

# Trump returns to campaign trail

President-elect visits states that backed him for rallies

By **KEN THOMAS**  
*Associated Press*

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Appearing jovial and relaxed, Donald Trump plunged back into election politics Friday, a full month after he won the presidency, thanking Michigan voters and prodding Louisiana Republicans to turn out for Saturday’s Senate runoff election.

Trump regaled supporters in Grand Rapids with a lengthy recitation of his victories in a string of battleground states, including Michigan, which had not previously backed a Republican presidential candidate since 1988.

“They forgot about you people,” Trump said of his Democratic opponents. “In four years they’re not going to forget. But it’s not going to work because you’re not going to forget.”

Several protesters were removed from his rally at DeltaPlex Arena, prompting the president-elect to declare at one point, “Get ‘em out of here.”

Trump introduced Betsy DeVos, his choice for education secretary, who hails from West Michigan, and announced that Andrew Liveris, the chief executive of Dow Chemical, would lead a national manufacturing council. Liveris told the audience that Dow would soon bring a new research-and-development center to Michigan.

In Louisiana, the incoming president addressed a large crowd at an airport hangar, and at one point tossed his trademark “Make America Great Again” hat to a supporter. He noted that he’d been named Time’s “Person of the Year” and asked the crowd if the magazine should go back to its former “Man of the Year.”

Gauging the boisterous response, he declared the answer was yes.

Trump campaigned for Republican John Kennedy, the state treasurer who faces off Saturday against Public Service Commissioner Foster Campbell, a Democrat, for the seat of retiring Republican Sen. David Vitter. Neither won a majority in the November primary, leading to the runoff. Polls have shown Kennedy with a comfortable lead.

While candidate Trump was often at odds with the establishment wing of his party, the incoming president has been broadly supported by GOP leaders since the election. And he is trying to consolidate any lingering factions, most immediately in Louisiana, where a victory by Kennedy would cement the party’s four-seat advantage in the new Senate.



President-elect Donald Trump throws a hat into the audience while speaking at a rally in a DOW Chemical Hanger at Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport, Friday, Dec. 9, 2016, in Baton Rouge, La.

## Mattis received anonymous email in Petraeus case

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Donald Trump’s choice for defense secretary was among U.S. military officials who the FBI concluded received anonymous emails from the woman whose affair with then-CIA director David Petraeus led to his downfall, The Associated Press has learned.

The emails to now-retired Marine Gen. James Mattis and others, warning them to stay away from a Tampa, Florida, socialite, led to the discovery of the affair and revelations that Petraeus had shown classified secrets to his lover, Paula Broadwell.

According to an FBI report and a U.S. official, agents interviewed Mattis, who said he always had proper interactions with the socialite, Jill Kelley. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to discuss the investigation publicly.

The bizarre scandal surfaced four years ago but has crept back into headlines in recent weeks because Petraeus is among candidates Trump is considering to become secretary of state.



Retired United States Marine Corps General James Mattis was appointed Secretary of Defense by Donald Trump.

Petraeus resigned as CIA director in November 2012, and later pleaded guilty to one misdemeanor charge of mishandling classified information. He was also fined \$100,000 and

remains on probation.

The scandal unfolded when the FBI investigated anonymous emails sent to high-ranking military officials and to Kelley’s husband, warning them about what was described as Kelley’s inappropriate behavior toward the men. The FBI concluded that the emails were from Broadwell, Petraeus’ biographer, and as they investigated, they learned of the affair and learned that Petraeus had shared classified materials with Broadwell.

One of the officials who received an anonymous email was Mattis, who Trump announced last week would become his nominee for secretary of defense.

Mattis had been interviewed by the FBI about the email and his statement was memorialized in FBI reports. He told investigators he could not understand why anyone would send him a warning because he always had above-board interactions with Kelley, who he described to the FBI as holding an honorary ambassador title. Mattis had met Kelley when he served as a top officer at U.S. Central Command headquarters in Tampa.

## Trump closes companies tied to Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Donald Trump shut down some of his companies in the days after the election, including four that appeared connected to a possible Saudi Arabia business venture, according to corporate registrations in Delaware.

News of the move comes days before Trump was expected to describe changes he is making to his businesses to avoid potential conflicts of interest as the U.S. president.

The Trump Organization’s general counsel, Alan Garten, described shutting down the four companies as routine “housecleaning,” and said there was no existing Trump business venture in Saudi Arabia. The four Saudi-related companies were among at least nine companies that Trump filed paperwork to dissolve or cancel since the election.

The recent dissolutions represent a fraction of Trump’s global network of companies — the breadth of which has raised conflict-of-interest concerns about whether Trump can balance being an international businessman while conducting the nation’s business abroad as president.

Trump’s holdings include more than 500 private companies, some of which he creates for prospective deals. The complex and changing structure makes it difficult for Americans to track his financial interests and partners. Trump has disclosed the names and some details about companies in public filings.

Trump said he plans to announce how he will separate himself from his business interests once he’s president.

## Ties deepen with Goldman Sachs

WASHINGTON (AP) — During the presidential campaign, Donald Trump accused rival Ted Cruz of being controlled by Goldman Sachs because his wife, Heidi, previously worked for the Wall Street giant. He slammed Hillary Clinton for receiving speaking fees from the bank.

“I know the guys at Goldman Sachs. They have total, total control over him,” Trump said of Cruz. “Just like they have total control over Hillary Clinton.”

Now, Trump is putting Goldman executives at the helm of his economic team. He’s expected to name bank president Gary Cohn to an influential White House policy post, according to two people informed of the decision, and has already nominated former Goldman executive Steve Mnuchin to lead the Treasury Department. Steve Bannon, Trump’s incoming White House senior adviser, also worked at Goldman before becoming a conservative media executive.

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