

According to Marocco, who will stay in new AID? Devex, 25 Feb 2025

So who will remain at USAID?

On Sunday night, USAID began slicing away nearly everyone left at what was once a 10,000-person agency. Thousands were placed on administrative leave, and thousands more — between [1,600 to 2,000](#) staff members — have been told they will be [eliminated entirely](#).

However, in the recent court filing, Marocco laid out which staff he expects to survive the Trump administration’s widespread culling, and which of these 611 employees have been deemed “essential” out of a previous workforce of over 10,000 people.

“The process of selection included senior political and career leaders who carefully contemplated an essential staff level,” Marocco wrote.

He also mentioned staff in the travel office, stating they were needed to help other USAID employees being recalled to the United States. Also on the list: Those with “subject matter expertise,” including staff from USAID’s regional bureaus; employees overseeing emergency humanitarian, food, and medical assistance, along with information, security, and legal issues; and the agency’s human resources team, even though USAID’s chief human resources officer — the head of that department — was previously severed from the agency after [refusing to fire more staff](#).

“This [reduction in force] is necessary to restructure USAID’s operations to better reflect Agency priorities and the foreign policy priorities of the United States,” [read the message](#) received by those terminated from the agency, which spread across the world Sunday night.