

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

MEMBER/OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for travel taken in connection with a Member or officer's official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual *Financial Disclosure Statement*. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Sean Casten
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 2/17/2024 Return: 2/23/2024
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Tel Aviv Return City: Chicago
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: J Street Education Fund
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary): _____

7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
- a. a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
 - b. the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
 - c. page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the Member or officer; **and**
 - d. the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*
- b. If not, explain: _____

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

Member / Officer Signature: _____



Date: 03/05/2024

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated in the trip within 10 days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: _____

2. Travel Destination(s): _____

3. Date of Departure: _____ Date of Return: _____

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): _____

Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if **all** information is **identical** for each person listed.

5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler				
Accompanying Family Member				

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box.

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Sean Casten
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: J Street Education Fund
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Israel and the West Bank
4. a. Date of Departure: Saturday, February 17th, 2024 Date of Return: Friday, February 23rd, 2024
- b. Yes No Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?
If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Yes No Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**
- (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____
- (2) Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
- (3) Yes No Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age?
6. a. Yes No Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?
- b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:


7. Yes No *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. **Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**
J Street Education Fund's Congressional Program invite to Israel and the West Bank provides a nonpartisan educational forum for Members of Congress to engage on public policy issues and promote a nuanced understanding on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This trip will allow Members to understand the region and see how American leadership can help bring about peace.

9. **Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member: _____



Date: January 11, 2024

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip: _____

2. I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

3. **Check only one.** I represent that:

a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**

b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**

c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: _____

4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary): _____

5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: _____ Date of Return: _____

7. a. City of departure: _____

b. Destination(s): _____

c. City of return: _____

8. **Check only one.** I represent that

a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**

b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**

c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following.**
- a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
 - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
 - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
 - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. _____
-

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*

11. **Check only one of the following.**

- a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify the statement is true by clicking the box; OR*
 - b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For **each** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**

- a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: _____)
- b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: _____)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:

- a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If "b" is checked:

- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): _____
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Keelie Broom
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
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January 29, 2024

The Honorable Sean Casten
U.S. House of Representatives
2440 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for February 17 to 23, 2024, sponsored by J Street Education Fund.

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$480 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$480] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

¹ Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or ohsstaff@mail.house.gov. House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Michael Guest in blue ink.

Michael Guest
Chairman

Handwritten signature of Susan Wild in blue ink.

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:mc

In addition to the above Traveler Form, please note the following attachments:

- I. PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM
- II. PARTICIPANT LIST
- III. ADDITIONAL EXPENSES
- IV. ORIGINAL INVITATION
- V. DELEGATION ITINERARY

ATTACHMENT II: PARTICIPANT LIST

As Members of Congress, the following trip participants are asked to vote on legislation related to the issues that will be addressed on this trip surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, US foreign aid, and other policies related to Middle East issues.

Rep. Rosa DeLauro

Rep. Becca Balint

Rep. Sean Casten

Rep. Mark Takano

Rep. Madeleine Dean

Rep. Salud Carbajal

ATTACHMENT III. ADDITIONAL PER-PERSON EXPENSES

\$203 Logistics Coordinator fee
\$20 Tour Guide
\$275 Tour bus for duration of trip
\$175 Meeting room rentals
\$200 Speaker honoraria
\$60 Printing
\$60 Security
\$60 Photographer
\$5 COVID testing



The Honorable Sean Casten
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Casten,

We are pleased to invite you to join a special delegation of Members of Congress for an educational trip to Israel and the West Bank sponsored by the J Street Education Fund (JSEF). The trip, which will be on the ground for five days, will depart on Saturday, February 17th, and return on Friday, February 23rd, 2024.

Through this trip, JSEF hopes to provide an opportunity for Members of Congress to see the reality of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict post-October 7th, focusing on the current crisis and plans for the “day after” the war. This delegation will enable Members of Congress to have a one-of-a-kind experience that gives a unique perspective on what is at stake in the region and how American leadership can help bring about peace.

All trip related expenses will be paid for by JSEF in compliance with the House Committee on Ethics rules. At least 30 days prior to departure, participants are responsible for submitting the “Primary Trip Sponsor Form,” filled out by JSEF, as well as the “Traveler Form.” If you have any questions about the rules, please contact the House Committee on Ethics. Prior to the trip, JSEF will conduct a briefing to provide background information and logistics for Members in preparation for their visit.

