

Madam Secretary season 5 location: Where is Madam Secretary filmed? Where is it set?



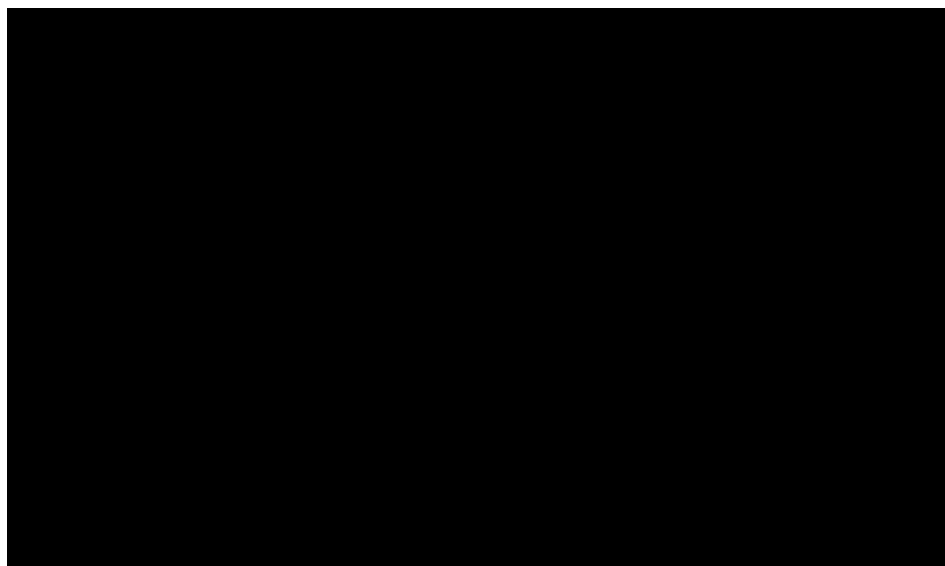
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MADAM SECRETARY season 5 will premiere this Thursday on Sky Witness and NOW TV but where is the political drama series filmed and where is it set? Here's everything you need to know.

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Madam Secretary is set in Washington DC (Image: GETTY)

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Madam Secretary: Elizabeth explains the importance of voting

Madam Secretary season five is currently airing in America on CBS and episode one of series five will premiere in the UK this Thursday (December 13) on Sky Witness and NOW TV at 9pm. The political thriller series stars Téa Leoni as Elizabeth McCord, the Secretary of State of the United States Government and will feature guest appearances from former Secretary of States, Hilary Clinton, Colin Powell and Madeleine Albright.

Related articles

Where is Madam Secretary season 5 set?

Madam Secretary is set in Washington D.C, the capital of the United States and home to the White House.

The majority of the drama takes place in the White House and the famous Oval Office.

Some scenes in Madam Secretary also take place surrounding the University of Virginia, where Elizabeth “Bess” Adams McCord (played by Téa Leoni) was a professor of political science following her successful career as a CIA agent.

Bess has been specially selected by her old CIA boss Conrad Dalton, who is now President of the United States, to become the United States Secretary of State.

The United States Secretary of State is principally involved in foreign policy and international diplomacy.

The current Secretary of State in real life is Mike Pompeo.

WHO IS IN THE CAST OF MADAM SECRETARY?



Madam Secretary is set in Washington DC (Image: GETTY)

Where is Madam Secretary season 5 filmed?

Madam Secretary was filmed across numerous locations in Washington D.C but the majority of filming took place in New York.

Online publication The Washingtonian.com reported that Leoni would not have signed up to play the show's lead role if it was filmed elsewhere.

The series is actually almost entirely filmed inside a studio in Long Island City, New York which is home to the set of Madam Secretary.

The set is designed to exactly mirror important offices in the White House.

Soundstage G in the studio represents Georgetown, Washington D.C and Soundstage F is the Federal office.

The rest of the state department based scenes are filmed on a different set, about five minutes away according to Washingtonian.com.

Exterior and outside shots are also filmed around Brooklyn and Queens in New York.

Notable locations include Central Park, the town of Purchase and Westchester County, all based in New York.

According to [newsday.com](https://www.newsday.com), Madam Secretary season five filming took place in their offices in Melville, New York.

Previously, Madam Secretary was able to film inside the United Nations building in New York.

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What is Madam Secretary season 5 about?

The synopsis for Madam Secretary season five reads: "In the aftermath of a deadly attack on the White House, Elizabeth tries to keep a major nuclear disarmament deal from falli y. Il ma O ~"

Madam Secretary season 5 airs every Thursday at 9



CBS

One of the biggest issues faced by an ongoing series about the inner workings of politics is that at high-ranking elected officials rarely have the same job for all that long. *Madam Secretary* was always only going to have so many seasons featuring Elizabeth McCord as the Secretary of State, because eventually she would vacate the office. Going into the show's final season, the writers addressed this head-on.

