



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form

Original  Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, B-81 Cannon House Office Building, 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: Carley Esser
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ OR None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: February 20, 2019 Return: February 24, 2019  
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: February 23-24, 2019 OR None
4. Departure City: Washington, D.C. Destination: West Palm Beach Return City: Washington, D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: South Florida Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Meetings took place in West Palm Beach, Belle Glade in Palm Beach County, and Clewiston in Hendry County - Agenda Attached.
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 Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms**;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **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: \_\_\_\_\_

LEGISLATIVE RESOURCE CENTER  
2019 MAR -8 PM 2:57  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Signature of Traveler:  Date: 3/8/19

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Mrs. Vicky Hartzler Date: 3/8/19

Signature of Supervising Member:





# U.S. House of Representatives 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 on the trip within ten 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 for the trip: South Florida Agricultural Foundation, Inc.

2. Travel Destination(s): West Palm Beach, FL; Clewiston, FL (with site visits in Belle Glade, FL)

3. Date of Departure: February 20, 2019 Date of Return: February 24, 2019 (2 days personal travel)

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Carley Esser

*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	Airfare and bus: \$502.48	Clewiston & West Palm Beach: \$368.99	\$127.93	
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: *Ardis Hammock* Date: 3/4/2019

Name: Ardis Hammock Title: President

Organization: South Florida Agricultural Foundation, Inc.

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

Address: P. O. Box 1952, West Palm Beach, FL 33402

Telephone: 561-315-0481 Email: cheryl@soflagfoundation.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.





U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Carley Esser
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying for the trip: South Florida Agriculture Foundation Inc.
3. Travel Destination(s): West Palm Beach, Belle Glade in Palm Beach County & Clewiston in Hendry County
4. a. Date of Departure: February 20, 2019 Date of Return: February 24, 2019  
 b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  Yes  No  
 If yes, list dates at personal expense: February 23-24, 2019
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense?  Yes  No **If yes:**  
 (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 (3) Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:  Yes  No
6. a. 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)?  Yes  No  
 b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
7. *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and contributing sponsor forms:  Yes  No  
 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 agriculture, trade, energy and environment discussions regarding the farm bill, trade, local/federal governmental interaction, compliance with federal agencies, labeling, and immigrant labor are all in my portfolio as agriculture legislative assistant.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Diving into these topics with ag LA's on both sides of the aisle would broaden my perspective of ag policy impacts.  
 \_\_\_\_\_
9. **Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**  Yes  No
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 \_\_\_\_\_

*Wicky Hartzler*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

1/17/19





U.S. House of Representatives  
**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 website ([ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

**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.**

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip: South Florida Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
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 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): See attached list
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?  Yes  No
6. Date of Departure: February 20, 2019 Date of Return: February 22, 2019
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC  
b. Destination(s): West Palm Beach, Belle Glade in Palm Beach County & Clewiston in Hendry County  
c. City of return: Washington, DC
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:
  - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging:
  - 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 that the statement is true by checking 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:  
The South Florida Agricultural Foundation is the sole sponsor of this staffer trip. It's mission is to provide educational stewardship opportunities within the South Florida agricultural industry, including sugarcane, citrus, sweet corn, rice celery and other local crops, each stop showcasing an important part of food production in the area.
13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: air boat)
  - 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): Wed. lunch/dinner \$45.75,  
Thurs. brkfast/lunch/dinner \$61.00, Fri. brkfast/lunch \$35.00
    - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: To provide first hand knowledge and  
experience the inner workings of the South Florida agricultural industry.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Holiday Inn Express City: Clewiston Cost Per Night: \$199  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Located in the heart of the Glades area farms on western part of tour route
- Hotel Name: Marriott West Palm Beach City: West Palm Beach Cost Per Night: \$199  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Located near farms and the airport at the eastern end of the tour route
- 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 box:*





U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates			
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$497.85	\$398.00	\$141.75
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		

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

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 that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip.

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

Signature: Ardis Hammock Date: Jan. 11, 2019

Name: Ardis Hammock

Title: President

Organization: South Florida Agricultural Foundation, Inc.

Address: P. O. Box 1952, West Palm Beach, FL 33402

Telephone: 561-315-0481

Email: Cheryl@soflagfoundation.org

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee at the following address:

### Committee on Ethics

U.S. House of Representatives

1015 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515

Phone: 202-225-7103 General Fax: 202-225-7392



ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

February 13, 2019

Carley Esser  
Office of the Honorable Vicky Hartzler  
2235 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Esser:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to West Palm Beach, Florida, Clewiston, Florida, scheduled for February 20 to 22, 2019, sponsored by South Florida Agricultural Foundation, Inc. We note that this trip includes two days at your personal expense.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) 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. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$390 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.