I hope that you will be able to join us on this important, thought-provoking, and educational trip. If you have any questions, please contact Cooper Boyar at (917) 312-1869, or at cooperboyar@jstreet.org, at any time to discuss the details of the sponsored trip and our organization.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Ben-Ami
President
J Street Education Fund

The J Street Education Fund (JSEF) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that does not hire or retain registered lobbyists. JSEF is a member of the J Street family of pro-Israel, pro-peace organizations.



The Len Hill Education Program

Dedicated to providing American policy makers and opinion leaders with balanced information that lays the groundwork for pursuing Israeli-Palestinian peace through diplomacy.

February 18 - February 22, 2024

ITINERARY

Saturday, February 17

10 PM LY 0012 Departs JFK

Sunday, February 18

3:20 PM LY 0012 arrives in Tel Aviv. Drive to the hotel and check in

5:30 PM Overview of the War and Current Moment
Journalist Amir Tibon will provide an overview of the current political moment in Israel in light of the Israel-Hamas war.

Speaker: Amir Tibon

7:00 PM Welcome Dinner: The Regional Approach to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
Participants will introduce themselves and have the opportunity to hear from representatives to Israel from countries in the Middle East and North Africa that have normalized relations with Israel and their thoughts on the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict post-October 7.

Hotel: David Intercontinental Hotel | 12 Kaufman Street, Tel Aviv | +972-3-795-1111

Monday, February 19

8:00 - 9:30 AM Drive to Gaza border

- 9:30 - 10:30 AM Tour of the Gaza Envelope: Witnessing the Destruction of Israeli Border Communities
We will be led on a tour by local residents in a Kibbutz bordering with Gaza to see firsthand the destruction on October 7 and discuss their experiences since.
- Location: Kibbutz Be'eri
- 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Drive to Tel Aviv
- 12:00 - 2:00 PM Lunch and meeting with displaced families from Kibbutz Reim
We will hear from Israeli families from the Gaza Envelope Kibbutzim who have been displaced from their homes following October 7.
- Location: Temporary housing for Reim residents, Tel Aviv
- 2:00 - 2:30 PM Drive to hotel + short break
- 2:30 - 4:00 PM IDF Briefing on the Israel-Hamas War
The security briefing by the IDF will acquaint us with the major security threats Israel faces today, as well as the IDF goals and priorities for the ongoing war in Gaza and other fronts.
- Location: David Intercontinental Hotel
- 4:00 - 5:30 PM Meeting with Israeli Political Officials
We will meet with Members of the Israeli Knesset to discuss the current state of affairs in Israel, their vision regarding the future of the Israel-Hamas war, and the US-Israel relationship.
- 5:30 - 7:00 PM Executive time
- 7:00 - 9:00 PM Dinner Briefing: Ending the War and Bringing Home the Hostages
We will hear from Israeli experts on security and hostage negotiations about their insights on ongoing negotiations and the impact of the war.
- Speakers - TBC
- Location: Nomi Hotel Restaurant, 3rd floor, David Intercontinental Hotel

Hotel: David Intercontinental Hotel | 12 Kaufman Street, Tel Aviv | +972-3-795-1111

Tuesday, February 20

- 9:00 - 9:30 AM Drive to Hostages Plaza
- 9:30 - 10:45 AM Meeting with Families of Hostages

We will hear from Israelis who have family members held hostage in the Gaza Strip about the condition of their loved ones and advocacy for their release.

10:45 - 11:00 AM

Break

11:00 - 11:45 AM

Walk through the Hostages Plaza
The Hostages and Missing Plaza, located outside of the Tel Aviv Museum, was established by the Hostages Families Forum, and is used as a hub to protest, showcase exhibitions, and express solidarity in support of the families.

Location: Sderot Sha'ul HaMelech 27, Tel Aviv-Yafo

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Walk to lunch

12:00 - 2:00 PM

Lunch session: Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza
A briefing on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza during the war and how the acute crisis can be alleviated.

Speakers: Representatives from the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), Physicians for Human Rights - Israel (PHRI) and Gisha - Legal Center for Freedom of Movement.

Location: Restaurant in Tel Aviv

2:00 - 2:15 PM

Short break

2:15 - 3:30 PM

The Day After: Rebuilding Gaza
We will delve into the challenges and innovative solutions necessary for the reconstruction efforts in Gaza. Experts and humanitarian leaders will discuss sustainable development, infrastructure revitalization, socio-economic recovery, and the crucial role of international cooperation in fostering lasting peace and prosperity in the region.

