

If you don't regularly receive my reports, request a free subscription at [steve\\_bakke@comcast.net](mailto:steve_bakke@comcast.net) !  
Follow me on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/BakkeSteve> and receive links to my posts and more!  
Visit my website at <http://www.myslantonthings.com> !

 **SO.....  
WHO'S  
TO BLAME?**

By Steve Bakke  January 29, 2019



Every time there's a government shutdown we argue about "Who's to blame?" With silly finger-pointing dominating the conversation that day in the Oval Office between Trump, Schumer and Pelosi, the President did what seemed sensible at the time. He said (paraphrased), "OK, blame me for the shutdown. Now, let's get down to business." Trump is learning that when one moves from the boardroom to the Oval Office, informal protocol changes – a painful lesson indeed.

Let's imagine the President saying, "I want funding for a barrier on the border or I won't sign the budget legislation." Then let's imagine the House Speaker responding with "I won't permit passage of any legislation that includes any funding for that barrier." There's no resolution and the government shuts down.....who's to blame? It's clearly a "flip of a coin." Any time someone can stop the shutdown and chooses not to, they should share the blame – facts rule.

Now imagine the President saying, "I'm willing to negotiate and compromise on the border funding." The House Speaker responds, "I will not agree to any barrier funding." There is no resolution and the government shuts down.

Who should be blamed? Think about it. Again, facts must rule.