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, appearing to read "Theodore E. Deutch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Theodore E. Deutch  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenny Marchant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Kenny Marchant  
Ranking Member

TED/KM:kej



**South Florida Agricultural Foundation  
Itinerary – Page 3  
2019 Congressional Staff Tour  
February 20-22, 2019**

**Friday, February 22, 2019**

8:00 – 8:30 AM	Breakfast in hotel lobby. Check out of Hotel and load bus for tour.
8:30 AM	Bus departs - Drive to Mounts Botanical Gardens in West Palm Beach
8:45 – 9:00 AM	Arrive at Mounts Botanical Gardens. Frank Dowdle of The Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension Service and a staff member of Mounts Botanical Gardens will give a short presentation about the Gardens, where the Palm Beach Cooperative Extension Service is housed. The presentation will focus on the 25 different gardens on site, including how water and resources affect soil types, a discussion of the variety of plants grown at the gardens, how cooperative extensions are the feet on the ground for education and training of Federal Regulation programs pertaining to agriculture.
9:00 – 11:00 AM	One-on-one roundtable discussion with farmer members of Florida Farm Bureau's eastern Palm Beach County region moderated by Eva Webb, Assistant Director Field Services, Florida Farm Bureau Federation. Farmers representing sweet corn, green beans, peppers, tomatoes and other vegetables, nursery operations and agricultural research will discuss issues with federal pest management regulations, H2A worker programs, wage and labor compliance, NAFTA and how farming is impacted by state and federal issues.
11:00 – 12:00 PM	SFAF will provide lunch purchased from local farms, while Ardis Hammock, SFAF Board President, gives a wrap-up overview of the previous days' presentations and explains how a broad understanding of agricultural issues plays a vital role in the lives of the farmers in Florida.
12:00 – 12:30 PM	Tour led by Ardis Hammock and Frank Dowdle, who will explain the different exhibits in Mounts Botanical Gardens, a 14-acre living plant museum with 25 unique garden areas including wetlands, extremely dry soil plants, native vegetation, edible landscapes and other diverse ecosystems.
12:30 PM	Bus departs
12:30 – 12:45 PM	Travel to Palm Beach International Airport. Carley will depart via personal auto to spend time with family over the weekend.

**Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019**

2:53 – 5:19 PM	Depart for Washington-Reagan National Airport on American Airlines Flight #3680
5:19 PM	Arrive Washington-Reagan National Airport.

\*Note: All food/catering/transportation/lodging is paid for by the South Florida Agricultural Foundation

**SOUTH FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL FOUNDATION  
FEBRUARY 2019 CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS INVITATION LIST**

These key congressional staffers were invited to educate them on the vital role that Federal research programs and policy have played in building and maintaining a robust agricultural industry in Florida. They were chosen because their position or their Members' committee assignments include participation in agriculture policy.

<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>Body</b>	<b>Member first</b>	<b>Member last</b>	<b>State</b>
Danielle	Steele	Comm.	Energy &	Commerce	
Katherine	Stewart	Rep.	Alma	Adams	NC
Rhonda	Foxx	Rep.	Alma	Adams	NC
Kaley	Mathis	Rep.	Jodey	Arrington	TX
Johnathan	Vecchi	Rep.	Gus	Bilirakis	FL
Paul	Johnson	Rep.	Rob	Bishop	UT
Michael	Reed	Rep.	Sanford	Bishop	GA
Matt	McCullough	Rep.	Mike	Bost	IL
Helena	Mastrogianis	Rep.	Brendan	Boyle	PA
John	Porter	Rep.	Kevin	Brady	TX
James	DeAtley	Rep.	Anthony	Brown	MD
Sean	Brady	Rep.	Vern	Buchanan	FL
Steffanie	Bezruki	Rep.	Cheri	Bustos	IL
Hart	Thompson	Rep.	Buddy	Carter	GA
Robert	Schroeder	Rep.	John	Carter	TX
Steve	Thornton	Rep.	Katherine	Clark	MA
Lauren	Citron	Rep.	Steve	Cohen	TN
Ben	Goldeen	Rep.	Jim	Costa	CA
Allison	Crittenden	Rep.	Rick	Crawford	AK
Janie	Costa	Rep.	Rodney	Davis	IL
Omar	Toro	Rep.	Val	Demings	FL
Sarah	Hodgkins	Rep.	Mario	Diaz-Balart	FL
Lynn	Haueter	Rep.	Ron	Estes	KS
Jayne	Holliday	Rep.	Dwight	Evans	PA
Taylor	Andreae	Rep.	Mike	Gallagher	WI
Louise	Bentsen	Rep.	Vincente	Gonzalez	TX
Suzi	Plasencia	Rep.	Kay	Granger	TX
Chris	Grawien	Rep.	Glenn	Grothman	WI
Carley	Esser	Rep.	Vicky	Hartzler	MO
Ben	Bruns	Rep.	Jaime	Herrera Beutler	WA
Sarah	Gilbert	Rep.	George	Holding	NC
Chris	Malen	Rep.	Will	Hurd	TX
Darren	Hedlund	Rep.	Dusty	Johnson	SD
John	Weber	Rep.	Dusty	Johnson	SD
Matthew	Tucker	Rep.	John	Joyce	PA
Jennifer	Wood	Rep.	John	Katko	NY
Suanne	Edmonson	Rep.	Steve	King	IA



