

Vocabulary – Chapter 13

reprieve	A postponement of punishment for a crime. A person convicted of a capital crime, for example, may receive a reprieve from execution.
pardon	A decree that frees a person from punishment for a crime. A pardon is often granted when a criminal sentence is considered unjust.
cabinet	The heads of the executive departments. The president appoints members of the cabinet.
executive order	A rule or regulation issued by a president or governor that has the force of law.
bureaucracy	A large, complex organization that functions under uniform rules and procedures. The many workers in a government bureaucracy carry out the daily business of that government.
pocket veto	The automatic killing of a bill by refusing to either sign it or veto it. A pocket veto can occur only in the final days of a congressional session, as a president must normally act on a bill within ten days or it becomes law.
administration	The president, along with his or her personal staff and advisers. The term can also refer to a president's time in office.
whistle-blower	An employee or former employee who exposes wrongdoing within an organization in the hope of stopping it.