At the end of the fifth season, McCord had a big announcement to make. Not only was she stepping down as the Secretary of State, but she was launching her own presidential campaign. When the show returned for its sixth and final season, it jumped into the future to reveal that McCord won the race, and is now Madam President.

While this was an exciting development, it also drastically changed the nature of the show. Although much of the mechanics were similar, it now had an entirely different focus. Given that the sixth season, which focused on McCord's presidency, was a shorter run meant to wrap up the series, it's clear that CBS didn't feel confident following McCord into a whole new chapter in her career.

Madam Secretary had been slipping in the ratings for years



CBS

As for the question of why *Madam Secretary* was being considered for cancellation in the first place, there's one very simple answer: the ratings weren't that great. For its first few seasons, the show was doing well, averaging tens of millions of viewers and competing with the likes of *Criminal*

Minds and The Voice (via Deadline). However, those numbers weren't destined to last.

In its later seasons, Madam Secretary saw a sharp decline in viewership. According to TVLine, the show was on the bubble of getting canceled throughout its last couple of seasons. According to TV By the Numbers, the first season premiere of Madam Secretary drew in around 14 million viewers. In contrast, the fifth season premiere more than halved that number with just over 6 million viewers.

The show's sixth season was announced as its last, with CBS Entertainment president Kelly Kahl saying, "It's hard when a show 'poof goes away.' We like to be able to do this and send the show off with a great deal of respect and celebration." The final season's episode count was also pared way down, from the usual 20-23 episodes per season, to just ten (via Deadline). It's clear that while CBS had a lot of respect for the show, the powers that be just couldn't justify keeping it on the air.

Is there a possibility for a Madam Secretary spin-off, Madam President?



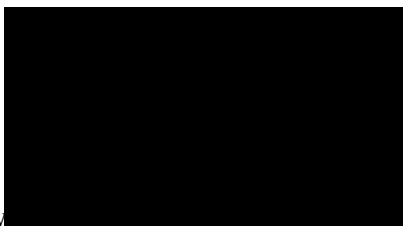
CBS

When the first episode of Madam Secretary's final season aired, there was a big change to the show's opening credits. Owing to the fact that the series was now picking up with McCord after she'd become the first female president in U.S. history, the title card reflected the change. Where the title card had read "Madam Secretary" in past seasons, it now reads "Madam President."

This led to some speculation from fans of the show who were devastated to know that the sixth season would be its last. Was it possible, they wondered, that the cancellation of Madam Secretary would give way to a spin-off focused on McCord's time as Commander in Chief, perhaps titled Madam President? Twitter user ForeverDownton summed up the sentiments when they asked, "Can we Have Madam President right after Madam Secretary?? I feel like there are so many stories that you can still show us."

Unfortunately for those fans, due to the poor ratings, it's unlikely that a Madam President spin-off will materialize, and at this time, there are no announced plans for one. On the other hand, we are living in the age of shows getting snatched from the jaws of cancellation by other networks, so never say never. For now, fans will have to be happy with the six seasons of Madam Secretary that CBS delivered.

Madam Secretary (TV series)



Madam Secretary

Title card

Genre

- Political drama

- Thriller

Created by Barbara Hall

- Téa Leoni
- Tim Daly
- Patina Miller
- Geoffrey Arend
- Erich Bergen
- Željko Ivanek
- Bebe Neuwirth
- Wallis Currie-Wood
- Katherine Herzer
- Evan Roe
- Keith Carradine
- Sebastian Arcelus
- Sara Ramirez
- Kevin Rahm

Opening theme Theme to Madam Secretary Ending theme Theme to Madam Secretary Composer Transcenders Country of origin United States Original language English No. of seasons 6 No. of episodes 120 (list of episodes) Production Executive producers

- Barbara Hall
- Morgan Freeman [1][2]
- Téa Leoni
- Lori McCreary
- Tracy Mercer
- David Grae

Running time 42–46 minutes Production companies

- Barbara Hall Productions
- Revelations Entertainment
- CBS Television Studios

Distributor CBS Television Distribution Release Original network CBS Picture format 1080i (HDTV) Original release September 21, 2014 – December 8, 2019

Madam Secretary (subtitled *Madam President* for its sixth and final season) is an American political drama television series created by Barbara Hall with Morgan Freeman and Lori McCreary as executive producers. It stars Téa Leoni as Elizabeth McCord, a former CIA analyst and political science professor who becomes the United States Secretary of State. It ran on CBS from September 21, 2014, to December 8, 2019, for a total of 120 episodes aired. The series was renewed for a final 10-episode sixth season in May 2019, which premiered October 6, 2019.