Speakers - TBC

3:30 - 5:30 PM

Drive to Hotel and Executive Time

5:30 - 6:00 PM

Drive to Cocktail hour

6:00 - 7:15 PM

Cocktail Hour with Peace and Democracy Leaders
We will engage with prominent leaders in the fields of peacebuilding, strengthening democracy, and creating a shared society.

Location: Beit Otzarin, Tel Aviv

7:30 - 9:30 PM

Dinner Discussion: Israeli Political Landscape After the War
We will explore the Israeli political dynamics in the aftermath of the war in Gaza, as experts and insiders provide their insights into the evolving strategies, alliances, and challenges shaping Israel's path forward.

Speakers: TBC

Hotel: David Intercontinental Hotel | 12 Kaufman Street, Tel Aviv | +972-3-795-1111

Wednesday, February 21

8:00 - 9:45 AM Drive to Ein Samiya - briefing on the bus

9:45 - 11:00 AM Visit to Ein Samiya
We will explore the reality faced by Palestinian communities displaced post-October 7, and gain a deeper understanding of the persistent threat of settler violence.

Guide: Yehuda Shaul

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Drive to Ramallah

12:30 - 2:00 PM Lunch Briefing: Palestinian Public Opinion
We will learn about the state of Palestinian public opinion regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, internal Palestinian politics, and the aftermath of October 7 on public opinion.

Speaker: TBC

2:30 - 3:30 PM Palestinian Political Meeting
We will discuss the current state of affairs in the West Bank and the Palestinian Authority's interests and priorities regarding the US-Palestinian relationship and the diplomatic resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

3:30 - 5:00 PM Drive to Jerusalem

5:00 - 7:30 PM Check in + Executive Time

7:45 - 9:30 PM Dinner discussion: The Day After - Creating a Political Horizon
Speakers will discuss steps towards establishing a political framework post-war, while delving into strategic insights and visionary perspectives shared by experts and leaders, aiming to chart a course for a sustainable and constructive future in Israel and Palestine.

Speakers: TBC
Location: Angelica Restaurant

Hotel: Orient Hotel | Emek Refa'im St 3, Jerusalem | +972 2-569-9090

Thursday, February 22

8:30 - 9:30 AM Meeting with UNSCO

Representatives of the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process will brief the group on the challenges and strategic approaches post-war role of international coordination, humanitarian efforts, and the path towards sustainable recovery in Gaza.

Location: Orient Hotel

9:30 - 9:45 AM

Break

9:45 - 11:15 AM

The day after in Jerusalem - Geopolitical Tour

The final status of Jerusalem is considered to be one of the key issues to be negotiated in the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Following the 1967 war, Israel annexed all of East Jerusalem, land which is beyond the Green Line and is inhabited predominantly by Palestinians. On this tour, we will learn how October 7 accelerated trends in the city, and explore ways to curb religious radicalization and transform Jerusalem into a beacon of stability.

Guide: Daniel Seidemann, Founder, Terrestrial Jerusalem

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Meeting with US Ambassador to Israel Jacob J. Lew - Timing TBC

We will hear from the US Embassy in Israel regarding U.S. policy in the region and the current approach and priorities of the Biden Administration, specifically as it relates to policies and actions that advance an end of the war in Gaza, as well as the role of the US in shaping the post-war reality.

1:00 - 2:30 PM

Lunch Session: Regional Strategic Challenges

Gain a comprehensive understanding of the complexities and interplays influencing regional stability in light of the war in Gaza, as well as charting potential pathways toward future resolution.

Speakers:

Eran Etzion, Diplomat and strategist

Shira Efrom, Policy advisor, Israel Policy Forum

Location: Cassia Hotel

2:30 - 3:00 PM

Drive to Prime Minister's Office + Security

3:00 - 4:30 PM

Meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu - Timing TBC

We will discuss the current state of affairs in Israel and the Israeli Government's interests and priorities regarding the US-Israel relationship, the war in Gaza, and the diplomatic resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

4:30 - 5:30 PM	Drive to Hotel
5:30 - 7:00 PM	Executive/Packing Time, Check out
7:00 - 9:00 PM	Farewell Dinner <i>Each participant will have the opportunity to share their takeaways from their experiences over the past week and discuss how this will impact their work in the United States. We will review potential opportunities for action that support a diplomatic and peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.</i>
	Location: Orient Hotel
9:15 PM	Depart for Ben Gurion Airport

Friday, February 23

12:45 AM	LY 0001 Departs
5:45 AM	LY 0001 Arrives at JFK

The Len Hill Education Program

Dedicated to providing American policy makers and opinion leaders with balanced information that lays the groundwork for pursuing Israeli-Palestinian peace through diplomacy.

