

tdm SERVICES

NAME & PROPERTY SEARCH »
Research millions of people and properties [+]

MKT & SALES LIST BUILDER »
Build a downloadable list of prospects that meet your criteria

WATCH SERVICE »
Monitor any person, property or company [+]

DATA DIRECT »
Get valuable lists emailed directly to you

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT »
Keep an eye on trends and events near you [+]

CRIME REPORT »
Up-to-date reports of crimes near you [+]

FRONT PAGE NEWS

Friday, Jan. 28, 2011
 Thursday, Jan. 27, 2011
Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2011
 Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2011
 Monday, Jan. 24, 2011

« Back | Forward »

Go to date:
 Go

Search News:
 Go

PUBLIC RECORDS

Friday, Feb. 4, 2011
 Thursday, Feb. 3, 2011
Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2011
 Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2011
 Monday, Jan. 31, 2011

« Back | Forward »

Go to date:
 Go

Search Records:
 Go

PUBLIC NOTICES

Monday, Feb. 7, 2011
 Sunday, Feb. 6, 2011
 Saturday, Feb. 5, 2011
 Friday, Feb. 4, 2011
 Thursday, Feb. 3, 2011

« Back

Go to date:
 Go

Search Notices:
 Go

PREMIUM REAL ESTATE INFORMATION
CHANDLER REPORTS

SUBSCRIBE THE DAILY NEWS PRINT EDITION

Home > Article

VOL. 126 | NO. 18 | Thursday, January 27, 2011

State of the Business

Biz reset could come following Obama's address

By Andy Meek

[Print](#) | [Front Page](#) | [Email this story](#) | [Email reporter](#)

Share 4
 Tweet 5

For several Memphis business leaders, the tone and message of Tuesday night's State of the Union speech reflected a president extending an olive branch to corporate America and hitting the reset button on a relationship that's been noticeably strained for two years.

Stephen Rhea, principal at Summit Asset Management, thought it was no ordinary State of the Union address and that President Barack Obama described his vision "in terms my neighbors and I might use."



President Barack Obama is applauded on Capitol Hill in Washington Tuesday prior to delivering his State of the Union address. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

David Waddell, president and CEO of Waddell and Associates, thought the speech confirmed Obama's move to the center, a long-anticipated philosophical shift that coincides with Republicans retaking the House of Representatives in the November midterms.

Jack Dewald, the owner of Memphis-based **Agency Services Inc.**, wasn't necessarily optimistic about the motivations behind the speech, saying the president is shifting because he has to, "not because he wants to." Still, he agreed a shift was present, with the caveat "actions will speak more clearly than any speech he might give."

On substance, he proposed a freeze in discretionary entitlement spending and billions in defense cuts. He called on Americans to unleash a wave of innovation to "win the future," with a blueprint that included everything from encouraging people to become teachers and for more investment in areas like clean energy and high-speed rail.

Reuters reported a bump in U.S. stock index futures Wednesday in the wake of the speech, following other Obama comments like the need to lower corporate tax rates. The Dow Jones Industrial Average also topped the 12,000 mark Wednesday for the first time in almost three years.

"He was honest that cutting domestic spending alone won't be enough," Rhea said. "He spoke of focusing spending on recovering our competitiveness in the world while recognizing it is the private sector that must supply the innovation, initiative and create jobs."

Lori Turner, managing partner of RedRover Sales & Marketing, also detected a shift toward a more pro-business message.

"This aligns with other recent pro-business strategies from the Obama team such as the appointment of GE CEO Jeffrey Immelt to a presidential advisory board on how to grow jobs, a call for the review and streamlining of business regulations, and a focus on small business growth," she said. "Regardless of the underlying cause, from a PR perspective, this classic repositioning strategy is a savvy one and should serve the president well."

Waddell thought the speech showed Obama replacing idealism with pragmatism and reflected a desire to "get America back in the game."

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & RSS:



tdm BLOG Get more from the daily news!

- Michael Oher: "I Beat the Odds"**
- Blockbuster's long and re-winding road**
- Fred Smith: There is No Free Market For Oil**
- The Health Care Quibble**
- Forbes: Memphis is feeling less "miserable"**

RECORD TOTALS	DAY	WEEK	YEAR
PROPERTY SALES	49	49	1,272
MORTGAGES	142	142	2,557
FORECLOSURE NOTICES	0	0	1,329
BUILDING PERMITS	0	0	3,105
BANKRUPTCIES	83	83	1,644
BUSINESS LICENSES	31	31	642
UTILITY CONNECTIONS	122	122	2,227
MARRIAGE LICENSES	31	31	308

OFFICE FURNITURE LIQUIDATION

DON'T MISS This One-Time Savings Event!

CUBICLES • CHAIRS
 DESK GROUPS • TABLES
 FILING • RESIDENTIAL

WORKPLACE essentials

WWW.WPESSENTIALS.COM | TEL: (901) 797-8382

POWER HOUSE!

February 9th and 10th
 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Lunch and Refreshments will be served both days.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Attend and pick up a **FREE GIFT** for your Valentine!

COUNT ON KONICAMINOLTA

THROUGH THE LENS

pragmatism and reflected a desire to get America back in the game.

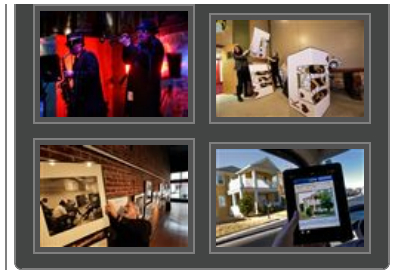
“Some of the nods were subtle, as he acknowledged that manufacturing job losses stemmed from automation advances rather than off-shoring,” Waddell said. “He also seemed to borrow language from Republicans around trying to equalize opportunities rather than outcomes.

“My favorite moment in the speech was when he acknowledged that the discretionary slice of the budget generates a lot of discussion and promises but only accounts for

about 12 percent. He seems willing to investigate entitlement reforms thanks to the Simpson-Bowles results. He talked about reorganizing government to remove bureaucratic redundancies – Here, Here!”

For the moment, Waddell added, there’s now a window open for bipartisan work to get done. Duncan Williams, president of [Duncan-Williams Inc.](#), sees it too.

“As for what I would love to see out of Washington, it’s for both Democrats and Republicans to quit worrying about the next election and actually do what is best for the country,” Williams said.



Weekly Edition

[Issues](#) | [About](#)

The Memphis News:
Business, politics, and
the public interest.



Most Read

Most Emailed

1. [On the Go](#) Feb 1
2. [Blockbuster Closing Last Two Memphis Storefronts](#) Feb 3
3. [Shifting Gears](#) Feb 7
4. [Growing Alzheimer's Population Increases Demands on Caregivers](#) Feb 7
5. [New Guidelines Have Trucking Industry Cautious](#) Feb 7

Sign-Up For Our FREE email edition

Get the news first with our free daily email

Name

Email

[Sign Up](#)

Account Info

- [Log In](#)
- [Your Account](#)
- [Create an Account](#)

Subscribe

- [Subscribe to The Daily News](#)
- [Upgrade Your Subscription](#)

About

- [About Us](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)

Help

- [Help](#)
- [Customer Service](#)

MemphisDailyNews.com

- [Home](#)
- [Blog](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [RSS](#)

Our Services

- [Public Notices](#)
- [Public Records](#)
- [Name & Property Research](#)
- [Data Direct](#)
- [Watch Service](#)
- [Marketing & Sales Lists](#)
- [Crime Reports](#)
- [Neighborhood Reports](#)