Premise[edit]

The first five seasons of *Madam Secretary* explore Elizabeth McCord's life as the determined United States Secretary of State. She drives international diplomacy, battles office politics, and circumvents protocol if needed as she negotiates worldwide issues. The show also focuses on the characters' personal lives. At the end of the fifth season, McCord announces that she will run for president. As the sixth season begins, the audience learns that she has won the election, and the remainder of the series follows her as America's first female president.^{[3][4][5][6]}

Cast and characters[edit]

Main[edit]

- Téa Leoni as Elizabeth "Bess" Adams McCord, the President of the United States and former Secretary of State. She spent twenty years as a CIA analyst before becoming a professor of political science at the University of Virginia. She was appointed by her old boss, Conrad Dalton, who was then the president of the United States, to replace Secretary of State Vincent Marsh, who died in a plane crash. She succeeded Dalton as president.
- Tim Daly as Henry McCord, Elizabeth's husband of 25 years and now First Gentleman of the United States. A theology professor and a former Marine captain/aviator during Operation Desert Storm, his unique blend of skills are sought by the National Security Agency, which engages him as an operative in combating religious extremism. At the end of the third season, Henry is named the head of the CIA Special Activities Division.
- Bebe Neuwirth as Nadine Tolliver (seasons 1–4), Elizabeth's chief of staff who had a six-year affair with the deceased Secretary of State, Vincent Marsh, beginning when he was a senator. Originally suspicious and resentful of the new Secretary of State, Nadine soon learns to trust Elizabeth, and the two cultivate a strong working relationship. In the first season, Nadine slowly begins to date again, romancing NASA Administrator Glenn, and later falls into a relationship with the recurring political consultant Mike Barnow. In the fourth season, Nadine's son

Roman tells her she is going to be a grandmother and she retires from the State Department and moves to San Francisco to spend more time with her family.

- Željko Ivanek as Russell Jackson, White House Chief of Staff.[7] His primary objective of keeping the President politically secure at home and abroad sets him up for occasional confrontations with Secretary McCord's unorthodox diplomatic maneuvering. Elizabeth then appoints him as her White House Chief of Staff 98 days into her presidency.
- Erich Bergen as Blake Moran, Elizabeth's personal assistant, and the only member of her staff that she hired rather than inherited. After college, he began a career in finance on Wall Street, but hated it. In the fifth season, Elizabeth made good on her promise to fire him, only to rehire him as her new assistant policy advisor.
- Patina Miller as Daisy Grant, Elizabeth's press coordinator. Daisy briefly dates Matt in the first season but goes on to date other men following their breakup. In the third season, she dates "Kevin" from Budget and Planning, who turns out to be an undercover operative for the CIA investigating the State Department. He is killed in a weapons-trafficking conspiracy, and Daisy subsequently finds herself pregnant with his child. (The storyline was used to incorporate Miller's real-life pregnancy.) In the fourth season, Daisy gives birth to her daughter Joanna Grant.
- Geoffrey Arend as Matt Mahoney, Elizabeth's speechwriter. Matt briefly dates Daisy in the first season.
- Wallis Currie-Wood as Stephanie "Stevie" McCord, Elizabeth and Henry's older daughter and first-born child. Stevie attended Lovell University and later Georgetown University and applied to Harvard Law School. Stevie serves as an intern to Russell Jackson and was, for a time, engaged to Jareth Glover. She has a secret relationship with Dmitri Petrov (then undercover) in the fourth season that puts her in peril.
- Kathrine Herzer as Alison McCord, Elizabeth and Henry's younger daughter.
- Evan Roe as Jason McCord, Elizabeth and Henry's teenage son and youngest child, a self-proclaimed anarchist. Jason is critical of political systems in general, but in the first season, he is expelled from his school for punching a student who insulted Elizabeth. He eventually dates Piper Boroumand.
- Keith Carradine as Conrad Dalton (seasons 2–6; recurring season 1), the President of the United States. Conrad served in the United States Marine Corps as a second lieutenant during the Vietnam War and was the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency during Elizabeth's time at the CIA. In the third season, Dalton secures reelection as an independent after failing to secure his party's nomination, partly due to a controversial change in policy championed by Elizabeth. He offers Elizabeth the role of Vice President during his campaign, but eventually names Teresa Hurst in order to further his campaign. Elizabeth remains the Secretary of State.
- Sebastian Arcelus as Jay Whitman (seasons 3–6; recurring seasons 1–2), Elizabeth's current chief of staff and previous senior policy advisor. In the third season, it is revealed that Jay's busy schedule working for the Secretary has strained his marriage. He separates from his wife Abby, who maintains custody of their daughter Chloe. Jay is promoted to chief of staff in the fourth season after Nadine Tolliver leaves. In the fifth season, while stuck at an airport with Elizabeth and her staff, Jay meets Annelies De Runnow (Marissa Neitling), a world-famous chess player, and they develop an attraction to each other. After several hours stuck in the airport, Jay and Annelies agree to start a long-distance relationship. Although Elizabeth eventually decides to run for president (a campaign she eventually wins), Jay decides to leave her campaign and pass on the chance to become her chief of staff to start a life with Annelies. When Elizabeth becomes president, she hires Jay as her chief of staff after Russell Jackson retires.
- Sara Ramirez as Kat Sandoval (seasons 4–5), Elizabeth's policy advisor and a former chief of staff to the UN Ambassador.
- Kevin Rahm as Michael "Mike B." Barnow (season 6; recurring seasons 1–5), a political operator who is said to drift between the United States Cabinet departments. It is mentioned that he is a Rhodes Scholar, who turned his brilliant legal career into a promising political career that was cut short by a scandalous divorce six years prior to his first appearance before settling into his current job. His unofficial role as an adviser to Secretary McCord earned him a reputation as her 'hatchet man'. Elizabeth later appoints him as the campaign manager of her successful presidential campaign and, after her victory in the 2020 election, he serves as her White House Chief of Staff for her first 100 days. Although Elizabeth asks him to remain as chief of staff, he refuses but remains at the White House as a Counselor to the President. Mike was rarely seen without his dog Gordon before its death in latter half of Season 5.

