



Rahm Emanuel

Class of 1977

Rahm Emanuel was elected the 55th mayor of Chicago on February 22nd, 2011, and was sworn in on May 16th, 2011.

A Chicagoan with three terms representing his North Side district in Congress, Emanuel is deeply rooted in the life of the city.

Emanuel most recently served as the White House Chief of Staff in President Barack Obama's administration. During his tenure, he helped orchestrate the passage of key milestones such as the economic Recovery Act, Wall Street reform, and health care reform.

Prior to his role in the administration, Emanuel served three terms in the House of Representatives representing Chicago's 5th District. While there, he proved to be a strong, effective voice for Chicago neighborhoods.

In 2007, Emanuel was elected as House Democratic Caucus Chair, the fourth highest position in Democratic leadership. In 2005, he was appointed as Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. His aggressive leadership helped propel Democrats to pick up 30 House seats and regain the Democratic majority in 2006.

Emanuel also was a key member of the Clinton White House from 1993 to 1998, rising to serve as Senior Advisor to the President for Policy and Strategy. He played a key role in passing the COPS initiative, which added 100,000 police officers to U.S. streets. Emanuel also worked in the private sector for Chicago investment bank Wasserstein Perella. He began his career at Illinois Public Action, the state's largest public interest organization.

Emanuel graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in 1981 and received a Master's Degree in Speech and Communication from Northwestern University in 1985. Along with his brothers, Ezekiel '75 and Ari '79, Rahm Emanuel is a proud alumnus of New Trier High School.

Emanuel is married to Amy Rule, and they have three children, Zach, Ilana, and Leah.

