

**Subject: Message for The Washington Post Team**

Dear Washington Post Team,

I want to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to Fred for his dedicated service to The Washington Post as our Publisher and CEO.

Fred has led The Post through a period of innovation, journalistic excellence, and growth. His focus on the intersection of journalism and technology has been of great benefit to readers and has laid the foundation for future growth.

Fred is widely respected for championing press freedom and the protection of journalists. In addition to launching the Press Freedom Partnership, he's been a relentless force in his devotion to secure the release of journalists who have been wrongly detained and an unwavering voice for accountability from those who do them harm.

I'm deeply grateful to Fred for his leadership and for the friendship that we've developed over the years. I look forward to continuing to enjoy both as he works to advance civility in our nation's discourse.

To ensure we don't skip a beat, Fred has agreed to remain as Publisher for the next two months, and my longtime friend and colleague Patty Stonesifer will join The Post today as interim CEO. She'll head up our leadership team, steer us through this important transition, and help me identify the Publisher/CEO who will take the Post forward into the next decade. Patty has built and led great organizations. You'll soon see for yourself why I admire her. Her skills, judgement, and character all stand out. She also understands the importance of our mission and has a deep respect for the work we do here.

Please join me in thanking Fred as he prepares for his new venture and in welcoming Patty as she assumes the interim CEO role.

Many thanks,

Jeff