Recurring[edit]

- Johanna Day as Ellen Hill, a retired admiral and the National Security Advisor. She was the first female Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff prior to being appointed National Security Advisor.
- Tony Plana as Ed Parker, an admiral and member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Francis Jue as Ming Chen, China's Foreign Minister and Elizabeth's Chinese counterpart
- Mandy Gonzalez as Lucy Knox, President Dalton's aide
- Mike Pniewski as Gordon Becker, the United States Secretary of Defense
- Jason Ralph as Harrison Dalton (seasons 1–2), son of President Dalton and long-time friend of Stevie McCord. In the first season, it is revealed Harrison has a drug addiction and is color blind. In the fourth season, it is revealed that he is back in rehab.
- Matt Meinsen as Matt (seasons 1–5), Elizabeth's lead security detail
- Cotter Smith as Darren Hahn (seasons 1–2), President Dalton's first known National Security Advisor
- Patrick Breen as Andrew Munsey (season 1), the Director of the CIA and a protégé of President Dalton.
- Nilaja Sun as Juliet Humphrey (season 1; guest season 3), a former CIA analyst, friend and colleague of Elizabeth and Isabelle.
- Usman Ally as Zahed Javani (season 1), Iran's Foreign Minister and Elizabeth's Iranian counterpart
- Dion Graham as Fred Cole (season 1), the Bureau of Diplomatic Security head agent who served as Elizabeth's principal bodyguard
- Josh Hamilton as Arthur Gilroy (season 1), Stevie's 39-year-old microloan employer and ex-boyfriend
- Anna Deavere Smith as Mary Campbell (season 1), the United States Attorney General
- Marin Hinkle as Isabelle Barnes (season 1), a CIA analyst and Elizabeth's close friend, who assists the McCords with the investigation of the death of Secretary of State Vincent Marsh
- Yorgo Constantine as Anton Gorev (seasons 1–2), Russia's Foreign Minister and a friend of both Secretary and Dr. McCord