J Street Education Fund Congressional Delegation to Israel and the Palestinian Territory

February 18-22, 2024

MISSION GOALS: *The aim of the trip is to explore the current state of affairs in the region and in particular in regard to the Israel-Hamas War, and to look at the role of US diplomatic leadership in the region, with a focus on the day after the war. During this trip, the group will have the opportunity to hear from a wide array of politicians, security experts and leaders from various professional fields such as business, government and civil society, to provide them with an in-depth and nuanced understanding of challenges facing Israel today.*

DISCLAIMER: *One of the objectives of this trip is to provide participants with a window into the broad spectrum of opinions related to the conflict and its resolution in order to foster a deeper understanding of the complexities of the issues at hand. Therefore, we will meet with individuals and groups engaged in various activities or political agendas. In some cases, the policies of the J Street Education Fund diverge from the beliefs of speakers; however, we recognize the importance of trying to understand one another's viewpoint. **Please note that the items included in this itinerary are subject to change.***

ITINERARY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18: WELCOME MEMBERS

*****DRESS CODE: CASUAL**

7:30 - 9:30 PM Welcome Dinner: Overview of the War and Current Moment

Speaker: Neri Zilber

Location: David Intercontinental Hotel, Gallery room

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19: THE HAMAS-ISRAEL WAR AND HOSTAGE CRISIS

*****DRESS CODE: CASUAL**

6:30 – 8:30 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

8:30 - 10:00 AM IDF Briefing on the Israel-Hamas War

The security briefing by the IDF will acquaint us with the major security threats Israel faces today, as well as the IDF goals and priorities for the ongoing war in Gaza and on other fronts.

Speaker: Lt. Col. (res.) Peter Lerner, IDF Spokesperson's Unit

Location: David Intercontinental Hotel, Gallery room

10:00 - 10:30 AM Drive to Kibbutz Reim Residence in Tel Aviv

10:30 - 11:45 AM Meeting with displaced Israeli families from Kibbutz Reim

We will hear from Israeli families from the Gaza envelope area who have been displaced from their homes following October 7.

Speaker: Zohar Mizrahi, Kibbutz Reim

Location: Herzl 138, Tel Aviv

11:45 - 12:15 PM Drive to the Hostages Square

12:15 - 12:45 PM Hostages Square

The Hostages Square, located outside of the Tel Aviv Museum, was established by the Hostages Families Forum and is used as a hub to protest, showcase exhibitions, and express solidarity in support of the families.

Speaker: Dita Roman, Aunt of released hostage

Location: Sderot Sha'ul HaMelech 27, Tel Aviv

12:45 - 1:00 PM Walk to Lunch

1:00 - 2:30 PM Lunch Briefing: Ending the War & Bringing Home the Hostages

We will hear from Israeli experts on exit strategy for the war and hostage negotiations.

Speakers:

Dr. Nimrod Novik, Israel Fellow, Israel Policy Forum

Gershon Baskin, Founder, Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information

Location: Meatos Restaurant, Weizmann St 2, Tel Aviv

2:30 - 3:00 PM

Drive to hotel

3:15 - 4:30 PM

Israeli Policy Towards Gaza & International Law Obligations

Briefing on Israeli policies toward Gaza during the Israel-Hamas war and Israel's obligations to the civilian population of Gaza.

Speakers:

Adv. Michael Sfar, Human Rights Lawyer and Political Activist
Tania Hary, Executive Director, Gisha

Location: David Intercontinental Hotel, Gallery room

4:30 - 7:15 PM

Executive time

7:15 - 7:30 PM

Walk to dinner

7:30 - 9:00 PM

Dinner Discussion: Israeli Political Landscape After the War

We will explore the Israeli political dynamics since the outbreak of the war in Gaza, including insights into the evolving strategies, alliances, and challenges shaping Israel's path forward

Speakers:

Dr. Shikma Bressler, Leader of the Pro-Democracy protest
Prof. Eran Halperin, Founder and co-chairman, aChord

Location: Italkia Ba'Tachana, Ashkelon St 5, Tel Aviv

Hotel: *David Intercontinental Hotel* | 12 Kaufman Street, Tel Aviv | +972-3-795-1111

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20: HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN GAZA AND THE WEST BANK

