

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

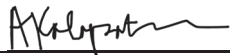
MEMBER/OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM ☒ Original ☐ Amendment

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: Rep. Joaquin Castro
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** ☒ None
b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 08/24/2026 Return: 08/26/2026
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** ☒ None
4. Departure City: San Antonio, TX Destination: Mexico City, MX Return City: San Antonio
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Mexican Leadership Fund
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary): 8/24: Welcome dinner with delegation
8/25: Briefing by the US Embassy in Mexico City, meeting with Mexican Government Leaders, working lunch and roundtable on economic cooperation/North American competitiveness, conversation with
~~US-Mexico Foundation business leaders, and dinner in partnership with the US-Mexico Foundation~~
8/26: Missed the planned activities due to flight timing
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: 09/01/2026

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: _____

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: Rep. Joaquin Castro
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: American Mexican Leadership Fund
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Mexico City, Mexico
4. a. Date of Departure: Monday, August 24 Date of Return: Wednesday, August 26
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: Anna Castro
(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.**
Rep. Castro is the Co-Chair of the US-Mexico Caucus and is the Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Subcommittee for Western Hemisphere. This programming will provide Rep. Castro a better understanding of current issues affecting the US-Mexico relationship and steps he can take as RM to strengthen these ties.
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: _____

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:**

☐ Actual Amounts ☐ 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			

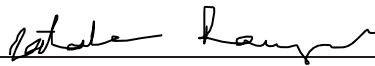
	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee		
For each Accompanying Family Member		

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: 660 Pennsylvania Ave. SE Suite 300 Washington D.C. 20003

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.

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
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August 21, 2026

The Honorable Joaquin Castro
U.S. House of Representatives
2241 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 spouse's proposed trip to Mexico,¹ scheduled for August 24 to 26, 2026, sponsored by American Mexican Leadership 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 \$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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Guest". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michael Guest
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark DeSaulnier". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:rp

American Mexican Leadership Fund

Executive Delegation to Mexico City

August 24–26, 2026

Monday, August 24, 2026

Arrival & Welcome

Rep. Castro to arrive and his wife to arrive on Monday, August 24th

Delta Airlines Flight 633: SAT-MEX, Direct

- 1:57 pm – 3:10 pm (2h 13m)

Transfer to hotel.

6:30 PM: Departure to dinner at Hacienda de los Morales (45 travel time)

7:00 PM: Welcome Dinner & Executive Dialogue

Venue: Hacienda de los Morales

An opening dinner bringing together delegation participants and distinguished leaders from government, business, academia, and civil society to discuss the current state of the U.S.–Mexico relationship and opportunities for deeper bilateral collaboration.

Discussion Themes

- The Future of the U.S.–Mexico Partnership
- North American Competitiveness
- Economic Cooperation & Investment
- Cross-Sector Leadership

Tuesday, August 25, 2026

7:00 – 8:00 AM : Breakfast at Delegation Hotel

8:25 AM: Departure Time to embassy (could shift to 8:00am- TBD)

9:15 - 10:00 AM: Meeting with the U.S. Ambassador to Mexico [Ronald D. Johnson](#)

Location: U.S. Embassy, Mexico City
Presa Angostura 225, Colonia Irrigación, Alcaldía Miguel Hidalgo, C.P. 11500

Executive briefing/meeting by senior U.S. Embassy officials on the political, economic, and diplomatic landscape shaping the U.S.–Mexico relationship.

Topics for discussion: The state of the bilateral relationship, USMCA, Subnational diplomacy, U.S. Embassy Priorities.

(Pending): Depart to Palacio Nacional

11:00 AM - Noon EST *(Pending Government Confirmation)*

Meeting with President Claudia Sheinbaum and Senior Mexican Government Officials

Location: Palacio Nacional

High-level discussion on shared priorities including economic competitiveness, regional security, migration, workforce development, and bilateral cooperation.

Please note that, if confirmed, this meeting will occur following the President's daily morning press conference ("La Mañanera").

Topics for discussion: Status of bilateral relationship, North American Economic Competitiveness, USMCA, Education, Talent and next generation.

----- : Executive Working Lunch 12:15-1:15 PM

Venue: [El Chapulin](#) (TBC)

A moderated discussion on the future of the U.S.–Mexico partnership and the evolving role of bipartisan, cross-sector leadership in advancing regional prosperity.

1:30 – 3:30 PM : Executive Policy Dialogue

Economic Cooperation & North American Competitiveness

Panelists: (TBC)

Conversation with senior government and business leaders examining:

- The future of the USMCA
 - Regional competitiveness
 - Nearshoring and resilient supply chains
 - Cross-border investment
 - Innovation and workforce development
-

4:00 – 6:00 PM- BREAK

5:30 PM: Departure time from Hotel Camino Real to Museo Rufino Tamayo

6:00 – 7:00 PM: Strategic Working Session

Venue: [Museo Rufino Tamayo](#)

Participants: Regional business leaders & AMLF Delegates

The work session will focus on advancing long-term, institutional collaboration among government, business, and civic leaders to strengthen the U.S.–Mexico relationship. Discussion will explore opportunities for coordinated action across sectors through a binational lens, connecting national priorities with the strategic role and perspectives of U.S.–Mexico border states.

The session will also examine the goals, structure, and potential impact of the proposed U.S.–Mexico Congressional Caucus as a platform for sustained legislative engagement and deeper bilateral cooperation.

7:00 - 9:00 PM: Leadership Dinner

Venue: [Museo Rufino Tamayo](#)

An evening recognizing distinguished leaders who have strengthened the U.S.–Mexico relationship while fostering meaningful dialogue among congressional, business, philanthropic, and civic leaders from both countries.

Recognition Program

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

7:30 – 9:30 AM : Breakfast at Delegation Hotel

9:30 - 11:00 AM: Site Visits

FORD Foundation: Members of the Delegation will learn about the Ford Foundation’s work in Mexico and how it relates to U.S. foreign policy.

Amazon or Google (TBD): Members of the Delegation will learn about U.S. corporate operations in Mexico and how strong economic cooperation between the U.S. and Mexico can benefit the U.S.

11:30 AM: Departure to closing lunch

12:00 PM - Closing Executive Lunch: Philanthropy & Binational Investment

Venue: [Blanco Colima](#) (TBC)

Participants: Binational Philanthropy Leaders (Final list being finalized)

12:30 - 1:30 PM:

The closing session will begin with an executive panel featuring philanthropic leaders invested in strengthening the U.S.–Mexico relationship. The discussion will examine the evolving role of philanthropy in advancing bilateral priorities and identify opportunities for strategic investment at the intersection of business, civil society, government, and innovation.

Following the opening panel, delegates will transition into smaller executive roundtables designed to facilitate focused, candid conversations around shared priorities, emerging funding opportunities, and potential areas for cross-sector collaboration. Roundtables will provide a forum to identify opportunities for aligned investment, develop actionable partnerships, and explore initiatives with meaningful binational impact.

The session will conclude by surfacing key takeaways and opportunities for continued engagement, establishing a foundation for sustained collaboration beyond the delegation.

Rep. Castro Departure

Wednesday, August 26th

Viva Airlines Flight 164: MEX-SAT, Direct

- 1:20 pm – 4:20 pm (2h 0m)