- Clifton Davis as Ephraim Ware (seasons 2–6), Director of National Intelligence
- Julian Acosta as Craig Sterling (season 2), a former US Department of Defense official who becomes National Security Advisor in the second season, much to Elizabeth and Russell's dismay, and a rival of Elizabeth's
- Alex Fernandez as Mark Delgado (season 2), the Vice President of the United States
- Angela Gots as Maria Ostrova (season 2), the President of Russia and widow of late Russian President Pavel Ostrov
- Leslie Hendrix as Louise Cronenberg (season 2), the United States Attorney General
- Jill Hennessy as Jane Fellows (season 2), Henry's DIA superior, and a member of Murphy Station; the first Hizb-al Shahid task force
- Kobi Libii as Oliver Shaw (season 2; guest season 3), the Cybersecurity Coordinator. Shaw looked into the attack against Air Force One and is the love interest of Daisy Grant in the second season.
- Chris Petrovski as Dmitri Petrov (seasons 2, 4; guest seasons 3, 5–6), a 24-year-old Russian Army captain who studied at the National War College. He was recruited by Professor Henry McCord (on behalf of the DIA) to become an American spy in exchange for getting his sick sister medical care in Stockholm, Sweden. Dmitri is captured by the Russians and eventually exchanged to the Americans for another traitor to the state. Following his capture Dmitri feels abandoned by Henry and is very angry and bitter toward him. He is placed into a witness protection program under the name Alexander (Alex) Mehranov. In the fourth season, he is recruited by the CIA as an analyst.
- Masha King as Talia Petrov, Dmitri's sister who was placed into witness protection with her brother and is now his roommate
- Carlos Gómez as Jose Campos (seasons 2–3), an Hizb-al Shahid task force member. Initially had a combative relationship with Henry McCord but they eventually became friends.
- Tonya Pinkins as Susan Thompson (seasons 3–6), Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of African Affairs and, as of the end of the fifth season, Acting Secretary of State and later Secretary of State in the McCord Administration. Assistant Secretary Thompson is a key voice in bringing African issues to the leadership's attention, such as encouraging the Secretary to intervene in the Angolan election in the third season.
- J. C. MacKenzie as Sam Evans (season 3), the governor of Pennsylvania and the presidential nominee for Dalton's party. Evans is particularly vindictive during the campaign and, following Dalton's victory through a vote in the House of Representatives, threatens to have the vote overturned due to a little-known law he claims Elizabeth broke. However, he is manipulated into accepting the terms of the vote after Russel Jackson threatens to expose him for having a gene that makes him likely to develop early-onset Alzheimer's.
- René Auberjonois as Walter Novack (seasons 2–6), a State Department analyst with the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation.
- Christopher O'Shea as Jareth Glover, Stevie's fiancé from England. He gave up a fellowship at Oxford to return to America to be with Stevie after she had trouble adjusting to life in England. His family is a member of the upper class and even nobility in England. Stevie and Jareth broke up in the fourth season.
- Justine Lupe as Ronnie Baker (seasons 3–6), a United States Army captain seconded from United States Cyber Command who assists Elizabeth on several occasions
- Eric Stoltz as Will Adams, Secretary Elizabeth McCord's younger brother and a member of Doctors Without Borders
- Jordan Lage as Kohl, a United States Army general
- Sam Breslin Wright as Dylan Larson, an ex-Army Ranger who has been working for the CIA for seven years as of the start of the fourth season
- Christine Garver as Molly Reid, a career CIA agent, starting her career as a field agent in Chechnya. She is pregnant and due in a couple months from the start of the fourth season.
- Tracee Chimo as Nina Cummings, Secretary McCord's assistant who takes over after Blake vacating the position. In season six she moves to the White House as Russell's assistant.
- Wentworth Miller as Senator Hanson, who leads the congressional investigation into poll fraud accusations on President McCord's campaign.

Presidential Cabinets and principal advisors[edit]

The Dalton cabinet

OfficeNameTermPresident	Conrad Dalton (Keith Carradine)2013–2021	Vice PresidentMark Delgado (Alex Fernandez)2013–2017	Teresa Hurst (Jan Maxwell/Jayne Atkinson)2017–2021	Secretary of StateVincent Marsh (Brian Stokes Mitchell)2013–2014	Elizabeth McCord (Téa Leoni)2014–2019	Susan Thompson (Tonya Pinkins)2019–2021	Secretary of the TreasuryMax Quinn (Michael Cumpsty)2013–2014	Secretary of DefenseGordon Becker (Mike Pniewski)2013–2021	Attorney GeneralMary Campbell (Anna Deavere Smith)2013–2015	Louise Cronenberg (Leslie Hendrix)2015–2016	Unknown (shown in "French Revolution")2016–2017	Hank Nolan (John Bolton)2017–2021	Director of National IntelligenceEphraim Ware (Clifton Davis)2013–2021	Director of the Central Intelligence AgencyAndrew Munsey (Patrick Breen)2013–2015	Sean Williams (Larry Pine)2015–2015	Dennis Ellerman (John Doman)2015–2016	Hugh Haymond (Michael Gaston)2016–2021	National Security AdvisorDarren Kahn (Cotter Smith)2013–2015	Craig Sterling (Julian Acosta)2015–2015	ADM (Ret.) Ellen Hill (Johanna Day)2016–2021	Chief of StaffRussell Jackson (Željko Ivanek)2013–2021
The McCord cabinet	OfficeNameTermPresident	Elizabeth McCord (Téa Leoni)2021–present	Vice PresidentCarlos Morejon (José Zúñiga)2021–present	Secretary of StateSusan Thompson (Tonya Pinkins)2021–present	Director of National IntelligenceEphraim Ware (Clifton Davis)2021–present	National Security AdvisorADM (Ret.) Ellen Hill (Johanna Day)2021–present	Chief of StaffMike Barnow (Kevin Rahm)2021–2021	Russell Jackson (Željko Ivanek)2021–2021	Jay Whitman (Sebastian Arcelus)2021–present												

