### MEMBER/OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendmen

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: Juan Vargas
2.	a. Name of Accompanying Relative:
	b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Other (specify):
3.	a. Dates: Departure: March 23, 2024 Return: March 29, 2024
	b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any:
4.	Departure City: Washington DC Destination: Israel Return City: Washington DC
5.	Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Israel Education Foundation Inc. (AIEF)
6.	Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):
	Interacted with governmental, political, media, and local leaders of community to under the impact
	of the war in Israel and informed judgement as to current state of the country.
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 the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.  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:
	o. 11 not, explain.
dete was app	ertify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have ermined that all of the expenses on the attached Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form were necessary and that the travel in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the earance that I am using public office for private gain.
	Date: 4/10/2024
last	updated 7/2023

### SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

🔳 Original 🔲 Amendment
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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.

·	id or provided in-kind s	upport for the trip:	American Israel Education	roundation, Inc. (AIEF)	
Travel Destination(			14 1 00 000		
	March 23, 2024		Return: March 29,202	4	
	r(s): Representative		4.5		
Note: You may list	t more than one traveler	on a form only if all i	nformation is identical for	or each person listed.	
5. Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:					
	Total <b>Transportation</b> Expenses	Total <b>Lodging</b> Expenses	Total <b>Meal</b> Expenses	Total <b>Other</b> Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)	
Traveler	\$11,337.35	\$1,424.68	\$800.26	\$3,867.87	
Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Signify statement i	s true by checking box.			lump sum payment.  e best of my knowledge.  /10/2024   08:46 EDT	
Name: Rachel Hirsch Title: Chief Legal Counsel					
rganization: Ameri	can Israel Education	n Foundation, Inc.	(AIEF)		
I am an officer	of the above-named org	ganization. Signify sta	tement is true by checki	ng box.	
ddress: 251 H Str	eet NW, Washingto	n, D.C. 20001			
elephone: <u>(</u> 202) 246	6-0519		Email: rhirsch@	)aiefdn.org	
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.



### TRAVELER FORM

1	Name of Traveler: Juan Vargas
2	Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: American Israel Education Foundation Inc (AIEF)
3	City and State OR Foreign Country of Travel: Israel
4.	a. Date of Departure: March 23rd Date of Return: March 29th
	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 Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the <i>Primary Trip Sponsor Form</i> (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.  This trip will allow me to interact with governmental, political, media and local leaders of the community to under the impact of the war in Israel and inform my judgement as to current state of the country.
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
trav	ereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my ect supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described rel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the searance that the employee is using public office for private gain.
Sig	nature of Employing Member:

### 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.

§	OTE: 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 ture trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.
1.	
	American Israel Education Foundation Inc. (AIEF)
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.	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 <b>ALL</b> House Members <i>and</i> employees you are inviting. <b>For each House invitee</b> , <b>provide an explanation of why the individual was invited</b> (include additional pages if necessary):  Please find attached
5.	Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6.	Date of Departure: March 23, 2024 Date of Return: March 29,2024
7.	a. City of departure: Washington, D.C. or home district
	b. Destination(s): Israel
	c. City of return: Washington, D.C. or home district
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 I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night. OR
	d. L 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:  AIEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a charitable and educational mission which includes, among other
	unings, educating policy members and opinion leaders about the U.S. Israel relationship. AIEE is solely
	responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this 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: charter bus
	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:
	l) Detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \$173
	betain the cost per tay of means (approximate cost may be provided):
	2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event ortrip:
	The trip is in Israel to educate members of Congress about the U.SIsrael relationship
16.	Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
	B - 241 4 0 0 4 1 - 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4
	Hotel Name: David Intercontinental City: Tel Aviv Cost Per Night: \$353  Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
	Tichen Volale
	Cost 1 of Tright.
	Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability
	Hotel Name: Waldorf Astoria City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$375
	Reason(s) for Selecting: location and affordability

17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.

