

**The original documents are located in Box 20, “11/21/75 - Talking Points: Swearing In of Jack Eckerd, Administrator of GSA (Not used)” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

NOVEMBER 21, 1975

NOT USED BY THE PRESIDENT

TALKING POINTS

SWEARING IN OF JACK ECKERD

ADMINISTRATOR OF GSA

NOVEMBER 21, 1975

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YOU'VE DESCRIBED YOURSELF AS A "HARD-NOSED,  
TIGHT-FISTED BUSINESSMAN."

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED IN GOVERNMENT TODAY.

YOU'RE A PUBLIC SERVANT NOW -- BUT KEEP THOSE BUSINESS

INSTINCTS.        THEY WILL BE VERY VALUABLE IN GOVERNMENT.

WE MUST KEEP PROGRAMS PRODUCTIVE AND COSTS UNDER CONTROL.

THE GSA, UNDER YOUR DIRECTION, CAN ACT AS A  
SHOWCASE OF ACTION TO REDUCE RESTRICTIVE AND COSTLY  
RED-TAPE THAT COMPLICATES RATHER THAN FACILITATES BUSINESS  
AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT.

**YOU HAVE CALLED THE ADMINISTRATOR'S JOB**

**"ENORMOUS, COMPLICATED AND THANKLESS."**

BUT THE ADMINISTRATOR'S JOB IS VITAL TO THE  
COUNTRY -- NOT JUST BECAUSE GSA ITSELF IS A MULTI-BILLION  
DOLLAR ORGANIZATION BUT BECAUSE GSA PROVIDES THE SUPPLIES  
AND SERVICES NEEDED BY OTHER EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.



IN SOME MEASURE, HOW WELL GSA DOES ITS JOB  
DETERMINES HOW WELL THE OTHER AGENCIES CAN FUNCTION.

YOUR ROLE IS VITAL IN GETTING GOVERNMENT SERVICES  
TO THE PEOPLE EFFICIENTLY AND ECONOMICALLY.

MY BEST WISHES FOR YOUR SUCCESS IN THIS  
DEMANDING JOB.

END OF TEXT

TALKING POINTS

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ADMINISTRATOR OF GSA

NOVEMBER 21, 1975

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TALKING POINTS: SWEARING IN OF JACK ECKERD AS  
ADMINISTRATOR OF GSA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1975

12:00 NOON

You've described yourself as a "hard-nosed, tight-fisted  
businessman."

That's exactly what we need in Government today. You're  
a public servant now -- but keep those business instincts. They  
will be very valuable in Government. We must keep programs  
productive and costs under control.

The GSA, under your direction, can act as a showcase of  
action to reduce restrictive and costly red-tape that complicates  
rather than facilitates business as well as Government.

You have called the Administrator's job "enormous,  
complicated and thankless."

But the Administrator's job is vital to the country -- not  
just because GSA itself is a multi-billion dollar organization but  
because GSA provides the supplies and services needed by other  
executive agencies.

In some measure, how well GSA does its job determines how well the other agencies can function.

Your role is vital in getting Government services to the people efficiently and economically.

My best wishes for your success in this demanding job.

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