Pete Souza

**Short Bio**

From eyewitness to history maker, Pete Souza provides behind-the-scenes photographs from the White House and beyond. Pete Souza was the Chief Official White House Photographer for President Obama and an Official White House Photographer for President Reagan from 1983-1989. During Obama’s eight years as president, Pete took close to two million photographs. To truly document both of the president’s lives, Pete would take on the responsibility of attending every meeting the president was a part of, all the time. It was important for him to capture the president not just as a leader, but as a human being. In addition to the national political scene, Pete has covered stories around the world. After 9/11, he was among the first journalists to cover the fall of Kabul, Afghanistan, after crossing the Hindu Kush mountains by horseback in three feet of snow. Pete has lectured many times on his photography including at the Smithsonian Museum of American History, Harvard University, Boston University, and has appeared on ABC’s 20-20. Dateline NBC, CBS Sunday Morning, NBC Nightly News, Fox News Sunday, and Fox Friends and Family.

**Full Bio**

From eyewitness to history maker, Pete Souza provides behind-the-scenes photographs from the White House and beyond. Pete was the Chief Official White House Photographer for President Obama and Director of the White House Photography Office for all eight years of the Obama administration.

His book, *Obama: An Intimate Portrait,* was published in 2017 and debuted at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list and is one of the best-selling photography books of all time. Pete’s Instagram account, with more than two million followers, often draws attention by juxtaposing photographs of President Obama with comments about the current president’s actions. His 2018 book, *Shade: A Tale of Two Presidents,* is based on these postings; it also debuted at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list. The softcover edition adds 60 new pages where the hardcover ended, adding photos and commentary on hot button issues.

Prior to his time in the Obama White House, Pete has worked as Assistant Professor of Photojournalism at Ohio University, the national photographer for the Chicago Tribune, a freelancer for National Geographic, and an Official White House Photographer for President Reagan.

Pete has lectured many times on his photography including at the Smithsonian Museum of American History, Harvard University, Boston University, and has appeared on dozens of TV and radio news shows.

He has exhibited his photographs at many venues around the world and currently has two exhibits that are traveling around the country: “Obama: An Intimate Portrait” and “Two Presidents, One Photographer: Obama and Reagan.”

Souza is currently a freelance photographer based in Madison, Wisconsin, and is a Professor Emeritus at Ohio University’s School of Visual Communication.