****Logistical note: We will be checking out of the hotel today. Before we meet, please (1) bring your luggage to the 2nd floor to be loaded to the bus; (2) settle any additional items charged to your room at the front desk and (3) bring your passports with you.***

*****DRESS CODE: CASUAL**

6:30 – 8:00 AM

Buffet breakfast served at hotel

7:00 - 7:45 AM

Drop off luggage on the 2nd floor

8:00 AM

Meet in lobby (2nd floor) to depart

- 8:15 -10:00 AM Drive to the Gaza Envelope
- 10:00 - 10:30 AM Tour of Nova Memorial Site**
- 10:40 - 12:00 PM Tour of Kibbutz Be'eri**
We will be led on a tour by local residents in a Kibbutz Be'eri to see firsthand the destruction on October 7 and discuss their experiences since.
Guide: Or Yelin, Resident of Kibbutz Be'eri
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM Lunch on the Bus + Briefing on Settler Violence en route to South Hebron Hills**
Background on Israeli policies toward Israeli settlements in the West Bank and escalations of violence against Palestinians in Area C since Oct. 7.
Guide: Yehuda Shaul, Co-Director and Founder, Ofek - The Israeli Center for Public Affairs
- 1:00 - 2:30 PM Tour of Khirbet Zanutah**
Tour the remnants of a displaced Palestinian community in Area C and hear from a local resident about the daily reality of settler violence.
Speaker: Nidal Younes, Head of the Masafer Yatta Village Council
- 2:30 - 4:30 PM Drive to Hotel
- 4:30 - 6:15 PM Executive Time
- 6:20 PM Meet in the lobby to depart**
- 6:20 - 7:00 PM Drive to the President's Residence + Security
- 7:00 - 7:45 PM Meeting with President Isaac Herzog**
Participants will hear the President's thoughts on the Israel-Hamas war, the US-Israel relationship, and the diplomatic resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- 7:45 - 8:00 PM Drive to dinner
- 8:15 - 9:30 PM Dinner Conversation: The Day After - Creating a Political Horizon**
Discussion on establishing a political framework post-war and how to chart a course for a sustainable and constructive future in Israel and Palestine.
Speakers:
 Dr. Shira Efron, Policy Advisor, Israel Policy Forum

Samer Sinjilawi, Head of Diplomatic, Israeli and International Relations
(Fatah Shadow Leadership)

Location: Touro Restaurant, Sh.A. Nakhon 2, Jerusalem

Hotel: **Orient Hotel** | Emek Refa'im St 3, Jerusalem | +972 2-569-9090

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21: PALESTINIAN AND ISRAELI POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES

*****DRESS CODE: BUSINESS**

6:30 – 8:00 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

8:00 AM Meet in the lobby to depart

8:00 - 8:45 AM Drive to Ramallah

8:45 - 9:15 AM Bus Briefing: Intro to Palestinian Politics
Background on the Palestinian Authority (PA) and Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

9:15 - 10:45 AM Meeting with Minister Hussein al-Sheikh
We will discuss the current state of affairs in the West Bank and the Palestinian Authority's interests and priorities regarding the war in Gaza, the US-Palestinian relationship, and creating a political horizon for Palestinians.

Location: Al-Israel, Amaar Tower, Ramallah

10:45 - 11:15 AM Drive to Millenium Hotel

11:30 - 1:00 PM Lunch Session: Palestinian Public Opinion
We will learn about the state of Palestinian public opinion regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, internal Palestinian politics, and the aftermath of October 7 on public opinion.

Speaker: Dr. Khalil Shikaki, Director, Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research

