent to which President Trump has joined forces too often to destroy his own agenda makes it unlikely, it seems, that we will actually expose much more of this mechanism, and, much more importantly, arouse the political and legal will to destroy it and restore constitutional governance because exposure alone is not enough.”

For journalist Todd Shepherd, the issue is the control of information:

“There has sadly been no groundswell of opinion from the voters about the fact that our basic functions of transparency are so broken. I believe the average American, though, understands quite clearly that it’s ironic and it’s shameful that the government can have their phone logs within a matter of days but I, as a reporter, cannot get the bureaucrats’ phone logs for a matter of months.


“That’s how broken our Freedom of Information Act laws are. We’re familiar with the phrase ‘Justice delayed is justice denied,’ but there’s a corollary there and that is information delayed is more power into the hands of a bureaucracy. Investigative reporter Ethan Barton at *The Daily Caller* had a story in which Mother Jones requested some information about Trump, and what was eventually turned over to them was about 1,000

e-mails. They were able to get this within four months. There is no such corresponding effort for conservative outlets.”

Judicial Watch senior attorney James Peterson confirmed that the Deep State is still blocking Judicial Watch’s access to information:

“We fought the State Department and the Justice Department for Hillary’s e-mails last year, in difficult litigation at each turn. So, when Donald Trump was elected, we thought — we weren’t necessarily certain of it — but we thought there was at least a decent chance that there might be something new, that the perspective of the Obama administration would change with the Trump administration. Boy, was that naïve. I mean, we thought that there would be a change.

“Literally on day one and ever since it has continued. The fight has continued. If anything, it’s just as difficult, it’s just as intense, the opposition to anything we’re trying to do. The State Department, the Justice Department still fight tooth and nail at each stage to prevent anything coming out, whether it’s Hillary e-mail related or things that could be easily released at the discretion of the government at any moment. It doesn’t require any significant action, but the same people are still there — not just at each of the agencies that are in control but also at the Justice Department in the litigation. It’s the same people that are still in control.”

Watch the panel discussion, “Exposing the Deep State” at the Judicial Watch website: <https://www.judicialwatch.org/live> 

### Make a Gift of Appreciated Securities to Judicial Watch

Please consider transferring appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares that you have owned for more than one year to Judicial Watch, before December 31.

*You will receive an immediate income tax deduction for the value of the securities on the date of transfer, no matter what you originally paid for them, and you will pay no capital gains tax.*



For information on any of the charitable giving ideas mentioned above, contact Steve Andersen, Director of Development at 1 (888) 593-8442 x337, or by email at [sandersen@judicialwatch.org](mailto:sandersen@judicialwatch.org).

