

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.

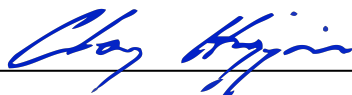
NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Congressman Clay Higgins
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: Rebecca Higgins **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 2/16/2026 Return: 2/22/2026
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: New York, NY Destination: Tel Aviv, Israel Return City: New York, NY
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: 12 Tribe Films Foundation
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):
Participated in meetings regarding regional security threats, bilateral cooperation, and geopolitical challenges in the Middle East.

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: 2/26/2026

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: 12 Tribe Films Foundation
2. Travel Destination(s): Israel
3. Date of Departure: February 16 2026 Date of Return: February 22 2026
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Rep. Clay Higgins, Rebecca Higgins

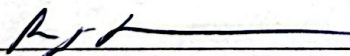
Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

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	\$5050	\$2020	\$720	\$230 Parking, taxis, entrance and guiding fees
Accompanying Family Member	\$5050	0	\$720	\$230 Parking, taxis, entrance and guiding fees

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: February 28 2026

Name: Avi Abelow Title: President

Organization: 12 Tribe Films Foundation

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

Address: 11 Riverside Side Dr., Apt 4NW, NYC, NY 10023

Telephone: +972-54-922-9960 Email: jaffestrategies@gmail.com

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.

last updated 7/2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Congressman Clay Higgins
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: 12 Tribes Film Foundation
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Israel
4. a. Date of Departure: February 16, 2026 Date of Return: February 23, 2026
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: Rebecca Higgins
 - (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.**
The trip will provide a historical and present-day overview of Israel's defense, economic, and political dynamics. This information will support Congressman Higgins' work on the House Armed Services Committee and as a member of Congress.

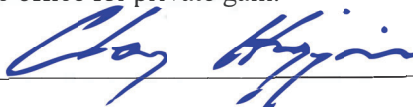
9. **Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**

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: 1/6/2026

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: _____

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:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee			
For each Accompanying Family Member			


	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		
For each Accompanying Family Member		

19. **Check only one:**

- 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.**

Signature: _____  _____ Date: _____
 Name: _____ Title: _____
 Organization: _____
 Address: _____
 Email: _____ Telephone: _____

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



Itinerary, Congressional Educational Mission to Israel

Rep. Scott Perry & Christy; Rep. Clay Higgins & Rebecca

February 16-22, 2026

Day 1 February 16 Travel Day

Depart NYC on El AL

1:30 pm Nonstop flight from JFK to TLV

Day 2 February 17 Beginnings

5:35 am Arrive Tel Aviv - Transfer to Jerusalem

8:00 am Arrive and check in to the Orient hotel

11:00 - 11:30 am Meet hosts, 12 Tribe Films Foundation

Topic: Welcome briefing, review the trip's itinerary and introduction to Israel today.

Short overview of issues that will be discussed, from geopolitics to technologies to the IDF - .5 hour.

12:30 Depart for Prime Minister's office - business attire

1:30 - 2:45 pm Briefing with PM Benjamin Netanyahu

Topic: Iran, Gaza and more from the Middle East. Important meeting for the mission, for our guests, with the Prime Minister of Israel. 1.5 hours.

3:00 - 4:00 pm Depart and travel south - IDF Spokesman is the guide and host for this time.

Topic en route, while viewing the areas outlying - south of Jerusalem, approaching the Negev and southern flank of Israel towards Gaza: US policy in the Middle East, border issues.

A close view of the surrounding political neighborhood, as a prelude to work investigating American policy vis-a-vis the current ongoing war with Gaza and further questions of diplomacy with Israel's neighbors. One hour of briefing throughout the travel.

4:00 pm Arrive for visit to Southern Israel Sites - After October 7

A note for this southern visit: We believe that any visitor, particularly congressional leaders, must receive first hand witness to the beginnings of the war currently ongoing between Israel and Hamas.

4:00 - 5:00 pm Visit site of Nova, with IDF Spokesman

Topic: First line of defense on October 7, early hours of surprise breach of the border and resulting losses and responses. 1 hour.

5:00 - 6:00 pm Kibbutz Kfar Aza overlook to the nearby Gaza border

Topic: Detailed examination of the border with Gaza and its breach that began the current war. Critical analysis of the breach from Gaza that gives the basis for further congressional work regarding the questions of border and control. Survivors and families; civilian, military and police defenders; emergency responders. 1 hour.