**SOUTH FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL FOUNDATION  
FEBRUARY 2019 CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS INVITATION LIST**

Andrew	Hogin	Rep.	David	Kustoff	TN
Mary Ellen	Richardson	Rep.	Darrin	LaHood	IL
Tola	Thompson	Rep.	Al	Lawson	FL
Jessika	Eglin	Rep.	AL	Lawson	FL
Ross	Olchyk	Rep.	Billy	Long	MO
John	Leganski	Rep.	Kevin	McCarthy	CA
Cody	McClelland	Rep.	Donald	McEachin	VA
Sydney	Pettit	Rep.	David	McKinley	WV
David	Bagby	Rep.	Grace	Meng	NY
Pat	Pelletier	Rep.	Paul	Mitchell	MI
Lindsay	Ryan	Rep.	John	Moolenaar	MI
John	Laufer	Rep.	Stephanie	Murphy	FL
Patricia	Ross	Rep.	Nancy	Pelosi	CA
Patrick	Schilling	Rep.	Scott	Perry	PA
Drew	Wayne	Rep.	Tom	Reed	NY
Dave	Natonski	Rep.	Denver	Riggleman	VA
Chris	Curran	Rep.	Lisa Blunt	Rochester	DE
Minh	Ta	Rep.	Lisa	Rochester	DE
Jason	Cooke	Rep.	David	Rouzer	NC
Kelly	Simpson	Rep.	John	Rutherford	FL
Kelley	Hudak	Rep.	Steve	Scalise	LA
Chris	Huckleberry	Rep.	Kurt	Schrader	OR
Cachavious	English	Rep.	Terri	Sewell	AL
James	Neill	Rep.	Mike	Simpson	ID
Kelsey	Griswold	Rep.	Chris	Smith	NJ
Patrick	Hester	Rep.	Elise	Stefanik	NY
Zach	Gates	Rep.	Ann	Wagoner	MO
Erica	Lefaive	Rep.	Randy	Weber	TX
Will	Layden	Rep.	Bruce	Westerman	AR
Matt	Blackwell	Rep.	Joe	Wilson	SC
Larry	Calhoun	Rep.	Ted	Yoho	FL
Truman	Reed	Rep.	Don	Young	AK
Sarah	Talmage	Rep.	Lee	Zeldin	NY
Kevin	Dowling	Rep.	Lee	Zeldin	NY
Anne	Simmons	House	Ag	Comm	
Mike	Stranz	House	Ag	Comm	
Trevor	White	House	Ag	Comm	
Prescott	Martin	House	Ag	Comm	

**South Florida Agricultural Foundation (SFAF)**  
**CARLEY ESSER ITINERARY**  
**2019 Congressional Staff Tour**  
**February 20-22, 2019**

