



## President Obama's era drifts into uncharted territory

# Obama accepts Trump's call for unity

### Hillary Clinton loses presidential election, wins popular vote

By Josh Lederman and Kathleen Hennessey  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Conceding Hillary Clinton's staggering defeat, President Barack Obama on Wednesday said he was heartened by Donald Trump's call for unity after his stunning victory and "we are now all rooting for his success in uniting and leading the country."

Obama spoke to reporters in the Rose Garden of the White House in a post-election ritual meant to signal the peaceful transition of power from one president to the next. He vowed to do all he could to ensure a smooth transition and tried to buck up Democrats still reeling with disappointment and



Clinton

shock. "We all want what's best for this country," Obama said, noting he was encouraged by Trump's election night remarks urging reconciliation after an especially

bitter and long contest. He spoke just moments after Hillary Clinton formally conceded to Trump with a similar, though more emotional, appeal to give Trump a chance to succeed as president. The remarks were striking after a campaign in which the Democrats declared Trump was unfit to serve and told voters the future of democracy was riding on their choice. An extraordinarily large number of Obama aides and advisers — more than a hundred in all — gathered to hear his statement, including stenographers, low-level aides and White House Counsel Neil Eggleston. The White House said Obama and Trump are due to meet Thurs-

day to discuss the handover of power and ongoing planning for the transition. Obama called the Republican in the early hours of the morning Wednesday to congratulate him on his stunning victory, which marked a forceful rebuke by voters to Obama's eight years in office. For Obama, handing over the White House to Trump is a devastating blow to his legacy and to his hopes for leaving a lasting imprint on the nation's policies. Trump has vowed to rip up much of what Obama accomplished, including his signature health care law, the Iran nuclear deal and a painstakingly negotiated trade deal with Asia. With Republican control of

both chambers of Congress, he will be well positioned to make good on that promises. Obama also called Clinton after it became clear she'd lost the race. The White House said Obama had "expressed admiration for the strong campaign she waged throughout the country." It was unclear how substantive Obama's call was with Trump, or how long it lasted, although the White House noted that Obama placed the call from his residence in the White House, rather than from the West Wing. Trump's campaign manager, Kellyanne Conway, described it as a "warm conversation" and a "gracious exchange." She said Trump had missed the president's

original call as Trump was speaking to supporters in New York, then called him back after leaving the stage. Like Clinton and other Democrats, Obama didn't appear to see Trump's victory coming. As he campaigned vigorously for Clinton in the race's final days, Obama said he was confident that if Americans showed up to vote, they'd choose against electing the billionaire former reality TV star with no formal government experience. He had also warned supporters in apocalyptic terms that "the fate of the republic" rested on Clinton defeating Trump on Election Day. Associated Press writer Jill Colvin contributed to this report.

## Congressman Thompson wins again in 2nd District

By Shanderia K. Posey  
Editor

Congressman Bennie Thompson cruised to victory on Election Day just as he has done since 1993 to represent the Second Congressional District for Mississippi.

With 67 percent of the vote, Thompson beat three opponents for the seat. He secured 178,419 votes compared to John Bouie's 77,832, Troy Ray's 6,497 and Johnny McLeod's 3,497.

He remains the only Democrat and African American among four congressmen who represent the Magnolia State in the U.S.



Thompson

House. As usual, the Bolton native celebrated with his many supporters Tuesday evening in that small town. The party included lots of food and music as supporters mixed and mingled on the sidewalks and in the street. Thompson shared why his support remains strong for the district which covers more than 15,000 square miles and includes more than 740,000 people. The district's eastern border runs along Tunica and Leake

counties. Alcorn State University, Delta State University, Mississippi Valley State University and Jackson State University are located in the Second District.

"We stress constituent services with the staff. We never meet a stranger. I've lived in the district my whole life. I know the people and I don't have to do anything other than the best job possible. Getting to serve in Congress is an opportunity to broaden the efforts to help people.

"As the only Democrat in the

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## Mississippi Democrats express disappointment

By Shanderia K. Posey  
Editor

To say the least, disappointment was in the air during the Mississippi Democratic Party's Young Democrats watch party Tuesday evening at Hal and Mal's in downtown Jackson.

More than 100 supporters came and went at the gathering. By 9 p.m. most people were sitting somberly at tables as the upsetting elections results updated on the big screen.

The brightest part of the evening occurred when Hillary Clinton briefly passed Donald Trump in electoral votes,



The Mississippi Democratic Party's Young Democrats held a watch party at Hal and Mal's Tuesday night. PHOTO BY SHANDERIA K. POSEY

but soon the shock of Clinton possibly losing the election be-

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