Other officials[edit]

Office Name Term	Chief Justice of the United States Frawley (Morgan Freeman) 2013–present	Deputy Secretary of State Steven Cushing (William Allen Young) 2013–2019	Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Susan Thompson (Tonya Pinkins) 2014–2019	United States Ambassador to Yemen Paul Wellington (Tim Guinee) 2013–present	United States Ambassador to Myanmar Arlen Maxwell (David Rasche) 2013–2016	United States Ambassador to Algeria Roy Curtis (Dakin Matthews) 2013–2016	Deputy Director of the FBI Marguerite Sanchez
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(Roslyn Ruff) 2013–present Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Glenn (John Pankow) 2013–present Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board Humphrey Nelson (Alfredo Narciso) 2013–present

Episodes[edit]

Production[edit]

Development[edit]

In August 2013, it was announced *Madam Secretary* was in development at CBS, co-written by Barbara Hall.^{[3][4]} *Madam Secretary* is about "the personal and professional life of a maverick female secretary of state, as she drives international diplomacy, wrangles office politics and balances a complex family life."^{[4][5][6]}

The pilot was directed by David Semel.^[8] On May 9, 2014, *Madam Secretary* received a series order at CBS.^{[5][6]} A preview trailer was released on May 14, 2014.^[9] *Madam Secretary* premiered on CBS on September 21, 2014,^[10] and on October 27, 2014, CBS picked up the series for a full season of 22 episodes.^[11] *Madam Secretary* was renewed for a sixth season on May 9, 2019.^[12] On May 15, 2019, it was announced the sixth season would be the series' final season and would comprise 10 episodes.^[13] It premiered on October 6, 2019.^[14] Filming for the series was completed on November 13, 2019.^[15]

Casting[edit]

In January 2014, the pilot was cast with Téa Leoni as Elizabeth McCord,^[16] Tim Daly as Henry McCord,^[17] Geoffrey Arend as Matt Mahoney,^[18] Patina Miller as press coordinator Daisy Grant,^[19] Bebe Neuwirth as Elizabeth's chief of staff Nadine Tolliver, Erich Bergen as Blake Moran, Evan Roe as Elizabeth's son, Jason McCord,^[20] Katherine Herzer as Elizabeth and Henry's daughter Alison McCord,^[21] Željko Ivanek as Russell Jackson,^[22] and Wallis Currie-Wood as Elizabeth and Henry's older daughter Stephanie "Stevie" McCord.^[23]

Bebe Neuwirth left the series after the third episode of the fourth season.^{[24][25]} Sara Ramirez joined the cast as Kat Sandoval, replacing Bebe Neuwirth as a series regular. Hall said, "She brings a fresh perspective and a fun, energetic quality to the State Department staff."^{[26][27][28]}

On August 6, 2019, it was revealed that Ramirez would not return as a regular for the sixth and final season.^[citation needed] Nearly a month later on September 3, it was revealed that original regulars Arend, Roe, and Herzer, and later additions Keith Carradine and Sebastian Arcelus would also be dropped from the main cast; however, Carradine was expected to make at least one guest appearance, and the others would likely appear according to their work schedules.^[citation needed] Additionally, Kevin Rahm, who had recurred as McCord's advisor Michael "Mike B." Barnow since the second half of the first season, would be upgraded to regular status.^[citation needed]

Broadcast[edit]

As of May 15, 2020, all six seasons of *Madam Secretary* are available on Netflix (US).^[29] In Finland, *Madam Secretary* premiered on MTV3 on January 1, 2015.^[30] The series has been popular in Finland: 9% of Finnish people watched the first episode.^[31]

Reception[edit]

Ratings[edit]

- Note: In seasons four through six during the fall, the series was scheduled to air at 10:30 p.m. ET/9:30 p.m. CT to allow for football and golf overruns (there were no delays from Mountain Time westward). Since its move to the last hour of primetime, this resulted in several new episodes being delayed a week at the last minute due to a game's overrunning, to allow CBS affiliate local newscasts to start as close to 11:00 p.m. ET/ 10:00 p.m. CT as possible; in this case, a repeat aired in the Mountain Time Zone westward instead, with Canadian broadcaster Global following CBS's scheduling in order to take advantage of simsub advertising opportunities.