6:00 -7:30 pm Shuva soldiers center

Topic: The civilian front of the war - How Israel met the needs of residents and soldiers. Volunteers and locals supporting the IDF soldiers in the field. Includes dinner. 1.5 hrs.

7:30 - 8:30 pm Return to Jerusalem - via the central Negev hills

Topic: Understand the main Israeli towns under fire and still largely evacuated, its inhabitants removed from their homes because of ongoing threat from Gaza. Return with hosts. 1 hour.

Day 3 Wednesday February 18

8:45 am Depart for Government offices

9:30 - 10:30 am Briefing with Cabinet Minister Nir Barkat, Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure

Topic: The economics of the US-Israel relationship; future of US foreign aid versus bilateral cooperation. Explore possible new coordinated efforts to replace the current aid package. This hot topic is very relevant as a congressional issue, discussed now by both US and Israeli governments. 1 hour.

11:00 am Entrance to Knesset

11:30 am - 12:00 pm Visit special 1967 war room

Topic: Decision making under fire - audio visual presentation - .5 hour.

12:00 - 1:00 pm Meeting with Speaker of the Knesset Amir Ohana

Topic: Relationships between allies and parliaments, a special opportunity to forge cooperative efforts. Relevant elected officials with an opportunity to share the challenges of their parliamentary work. One hour.

1:00 - 2:00 pm Lunch in the Knesset with hosts

Topic: Israel and the PA - After Gaza: Challenges and opportunities for Stage 2.
Presented by hosts, in light of voting schedule on Knesset floor. One hour.

2:15 - 4:15 pm Meeting with Members of the Knesset Amit Halevy - Security & Defense Committee; MK Ohad Tal - Public Affairs Committee; and Simcha Rothman - Chairman, Judiciary Committee.

Topic: The significance of international law on legislative initiatives.
Participants include NGO representatives in these fields. Meeting is taking place as part of an ongoing series in the Knesset on international affairs, and Congressmen are invited to attend. There is no fee for attendance. 2 hours.

4:30 - 6:00 pm Geopolitical tour of Jerusalem

Topic: From 1948 to 1967 to today. A historical reader that presents the facts as Israel evolves from its beginnings to a modern metropolitan capital. This includes international pressures and decisions such as US recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Developing conversations on Jerusalem's place in any future resolutions in the region - 1.5 hours.

6:30 pm Dinner on own at First Station, Jerusalem

Day 4 Thursday February 19 Borders and neighbors

9:00 - 10:30 am Depart hotel for Jordan Valley region, Drive along Route 90

Topic: Regarding Israel's borders - Defensive strategies & challenges. A maps-open review with hosts of surrounding Middle East countries - in light of the Abraham Accords. Include President Trump's plans, Saudia Arabia & Qatar issues. With hosts. Very relevant to congressional work analyzing the situation on the ground in the region. 1.5 hours.

10:30 - 12:00 pm Kasr el-Yahud National Park

Topic: Crossing the Jordan at Kasr al Yahud - Biblical heritage meets modern diplomacy: IDF & Israel police coordinated security needs along the border with Jordan, Israel's longest and critical border. 1.5 hours.

12:30 - 2:30 pm Field visit to Sartaba mountain

Topic: living history in the Jordan Valley - a live archaeological dig with political ramifications. What are the goals for Israel's archaeology within and beyond the green line,

and how is this influenced by Middle East relations with surrounding areas? International conferences and Israeli participation. What is the Jewish connection to the region and why does it persistently affect political policies, then and now?

Speaker: Professor Dvir Raviv, Bar Ilan University. 2 hours. Includes lunch.

3:00 - 5:00 pm 'Aryeh' Military base with IDF Spokesman

Topic: Examine the IDF presence in the Jordan Valley; its military capabilities, observe surveillance operators in the field to understand strategic depth and defense mechanisms. Two hours.

5:30 - 6:00 Jordan Valley overlook at Mifgash Habik'ah

Topic: Putting it all together - from north to south, from border crossings and Jericho to the mountain entrance of Jerusalem: Strategic relationship with neighboring Jordan .5 hours

6:30 - 7:30 pm Dinner with hosts

Topic: Mapping Israel's longest border, Jordan Hashemite Kingdom as potential peacemaker in the region. One hour.

7:30 pm Depart for Jerusalem and Return to hotel

Friday Feb 20 Ancient & modern geopolitics

8:30 am Depart hotel

9:00 - 11:00 am US Ambassador Mike Huckabee at the US Embassy, Jerusalem

Topic: US-Israel relations, view from the embassy. An informative, highly educational discussion with the US Ambassador to Israel. 2 hours.

