

A photograph of Meredith O'Rourke, a woman with short brown hair, wearing a black button-up jacket and black pants. She is standing on a green lawn in front of the White House, which is visible in the background. The image is partially obscured by a large white circular graphic on the right side of the page.

*“She’s the best in the business. I’ve dealt with them all over the past 30 years and she has a unique ability to ensure donors are not left in the dust after the contribution is made.”*

— BRIAN BALLARD

These days, one of the rooms O’Rourke frequently walks into is the Oval Office. She also travels with the President when he’s at Mar-a-Lago or Trump’s Bedminster golf resort in New Jersey.

“I’ve seen Meredith with the President dozens of times, up close and personal. The relationship is incredibly powerful. He trusts her completely,” Ballard said.

The respect goes both ways.

“His true passion is saving our country. He is strong, but he’s also genuinely very, very kind,” O’Rourke said. “He’s also an incredible mentor. I’ve learned from him more so than anyone I’ve worked for. His work ethic is incredible. He works non-stop and his memory is by far the best memory of anyone I’ve ever worked for.”

O’Rourke splits time between Washington and Tallahassee, where she lives with her husband and teenage son. She also has a daughter in law school. With her busy schedule, during down time she likes quiet time at home with family.

Before accepting her current role, O’Rourke had a family meeting about the time commitment and responsibility. Her parents, husband and kids stood behind her.

“To us it’s like service, like serving your country. We, and I, feel like the President was sacrificing so much to save our country, that this was my duty to learn and help him.”

And just because she’s at the highest level of her profession, it doesn’t mean she isn’t surrounded by old Florida friends.

“There are times in the Oval Office where it almost seems surreal because you have people that you’ve worked with for decades that are in and out and operating at a level where they, too, are doing the best to serve the country, whether it’s Marco or Pam, Susie, (Deputy Chief of Staff) James Blair, it’s just incredible,” O’Rourke said.