Location: Millennium Hotel, Emil Habib Street, Almsyoun, Ramallah

1:00 - 2:00 PM Drive to Jerusalem

2:00 - 2:50 PM Arrival at Knesset + Security

- 2:50 - 3:20 PM** **Meeting with Head of the Opposition MK Yair Lapid, Yesh Atid**
discuss the current state of affairs in Israel, his vision regarding the future of the Israel-Hamas war, and the US-Israel relationship.
- 3:20 - 3:50 PM** **Meeting with Rabbi MK Gilad Kariv, Israeli Labor Party**
Discuss the current state of affairs in Israel, MK Kariv's vision regarding the future of the Israel-Hamas war, and the US-Israel relationship.
- 3:50 - 4:15 PM Drive to Hotel
- 4:15 - 5:30 PM** **Meeting with US Ambassador Jacob Lew**
We will hear from the US Embassy in Israel regarding US policy in the region and the current approach and priorities of the Biden Administration, specifically as it relates to policies and actions that advance an end of the war in Gaza, as well as the role of the US in shaping the post-war reality.
- 5:10 - 5:30 PM Members of Congress drive to Prime Minister Office
- 6:15 PM Leaders meet in lobby to depart for dinner
- 5:30 - 7:30 PM** **Members of Congress meeting with Minister Ron Dermer**
- 6:15 - 7:30 PM** **Cocktail Hour with Peace and Democracy Leaders**
Meet leaders in the fields of peacebuilding, strengthening Israeli democracy, and creating a shared society.
- Location:** Modern restaurant, Rupin Rd. 11, Jerusalem
- 7:30 - 9:30 PM** **Dinner Discussion: Rebuilding Gaza and Revitalizing the Palestinian Authority**
We will delve into the diplomatic and economic challenges and priorities for the reconstruction efforts in Gaza, as well as the vision for Gaza's future.
- Speakers:**
 Azem Bashara, Jerusalem Venture and Tatweer Group Jerusalem
 Kamel Hussein, Former Member of the Palestinian Team to the Middle East Process-Madrid/Oslo, Private Sector Advisor and Communications Specialist.
 Tamara Kleibo, Former Curator of the East Jerusalem Hub, the World Economic Forum Initiative: Young Global Shapers
- Location:** Modern restaurant, Rupin Rd. 11, Jerusalem
- Hotel:** **Orient Hotel** | Emek Refa'im St 3, Jerusalem | +972 2-569-9090

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22: ADDRESSING REGIONAL CHALLENGES

*****DRESS CODE: BUSINESS CASUAL**

6:30 – 8:30 AM Buffet breakfast served at hotel

8:30 AM Meet in lobby to depart

9:00 - 10:15 AM UNSCO + EU Briefing: International Diplomacy

Briefing on post-war strategy, humanitarian efforts, and the path towards sustainable recovery in Gaza.

Speakers:

SC Tor Wennesland, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East
Amb. Alexandre Stutzmann, EU Representative to the West Bank & Gaza Strip

Location: 1 Ala"r St, Jerusalem

10:30 - 12:00 PM East Jerusalem Geopolitical Tour

On this tour, we will learn how the Israel-Hamas War has impacted trends in Jerusalem, the role of Jerusalem in creating a political horizon, and ways religious radicalization can be curbed to transform Jerusalem into a beacon of stability.

Guide: Daniel Seidermann, Founder, Terrestrial Jerusalem

12:00 – 12:30 PM Drive to YMCA

12:30 – 2:20 PM Lunch Discussion: Regional Strategic Challenges

An overview of regional threats to peace and stability and how regional powers can play a role in a future resolution.

Speakers:

Eran Etzion, Former Deputy Director, Israel's National Security Council
Ksenia Svetlova, CEO, ROPES - The Regional Organization for Peace, Economics & Security
Ihab Khatib, Co-Director, Negotiation Strategies Institute (NSI)

Location: YMCA Three Arches Hotel, King David 26, Jerusalem

2:30 - 3:30 PM Meeting with US Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority Lt. General Michael R. Fenzel

Overview of the volatile situation in the West Bank and vision for security in Gaza.

Location: YMCA Three Arches Hotel, King David 26, Jerusalem

3:30 - 5:00 PM Check out + executive time

3:45 - 5:00 PM UNRWA Briefing: Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza

A briefing on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza during the war and how the acute crisis can be alleviated.

Speakers:

Dr. Adam Bouloukos, West Bank Field Director, UNRWA
Scott Anderson, West Bank Operations Director, UNRWA
Antonia Marie De Meo, Deputy Commissioner General (Operational Support), UNRWA

Location: Shlomo Zalman Shragai 21, Jerusalem

6:15 - 7:00 PM Short break

7:00 - 9:00 PM Farewell Dinner

Each participant will have the opportunity to share their takeaways from their experiences over the past week and discuss how this will impact their work in the United States. We will review potential opportunities for action that support a diplomatic and peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Location: Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

9:30 PM - 3:00 AM Depart for Ben Gurion Airport according to flight times

J Street Education Fund February 2024 CODEL: Actual Expenses

Food - \$928

Tour Guide - \$206

Bus - \$187

Meeting room - \$191

Speaker Honoraria - \$69

Tour guide - \$36

Printing - \$47

Security - \$236

Photographer - \$58

Covid testing - 0