11:30 am - 2:30 pm City of David & Jerusalem's Old City

Topic: Ancient to modern - Where it all began. Understanding Jerusalem in order to understand regional relationships and potential for cooperation. Located in a largely Arab neighborhood, is this a model for cooperation based on biblical heritage that creates a realistic platform for coexistence? Very relevant to congressional work: Must be seen to understand Israel's capital city, for two aspects: the role of Jerusalem in any regional talks, and the city's diverse population as a microcosm for the entire region's challenges. With local site guide Naftali Condiotti Includes lunch. 3 hours.

3:00 pm Freshen up at hotel, prepare for Shabbat

4:00 pm Depart for Modiin region

Topic: Following the 'green line' on Israel's Route 1: Bible's Ayalon Valley as the watershed for modern Israel warfare and demarcations of peace. One hour.

5:00 - 7:00 pm Shabbat dinner with the Paley family, Nof Ayalon neighborhood, Modiin.

Topic: Experience a traditional Shabbat meal, shared with families of IDF lone soldiers & American Israeli citizens. Beyond the media: Discussion on current challenges with residents in an area under the political microscope. Sponsored by 12 Tribe Films Foundation. 2 hours, on these very relevant issues for congressional legislation.

7:30 pm Return to Jerusalem.

Saturday Feb 21 Shabbat insights

10:00 - 10:30 am - Depart and travel to Gush Etzion

10:30 - 1:30 pm Gush Etzion, Jerusalem's southern flank. Includes lunch.

Topic: Geopolitics of the region, Judea & Samaria, between Bethlehem and Hebron; Witness the biblical routes and modern complexities of this region, what Ben-Gurion called the 'southern flank of Jerusalem'. Includes Path of the Patriarchs, views of Israel's narrow waistline literally seeing from Jordan to the Mediterranean coast.

Local Jewish and Arab residents discuss roadblocks and potentials for coexistence. Includes lunch at the Lieberman home, sponsored by 12 Tribe Films Foundation, and important for an understanding of the conflict in the region and how locals are dealing with political and economic development opportunities. 3 hours.

1:30 pm Return to Jerusalem

Topic: View over Bethlehem, dividing fence between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, wall surrounding holy sites. First hand witness to Oslo Accord divisions and current day discord. Potential to combine or divide the region. One hour.

2:30 - 5:30 pm Jerusalem's Old City with Barnea Sulevan, resident

Topic: Ancient to modern Jerusalem, past roots and future hopes. An analysis of the city's development through Judean rule to the British to 1948 and reunification from 1967; Jewish, Christian and Moslem quarters, their heritage and what that means for the city today. 3 hours.

6:00 - 7:15 pm Break

7:30 - 9:30 pm Dinner with Kohelet Policy Forum, Jerusalem

Topic: International law and Israeli sovereignty, myths and facts. Briefing on the specific issues facing congressional representatives regarding this region. Of major importance, as it sets the stage for all issues discussed. Speakers: Prof Eugene Kontorovich, international and legal affairs; Caroline Glick, special advisor to the Prime Minister. 2 hours.

**Sunday Feb 22 Binyamin region: *Another front in the war -
Biblical heartland's role in the Middle East political future***

8:15 -9:15 am Briefing with Michael Eisenberg, founder of Aleph, on Israel start-up nation and economic cooperation with the US. 1 hour.

9:15 - 10:15 am At hotel-Media opportunity with CBN; Yisrael Hayom; INN News. 1 hour.

10:30 - 11:30 am Check out of hotel and depart for Ben Gurion airport.

Please note: Change of travel details due to incoming weather - snowstorm in the NYC area and the cancellation of their flights- these two couples departed on an earlier El Al flight in order to allow them to return in time for votes in DC on Monday evening and the State of the Union Address on Tuesday.

1:00 pm Israel-time El Al flight from TLV to NYC - JFK

6:00 pm ET Arrive in US, JFK

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Ranking Member

Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Ashley Hinson, Iowa
Nathaniel Moran, Texas
Brad Knott, North Carolina

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas
Suhas Subramanyam, Virginia



ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Jordan Downs
Chief of Staff to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
<https://Ethics.House.gov>

February 17, 2026

The Honorable Clay Higgins
U.S. House of Representatives
572 Cannon 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 spouse's proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for February 16 to 23, 2026, sponsored by 12 Tribe Films 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 \$525 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 \$525] 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,



Michael Guest
Chairman



Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:nl