### 18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

☐ Actual Amounts ☐ Good Faith Estimates	Total <b>Transportation</b> Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$8,568.00	\$1,446.00	\$868.00
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$8,568.00	\$1,446.00	\$868.00

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$3,630.00	breakdown attached
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$3,630.00	breakdown attached

19.	Che	ck	onl	voi	ie:
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- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; OR
- b. Not Applicable. Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

### 20. I certify by my signature that

- a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
- b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and
- c. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge

Docusigned by:	e best of my	knowledge.
Signature:	Date:	2/17/2024   20:08 EST
Name: Rachel Hirsch	Title:	Chief Legal Counsel
Organization: American Israel Education Foundation Inc. (AIEF)		
Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001		
Email: rhirsch@aiefdn.org	Telephone: (	202) 246-0519

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

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 Telephone: (202) 225–7103 Facsimile: (202) 225–7392

March 12, 2024

The Honorable Juan Vargas U.S. House of Representatives 2334 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 and your sister's proposed trip to Israel, scheduled for March 23 to 29, 2024, sponsored by American Israel Education Foundation.

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.

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,

Michael Guest Chairman Susan Wild Ranking Member

MG/SW:tn

## American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF) Democratic Members of Congress March 23-29, 2024

### Addendum

### 4. Names of Travelers

- 1. The Honorable Brad Schneider (Illinois)
- 2. The Honorable Jim Costa (California)
- 3. The Honorable Valerie Foushee (North Carolina)
- 4. The Honorable Juan Vargas (California)

### 5. Breakdown of "other" costs

Other Cost	Cost per person	
Security	\$1,537.72	
Speaker fees	\$637.06	
Hotels for contract staff	\$460.62	
Room rentals and setup	\$425.27	
Misc.	\$263.48	
Airport assistance	\$249.24	
Meals for contract staff and guests	\$150.44	
Photography	\$72.81	
Transportation for contract staff &		
guests	\$67.89	
Tips	\$3.34	
Total =	\$3,867.87	

# American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF) Educational Seminar in Israel Bipartisan Members of Congress March 23-29, 2024

#### **Itinerary**

Saturo	lay, March	23, 2024
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11:20 PM

Congressman Juan Vargas departs JFK Airport on El Al flight 8

Sunday, March 24, 2024

2:15 PM

Congressmen Brad Schneider and Jim Costa, and Congresswoman Valerie

Foushee depart Newark Airport on El Al flight 28

3:40 PM

Congressman Juan Vargas arrives at Ben Gurion Airport on

El Al flight 0008

5:00 PM

Check in to the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

6:30 PM

**Depart for Hostage Square** 

6:45-7:30 PM

Visit Hostage Square and meet with hostage families

7:30-9:00 PM

Dinner

-at Metos

9:30 PM

Overnight at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

### Monday, March 25, 2024

5:30 AM

Congressmen Brad Schneider and Jim Costa, and Congresswoman Valerie

Foushee arrive at Ben Gurion Airport-LY0028

6:30 AM

**Depart for Rehovot** 

7:00-7:45 AM

Breakfast

-at main dining hall, Leonardo Boutique Hotel, Rehovot

8:00-8:30 AM

**October 7 Invasion Overview** 

With Yossi Garr

-at De Vinci Hall, Leonardo Boutique Hotel, Rehovot

8:45-9:45 AM Antisemitism in the Post October 7 World **Briefing with Michal Cotler-Wunsh** Israel's Special Envoy on Combatting Antisemitism, Former Member of the Knesset -at De Vinci Hall, Leonardo Boutique Hotel, Rehovot 10:00-11:00 AM War Briefing: Swords of Iron, A Regional View Briefing by Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel Former Director, Counter-Terrorism Bureau at Prime Minister's Office - at De Vinci Hall, Leonardo Boutique Hotel, Rehovot 11:15 AM Depart for Palmachim Base 11:45 AM-1:30 PM **Israel's Defensive Abilities** Tour of Arrow, Iron Dome, and David's Sling Briefing with Member of the Ministry of Defense -at Palmachim Base 1:30 PM Depart for Kibbutz Nir Oz Lunch boxes on bus 2:45-4:30 PM The Story of October 7, Part I Visit Kibbutz Nir Oz Briefing by Kibbutz resident Nir Metzger 4:30 PM Depart The Story of October 7, Part II 4:45-5:45 PM Visit to Nova Concert Site and Memorial Depart for Zichron Ya'akov 5:45 PM 7:45 PM Check-in to the Zamarin Hotel/Boutique 49 Hotel, Zichron Ya'akov 8:30-10:00 PM Dinner -at Hameyasdim

Overnight at Zamarin Hotel/Boutique 49 Hotel, Zichron Ya'akov

10:00 PM

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

7:00 AM

**Prepare for Checkout** 

7:15-8:00 AM

Breakfast

-at Boulangerie

8:00-9:00 AM

**Depart for Kibbutz Sasa** 

9:30 AM-12:00 PM

Israel at War – the Northern Front

Citizens in the line of fire, the Northern displaced communities

Military Tactical Briefing with Brig. Gen. Yuval Bazak

-at Kibbutz Sasa

12:15 PM

Depart for Rafael-Leshem

1:00-3:00 PM

U.S. - Israel Defense Cooperation

Lunch and briefing with Gideon Weiss

Vice President for International Business Development

Rafael Advanced Defense Systems Ltd.