**Wednesday, February 20, 2019**

8:46 – 11:32 AM	Depart Washington-Reagan National Airport on American Airlines Flight #720
11:32 – 11:40 AM	Arrive Palm Beach International Airport.
11:40 – 12:00 PM	SFAF group leaders will meet guests at the West Palm Beach airport, locate luggage and board bus. Guests will be transported by bus for the duration of the trip.
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Depart airport, Travel to Slim’s Fish Camp in Belle Glade – Lunch and informational video on board during route to agricultural area. A board member of SFAF will narrate sites along the drive through the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) which surrounds the Southern area of Lake Okeechobee.
1:00 PM	Arrive at Slim’s Fish Camp in Belle Glade for airboat tour.
1:00 – 2:30 PM	Depart on airboat for tour of Lake Okeechobee; Boats will stop out on the lake where Tom McVicar of McVicar Consulting, a water resource specialist company that assists the agriculture industry in the Lake Okeechobee and Everglades watershed in matters related to Flood Protection, Water Supply and Stormwater Management, will explain the relationship between the lake and agriculture, discuss water quality and quantity issues and how EAA farmers must comply with federal water regulations. He will address questions from staffers.
2:30 – 3:15 PM	Depart Slim’s Fish Camp to travel to Holiday Inn Express in Clewiston.
3:15 – 4:15 PM	Check into Holiday Inn Express hotel, prepare for citrus tour and dinner presentation.
4:15 PM	Depart hotel, drive to Southern Gardens Citrus in Clewiston.
4:30 – 6:00 PM	Southern Gardens Citrus – presentation by Southern Gardens Citrus Team: Denise Roth, Plant Manager, will discuss the citrus processing industry, utilization of every part of an orange and address related food safety issues. During grove stops, Jim Snively, Vice President of Citrus Groves, will discuss citrus greening, hurricanes and other issues destructive to citrus crops, and how they work with the USDA’s APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) to develop new citrus varieties and combat citrus diseases.
6:00 – 6:45 PM	Arrive at Dunwody Lodge in Clewiston for welcome reception and opportunity to speak one-on-one with local farmers who grow sugarcane, corn, green beans, kale and broccoli.
6:45 – 9:00 PM	Working dinner where Judy Sanchez, Senior Director of Corporate Communications, U.S. Sugar Corp., will give a presentation and answer questions on American Farm Policy & Trade, discussing renewal of the farm bill, NAFTA and other trade issues. SFAF Board President Ardis Hammock will introduce the farmers present, seated throughout the room, and each will speak 5-10 minutes on the history of their farm and the produce they grow, showcasing the diversity of crops produced in the area. Local elected officials such as mayors, city commission and county commission will also attend, relating how local government coordinates with state and federal officials on agricultural issues. SFAF will purchase steaks cooked by Cattlemen’s Association highlighting local beef industry.
9:00 PM	Return to Holiday Inn Express.



**South Florida Agricultural Foundation  
Itinerary – Page 2  
2019 Congressional Staff Tour  
February 20-22, 2019**

**Thursday, February 21, 2019**

8:00 – 8:30 AM	Breakfast at hotel provided by SFAF and board bus
8:30 AM	Bus departs Holiday Inn
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Bus drives to U.S. Sugar Corp. Mill & Refinery
9:00 – 10:30 AM	Arrive at U. S. Sugar Corp. Mill and Refinery for tour of sugarcane processing procedures led by Judy Sanchez, Sr. Dir. of Corporate Communications. Discussion at the mill will include compliance with OSHA and federal air quality standards, while the refinery will focus on FDA food safety and labeling issues.
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Tour Sugarcane Field operations and harvesting led by Les Baucum, U.S. Sugar Corp. and Judy Sanchez, will discuss compliance of worker protection standards, burning regulations, pesticide and herbicide issues and other Federal regulations that have an impact on the cost and procedures of farming sugarcane.
12:00 – 12:30 PM	Travel to Tellus in Belle Glade.
12:30 – 2:00 PM	Working lunch where a video will be shown on how Tellus began, followed by a tour led by Matt Hoffman, president of the packaging company that recycles leftover sugarcane fiber from the sugar milling process and converts it to packaging and foodservice products such as plates, bowls, and take-out containers. Tellus runs partially on renewable biomass power provided from the sugar mill and solar energy, making it an extremely efficient and environmentally sustainable manufacturing facility.
2:00 – 2:30 PM	Travel to A. Duda & Sons.
2:30 – 4:00 PM	Tour of A. Duda & Sons led by Sam Jones, Assistant General Manger, showcasing the farming operations where celery, radishes, lettuce and other produce is grown. The group will go out into the field and observe the harvesting of celery while discussing food safety and workforce issues.
4:00 – 5:00 PM	Depart Duda to travel to West Palm Beach.
5:00 – 5:15 PM	Check in at Marriott Hotel, West Palm Beach, prepare for dinner and evening program.
6:45 PM	Meet in hotel lobby.
6:45 – 7:00 PM	Board bus and depart for dinner.
7:00 – 9:00 PM	Working dinner at Batch New Southern Kitchen, West Palm Beach, farm-to-table restaurant featuring local produce. Palm Beach County Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, who represents the area where the western county farms and some of the eastern farms are located, will discuss the importance of agriculture to Palm Beach County. A representative of Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will speak about the importance of the Everglades Agricultural Area to the State of Florida and the challenges the state has coordinating with federal agricultural regulations.
9:00 PM	Return to Marriott Hotel.