Critical reception[edit]

Madam Secretary has been met with generally positive reviews from TV critics. On Metacritic, the show has a score of 66 out of 100, based on 31 critics, indicating "generally favorable reviews".^[50] On Rotten Tomatoes, the show holds a rating of 67% based on reviews from 52 critics. The site's consensus for the first season reads, "Bolstered by Tea Leoni's strong central performance, *Madam Secretary* is a solid but unspectacular political drama."^[51]

Three former US Secretaries of State apparently were fans of the series. On April 27, 2022, during a eulogy at the memorial service for Madeleine Albright (Secretary of State from 1997 to 2001), Hillary Clinton (Secretary of State from 2009 to 2013), disclosed that she and Secretaries Albright and Colin Powell (Secretary of State from 2001 to 2005), "loved and actually watched" *Madam Secretary*. All three former Secretaries of State made a cameo appearance together on the fifth-season premiere, which aired on October 7, 2018.^[52]

Criticism[edit]

Three women have served as Secretary of State to date: Madeleine Albright from 1997 to 2001 under Bill Clinton, Condoleezza Rice from 2005

to 2009 under George W. Bush, and Hillary Clinton from 2009 to 2013 under Barack Obama. Shortly after the series' debut, Fox News asked if the show served as a campaign ad supporting Hillary Clinton, but quoted the Los Angeles Times saying the lead character was "no Hillary knock-off" and a New York publicist calling the casting of a woman "simple business and smart on CBS' behalf." [53] Conservative activist organization Culture and Media Institute said "The connections in the show between Elizabeth and Hillary are clear, from the blond hair to the pantsuits." [53]

When the trailer of the fifteenth episode of the third season titled "Break in Diplomacy" was released showing McCord responding to unwanted sexual advances by fictional Philippine president Datu Andrada by punching Andrada in the face, it became controversial in the Philippines. Viewers thought there were parallels between Andrada and real-life Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, who was known for making inappropriate and sexist remarks. [54] The Philippine Embassy in Washington published a statement protesting the negative depiction of the presidential character on its Facebook page. [55]

The fourth-season premiere, "News Cycle", led to a protest from East Timor's Minister of State José Ramos-Horta, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate. He said, "It is a slander against a country that only shows ignorance and racism." [56] The TV show used the border dispute between Australia and East Timor in the Timor Sea as background story. (The dispute is transferred in the TV show to the South China Sea, although neither Australia nor East Timor borders it.) East Timor is shown as a country controlled by a Mexican drug cartel and used for drug transfer. US Secretary of State McCord is asking China to take measures to prevent the leader of the drug cartel from making a narco-state out of East Timor. [56]

In the 4th episode of the first season, "Just Another Normal Day", the director used footage shot in Hoi An, Vietnam but noted the location of Fuling, China. Soon after, it caused the anger of the Vietnamese government and people, because the episode offended Vietnam's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Soon after, the Department of Radio, Television and Electronic Information of the Ministry of Information and Communications of Vietnam ordered a ban on Madam Secretary and asked Netflix to remove the series from the Vietnamese version of Netflix. [57]

Accolades[edit]

Year Association Category Nominee(s) Result
2014 TV Guide Award Favorite New Show Madam Secretary Nominated
2015 American Cinema Editors Awards Best Edited One-Hour Series for Commercial Television Elena Maganini and Michael D. Ornstein Nominated
41st People's Choice Awards Favorite Actress in a New TV Series Téa Leoni Nominated
Favorite New TV Drama Madam Secretary Nominated
Publicists Guild of America The Maxwell Weinberg Publicists Showmanship Television Award CBS Television Studio/Madam Secretary Nominated
2015 Humanitas Prize 60 Minute Network or Syndicated Television Madam Secretary Nominated
2016 CBS MVP Awards Best Motivational Speech Téa Leoni Nominated
2016 Humanitas Prize 60 Minute Network or Syndicated Television Madam Secretary Nominated

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External links[edit]

Madam Secretary actor hospitalized after filming with Téa Leoni following fight with craft services

Madam Secretary actor is hospitalized moments after filming with Téa Leoni following 'bloody' fistfight over food with a craft services worker

- Several hundred actors were on a break from filming of CBS series Madam Secretary in Whippany, New Jersey, when the fight occurred Friday
- They had just filmed a speech seen with actor Téa Leoni and the extras 'swarmed' the catering table, TMZ reports
- A source claimed a background actor cut the line then pushed a female craft services worker who ordered him to the back
- The woman's husband - also a craft services worker - then reportedly punched the actor, knocking him onto the catering table and hit him several more times
- The background actor was left 'bloodied' and was hospitalized after cops had to peel the catering staff member off him. The actor was the only one injured
- Police interviewed those involved but no arrests were made

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An actor on the set of Madam Secretary has been hospitalized after he was repeatedly punched in the face during a fight over catering on Friday, a source says.

