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# So where's Bloomberg? Well, it may be personal

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Where in the world is Michael Bloomberg?

New Yorkers may be asking that question on a semi-regular basis over the next four years.

Bloomberg, the billionaire media mogul who becomes mayor Jan. 1, said yesterday he plans to keep secret any personal trips he takes while in office.

"My personal life is my personal life," Bloomberg said. "I don't think the press should be concerned with the personal life of any of the 250,000 wonderful people that work for this city."

Since becoming mayor-elect, Bloomberg has taken at least two personal trips outside of New York, one during Thanksgiving weekend and another last weekend. He reportedly spent his recent respite in Bermuda.

Gene Russianoff, a senior attorney with the New York Public Interest Research Group, said he thinks it's ill-advised of Bloomberg to be secretive about his whereabouts.

"The public is going to want to know the general whereabouts of their mayor," Russianoff said. "The more he is mysterious, the more he is going to have the media and the paparazzi try to spot him. I think just being straightforward about where you are makes good political sense."

## It's all part of it

Nobody in the public begrudges time elected officials take off, Russianoff said. But elected officials should expect a diminished right to privacy, he said.

"The President tells you when he is at Camp David or the ranch," Russianoff said. "It's more a matter of having a sense of where they are."

Bloomberg, who co-owns a plane with his financial communications firm, can travel anywhere in the world. Or he could stay at home — which for Bloomberg could mean New York, Westchester County, London, Bermuda or Vail, Colo.

Bloomberg's plan for stealth jaunts contrasts sharply with Giuliani, who built a reputation during his first term as a round-the-clock mayor who seldom slept or took vacations. While Giuliani might occasionally sneak away — typically to a golf course or for some downtime with his friend Judith Nathan — he doesn't miss a chance to hold daily briefings.

Bloomberg has said publicly he may not hold a daily news conference.

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