

Broadcasting (BRO): Breaking News

This artifact is practice only to prepare for a Breaking News round at the next tournament.

Directions: you have 2 minutes to read and take notes (you may take notes on this copy; each competitor will receive a clean copy). You then have to read the script as if "breaking news" from a prompter in a 2-minute timeframe.

Remember:

- *Have a sign-on/sign-off with a call sign. Consider transitions and commentary.*
- *Besides your sign-on/sign-off, please read ALL of the document. Please do not cut or edit the Breaking News material—read all of the material. There is about 90 seconds of performance material available.*
- *Your performance target time is 2 minutes.*
- *You will be evaluated on pacing, clarity, pronunciation of the performance, as well as transitions in and out of the broadcast.*

[START] (Insert Sign-On)

→ We interrupt your regularly scheduled broadcast with breaking news from Washington, D.C.

The White House on Monday started tearing down part of the East Wing, the traditional base of operations for the first lady, to build President Donald Trump's \$250 million ballroom despite lacking approval for construction from the federal agency that oversees such projects.

Dramatic photos of the demolition work showed construction equipment tearing into the East Wing façade and windows and other building parts in tatters on the ground. Some reporters watched from a park near the Treasury Department, which is next to the East Wing.

Trump announced the start of construction in a social media post and referenced the work while hosting 2025 college baseball champs Louisiana State University and LSU-Shreveport in the East Room. He noted the work was happening "right behind us."

"We have a lot of construction going on, which you might hear periodically," he said, adding, "It just started today."

The White House has moved ahead with the massive construction project despite not yet having sign-off from the National Capital Planning Commission, which approves construction work and major renovations to government buildings in the Washington area.

It was unclear whether the White House had submitted the ballroom plans for the agency's review and approval. The White House did not respond to a request for comment and the commission's offices are closed because of the government shutdown.

(Insert Sign-Off) [STOP]