The physical altercation broke out when the background actor cut in line at the craft services table during a break from filming in Whippany, New Jersey, TMZ reports.

A 'horde of extras swarmed the snacks/coffee table' in between recording scenes for the CBS show where Téa Leoni portrays main character Elizabeth McCord – the former Secretary of State who became President.

Several hundred actors were on a break from filming in Whippany, New Jersey, when the fight occurred Friday after having just filmed a speech seen with actor Téa Leoni

Extra 'swarmed' the catering table but an altercation arose after one cut in line, TMZ reports. Leoni is seen on set of the drama where she portrays main character Elizabeth McCord – the former Secretary of State who became President

People reports that 'several hundred' actors had gathered to film a speech scene with the actress – who was working on the final season of the drama - before an argument ensued.

When a female craft services staff member told the actor to join the back of the queue, the actor pushed the woman, a source told the publication.

That's when another catering employee – who is married to the woman - interjected and allegedly punched the actor in the face.

A source claims a background actor pushed a female craft services worker who ordered him to the back of the line so the woman's husband punched him several times

The actor 'landed on the snack-filled table, and then the husband got on top of him and punched him several more times in the face', TMZ reports.

The violent incident ended up 'leaving him bloodied', according to the source who claimed on-set police had to 'peel the employee off the actor'.

He was taken to hospital and treated for his injuries.

'We had 3 officers working the detail and it was contained quickly,' Captain David White told People. 'The only injury was to the individual who got punched.'

Law enforcement officers took statements from those involved but no one was arrested.

CBS didn't immediately reply to DailyMail.com's request for comment.

The background actor was left 'bloodied' and was hospitalized after cops had to peel the catering staff member off him. Tea Leoni, Tim Kang, Patina Miller, Erich Bergen, Sebastian Arcelus and Geoffrey Arend are seen on the set of *Madam Secretary* on March 19, 2018

Advertisement

CBS show 'Madam Secretary' films in Massapequa

Actress Tea Leoni couldn't seem to contain her excitement or outrage Monday as she cheered, yelled and critiqued the referee's calls from the bleachers of the soccer field at John J. Burns Park in Massapequa.

"That's a high kick!" she shouted while springing to her feet.

"Clear the ball, girls!" she yelled.

Leoni was filming for her new CBS series, "Madam Secretary," in which she plays U.S. Secretary of State Elizabeth McCord. Flanked by actors in suits, playing her security detail, Leoni's character rooted for a fictional Westmore Wildcats soccer team -- including her on-screen daughter, actress Kathrine Herzer -- and local players from the Plainedge Soccer Club's Red Storm team.

In between takes, the seventh and eighth graders spent some time with Leoni.

"She told us we work well as a team," said Rylie Trimble, 13, of Bethpage.

Rylie and her teammates spent hours kicking the ball around while the cameras rolled during a staged game against a group of girls from Connecticut that included soccer players and dancers. Some of the sequences were choreographed.

"This is mostly scripted and we're not playing as aggressively as we usually do, so it's pretty different," she added. "It's hard to hold back."

Herzer was in goal, a role that Seaford resident Natalie Martinez usually plays when competing with her team. But Natalie gave Leoni's on-screen daughter some tips.

"She's doing a good job for a beginner," she said.

The girls also praised Leoni's soccer mom performance, but unanimously agreed that she reminded them more of their own outspoken dads than their mothers.

Vincent Battista is one of those fathers. He also was the person who worked with a casting agent to land the gig for his daughter Amanda's team.

"It's great that the show was filmed here and they used a local team," he said. "This is their moment in the sun."

Battista said he was told the scenes should appear in Episode 9 in about eight weeks.

Following the shoot at the soccer field, the crew also filmed down the road at the Nautilus Diner. A sign outside the Merrick Road eatery informed customers it would be closing early due to the shoot.

The restaurant, which dates back to 1963, reopened earlier this year after undergoing a major renovation. Owner Stella Efsthathiou said the new look may have been what attracted the location scouts.

"I'm just so happy they chose this diner, they chose Massapequa, and it's wonderful for the community," she said.

Efsthathiou also considers acting a hobby. She's appeared in movies and TV shows as an extra in the past, so she was excited to make a cameo in one of the scenes.

Assemb. Joseph Saladino, a Massapequa native, said he, too, would be an extra in the diner scenes.

"I appreciate the opportunity to represent Long Island," said Saladino, a Republican. "It's pretty cool when the hometown guy has an opportunity to represent the folks that he loves so much."