Review of U.S. programs

Presentation of leading systems: SPIKE, Trophy, Iron-Beam,

Iron Dome

3:30 PM

Depart for Jerusalem via Alfe Menashe

4:45-6:00 PM

Israel's Narrow Waistline

-at Alfei Menashe

7:30 PM

Check-in to the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem

7:45 PM

Depart for dinner

8:00-9:30 PM

The Israeli Mosaic

Dinner in Shuk Machane Yehuda

-at Hazot

10:00 PM

Overnight at Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

7:30 AM-8:15 AM

Breakfast on own

-at the hotel

8:30 - 9:30 AM Israel on the International Stage Meeting with Dr.Tal Becker Senior Legal Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs -at Shimon Meeting Room, Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem 9:45 AM Depart for the Prime Minister's Office 10:15-10:45 AM Security check Meeting with The Honorable Benjamin Netanyahu 10:45-11:45 AM Prime Minister of the State of Israel -at the Prime Minister's office 12:00 PM Depart for the Knesset 12:30 PM Security check 1:00-2:00 PM Lunch -at the Knesset A View from the Knesset 2:30-3:00 PM Meeting with the Honorable Amir Ohana Speaker of the Knesset -at Negev Hall, Knesset A View from the War Cabinet 3:15-4:00 PM Meeting with The Honorable Benny Gantz **Head of National Unity Party** -at Negev Hall, Knesset 4:30 PM Depart for Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery 4:45-6:15 PM **Paying Tribute to Israel's Fallen Heroes** -at Mt. Herzl Military Cemetery 6:15 PM Return to the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem A Palestinian Voice Post October 7 6:30-7:30 PM Meeting with Ibrahim Dalalsha Executive Director, Horizon Center for Political Studies and Media Outreach -at Shimon Meeting Room, Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem

7:45 - 9:30 PM

The U.S.-Israel Relationship

Dinner and Discussion with Ambassador Deputy Chief of Mission

Stephanie Hallett

-Issachar Meeting Room, Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem

10:00 PM

Overnight at the at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem

Thursday, March 28, 2024

7:00-7:45 AM

Breakfast on own

-at the hotel

7:45 AM

Depart for the President's Residence

8:30-9:30 AM

A View from the President of Israel

Meeting with the Honorable Isaac Herzog

-at the President's Residence

9:30 AM

Depart for the Old City of Jerusalem

10:00-11:45 AM

Strategic Survey of Jerusalem: The Holy Basin

Visit to the Old City of Jerusalem

11:45 AM

Depart for lunch

12:15-1:15 PM

Lunch

-at Luciana

1:30 PM

Depart for Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem

2:00-3:00 PM

A Voice Ignored – Women on October 7

Conversation with Dr.Cochav Elkayam Levy

Chair, Civil Commission on Oct. 7th Crimes by Hamas

Against Women and Children

-at Naftali Meeting Room, Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem

3:30-4:30 PM

**Bring Them Home** 

Meeting with John and Rachel Polin-Goldberg

Parents of Hersh Polin-Goldberg

- at Naftali Meeting Room, Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem

5:00-6:00 PM

Israel and the World

Closing conversation with Haviv Rettig-Gur

Journalist, The Times of Israel

- at Naftali Meeting Room, Waldorf Astoria Hotel, Jerusalem

6:00-7:00 PM

Prepare for departure

7:15 PM

Check out and depart for dinner

7:30-9:15 PM

**Closing dinner** 

-at Angelina

9:30 PM

Depart for Ben Gurion Airport

### Friday, March 29, 2024

1:00 AM

Congressman Jim Costa departs Tel Aviv on El Al flight 0027

1:05 AM

Congressman Juan Vargas and Congresswoman Valerie Foushee depart

Tel Aviv on El Al flight 0001