

Cartoons for the Classroom

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Should they be classified careless?



R.J. Matson, Roll Call / Courtesy of Cagle.com

1. How do these cartoons describe the discovery of classified documents among the personal papers of President Joe Biden, former Vice President Mike Pence and former President Donald Trump?
2. How are these cases similar, and how are they different?
3. Should anyone face legal penalties over the documents?
4. Why does the U.S. government classify millions of documents as confidential, secret or top secret?
5. Are all government secret documents about national security or are some classified to avoid political embarrassments?

Between the lines

“What should have been a one-day thing became a big cause celebre because of the resistance.... In the case of Trump, it's the old adage — the cover-up is worse than the crime. It's only because of that precedent that now this is a cause celebre for the current president.” - J. William Leonard, former archive security official.

<https://time.com/6249863/presidents-classified-documents-misplaced-history/>

Additional resources

■ [More by R.J. Matson](https://www.cagle.com/author/r-j-matson/)

<https://www.cagle.com/author/r-j-matson/>

■ [More by Pat Bagley](https://www.cagle.com/author/pat-bagley/)

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■ [Editorial Cartoonists](http://editorialcartoonists.com/)

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Pat Bagley, The Salt Lake Tribune / Courtesy of Cagle.com

