Presidential Succession

The Department of Homeland Security is the nation's newest cabinet-level department. The date of creation is important because the presidency passes to the Vice President in case of death or incapacitation of the President. If the Vice President is unable to serve, the line of succession is as follows:

- Speaker of the House;
- President Pro Tem of the Senate;
- Department secretaries, generally in the order the departments were created, beginning with the Secretary of State.