

Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section 3 – The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled

MeetToImpeach.com

FEATURE: **Impeachment: week in review**

A weekly one paragraph summary report and analysis, followed by recaps (with links) of representative on-line articles and essays – typically 800 to 1,600 words.

Week ending 1/7/2018 (~1,250 words)

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Minneapolis 1/9/18 Edition – The past week has been dominated by fallout and reactions to a new book – Fire and Fury – purporting to be a candid, insider view of the Trump White House during its early months. Many White House officials are portrayed as having serious doubts about President Trump’s fitness to be President. Invoking the 25th Amendment as a way of removing President Trump from office is reported to have been widely discussed at the White House. The White House, led by the President, has launched a fierce broadside against the book, calling both it and the author, Michael Wolff, “garbage.” Mainstream pundits such as David Brooks at the NY Times question the book’s alleged “lowbrow” approach to standards of journalism and honesty. One thing is clear so far – quotes attributed to former White House strategist and former Trump campaign manager Steve Bannon have resulted in Bannon’s exit from Breitbart News, where he had been the Executive Chairman. Sales of the book are incredible -- the publisher is reported to be increasing production of the physical book from an initial run of 150,000 to one million copies. Lots of as many as 500 copies at a single bookstore are reported to be selling out in a day.

Fire and Fury book fallout

[Breitbart News reports](#) that Steve Bannon has stepped down from his position as Executive Chairman at Breitbart News – an obvious and direct consequence of what he was

quoted as saying in [Fire and Fury](#). Breitbart CEO Larry Solov said: "Steve is a valued part of our legacy, and we will always be grateful for his contributions, and what he has helped us to accomplish."

The full [CNN Jake Tapper "State of the Union" interview](#) of White House senior policy advisor Stephen Miller is representative of the Trump White House's across-the-board broadside against the new book. Asked about Steve Bannon's reported statement that a 2016 meeting in Trump Tower including a Russian lawyer, Donald Trump Jr., then-Campaign Manager Paul Manafort, Jared Kushner and others was "treasonous and unpatriotic," and a quote attributed to Bannon by [Fire and Fury](#) author Michael Wolff: "the chance that Don Jr. did not walk these Jimos up to his father's office on the twenty-sixth floor [after the meeting] is zero," Miller responded: "it's tragic and unfortunate that Steve [Bannon] would make these grotesque comments, so out of touch with reality, and obviously so vindictive, and the whole White House staff is deeply disappointed in his comments, which were grotesque ... the book [Fire and Fury] is best understood as a very poorly written work of fiction... the author is a garbage author of a garbage book... The betrayal of the President in the book is so contrary to reality, to the experience of those who work with him, to my own experience having spent the last two years with him. You know on the campaign I had the chance to travel all across the country with the President, on 'Trump Force One'... going from rally to rally to rally to rally. And I saw a man who was a political genius. Somebody who -- we would be going down, landing descent, there would be a breaking news development, and in 20 minutes he would dictate ten paragraphs of new material to address that event, and then deliver flawlessly in front of an audience of ten thousand people." Tapper eventually ended the interview by cutting off Miller and moving to another segment.

Following are quotes excerpted from [CNBC's interview](#) of [Fire and Fury](#) author Michael Wolff: "The thing at the heart of this book is that everyone around the President thinks he's dysfunctional. And I would say, I would go: 'you can hold the gun to my head' on that. Literally everybody." "But they do think that if the investigation goes near his finances, he's sunk. Everybody, again, to a man." "My entire career I've been accused of being too 'highbrow.' The sentences are too complicated. And actually, this book remains relatively highbrow. And so, if you want to call me tabloid, actually, that's probably good for me."

The [Washington Times reports](#) this assessment by retired Harvard Law Professor Alan

Dershowitz regarding Trump's mental stability: "These psychiatrists now who are trying to diagnose without ever having met the man — that's what they did in Russia. I represented dissidents who they locked up in mental hospital." Dershowitz continued: "How dare liberals, people on the left, try to undo democracy by accusing the President of being mentally ill without any basis?... The 25th Amendment doesn't apply. Everybody knew who Donald Trump was when they elected him. I didn't vote for him, I voted against him, people voted for him, but he hasn't changed in office, and this idea of diagnosing him instead of opposing him politically poses an enormous danger."

[NY Times](#) conservative pundit and "proud member" of the anti-Trump movement David Brooks sees Fire and Fury as emblematic of a trend towards "lowbrowism" in the anti-Trump movement. He writes: "Wolff doesn't pretend to adhere to normal journalistic standards. He happily admits that he's just tossing out rumors that are too good to check." Brooks fears the anti-Trump movement is slipping into a kind of "echo chamber Easyboy" posture, absorbing distillations of caricatures of both President Trump and his "enablers" -- but falling short of standards for journalistic rigor and honest truth-seeking.

Mueller Investigation

The [NY Times](#) reports President Trump's lawyers have been told an interview of him is likely to be sought by the Mueller investigation. Possible formats and arrangements include written answers to questions. President Trump has experience being deposed in civil lawsuits, but has never before done such a high-stakes interview. President Clinton was impeached after allegedly lying during grand jury testimony.

The [NY Times](#) reported that the Mueller Investigation was prompted initially by information provided to the Australian Ambassador by a Trump campaign advisor: "The information that [Trump advisor] Mr. Papadopoulos gave to the Australians answers one of the lingering mysteries of the past year: What so alarmed American officials to provoke the F.B.I. to open a counterintelligence investigation into the Trump campaign months before the presidential election?" An alternative theory of what prompted the investigation was the so-called "Russian Dossier" prepared by former British intelligence operative Christopher Steele, originally as "opposition research" intended to benefit the Clinton campaign.

Impeach Trump campaign

[Vice News reports](#) California Democrat and retired hedge fund billionaire Tom Steyer has doubled his budget -- from \$20 million already spent to a new total budget of \$40 million -- for an advertising and petition campaign to impeach President Trump. Speculation on Steyer's motives now includes a possible 2020 presidential campaign of his own.

NFL athletes' national anthem protests

The [Star Tribune reports](#) as Super Bowl LII approaches at its Minneapolis US Bank venue, newly elected Saint Paul mayor Melvin Carter appeared to pave the way for continuing controversy over the NFL athlete's protests during the National Anthem. Carter referenced the seldom sung third stanza of the anthem, and said: “We cannot ignore the painful reminder, written into our anthem’s third verse, of just how deeply injustice is rooted in the American tradition. ... Our national freedom song is an ode to slavery.”

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