



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: Caroline Buyak
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: n/a OR None ☐  
b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: 11/07/2019 Return: 11/09/2019  
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: n/a OR None ☐
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: New Orleans, LA Return City: Washington, DC  
Thibodaux, LA
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Louisiana Sugar Cane Foundation
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: We visited the WDA Sugarcane Research lab, the John Deere Factory, a sugarcane farm, Lula sugar mill and the Louisiana sugar refinery
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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of Traveler: Caroline Buyak Date: 11/12/2019

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: Martha Roby Date: 11/12/2019

Signature of Supervising Member: Martha Roby





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: Louisiana Sugar Cane Foundation
2. Travel Destination(s): New Orleans, LA; Houma, LA; Thibodaux, LA; Napoleonville, LA; Gramercy, LA
3. Date of Departure: Thursday, November 7, 2019 Date of Return: Saturday, November 9, 2019
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Caroline Buyak, Luke Dube, Jeffrey Kratz, Michael Maloof, Rachel Pearce, and John Weber  
*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	\$489.80	\$253.00	\$115.00	\$0.00
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: Kenneth Gravois Date: November 11, 2019

Name: Kenneth Gravois Title: President

Organization: Louisiana Sugar Cane Foundation

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

Address: P O Box 874, Thibodaux, LA 70302-0874

Telephone: 225-281-9472 Email: lscf@bellsouth.net

**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: Caroline Buyak
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying for the trip: Louisiana Sugar Cane Foundation, Inc.
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: New Orleans, LA; Houma, LA
4. a. Date of Departure: 11/07/2019 Date of Return: 11/09/2019  
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
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.**

Senior legislative Assistant - I handle Rep. Roby's agriculture portfolio, and regularly interface with farmers in Southeast Alabama. Since agriculture is ~~the~~ the driving force of the economy in AL-02, I'd like to learn more about the Sugar Industry.

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 Martha Roby Date 10/31/19





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) 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: Louisiana Sugar Cane 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: Thursday, November 7, 2019 Date of Return: Saturday, November 9, 2019
7. a. City of departure: Washington Reagan airport in Washington, DC  
b. Destination(s): New Orleans, LA; Houma, LA; Thibodaux, LA; Napoleonville, LA; Gramercy, LA  
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: \_\_\_\_\_





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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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 Louisiana Sugar Cane Foundation, Inc. is the sole sponsor of this congressional staffers trip. The mission of the Louisiana Sugar Cane Foundation is to provide educational and stewardship opportunities within the Louisiana sugar industry. Each stop on this trip represents an important part of the Louisiana sugar industry.
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): \_\_\_\_\_
- Thursday meals for \$41.25; Friday meals for \$58.00; Saturday breakfast for \$17.00 ☒
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: To provide first-hand knowledge and experience of the inner working of the Louisiana sugarcane industry
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Hampton Inn City: Thibodaux Cost Per Night: \$96
- Reason(s) for Selecting: located on the tour route and in the Bayou Lafourche sugar region
- Hotel Name: Astor Crowne Plaza City: New Orleans Cost Per Night: \$150
- Reason(s) for Selecting: on route and close to where sugarcane was first grown by Jesuit priests on Baronne St.
- 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	\$489.80	\$246	\$116.25
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: Kenneth Gravois Date: 09/06/2019

Name: Kenneth Gravois

Title: President

Organization: Louisiana Sugar Cane Foundation, Inc.

Address: P O Box 874, Thibodaux, LA 70302-0874

Telephone: 225-281-9472

Email: lscf@bellsouth.net

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



Theodore E. Deutch, Florida  
*Chairman*  
Kenny Marchant, Texas  
*Ranking Member*

Grace Meng, New York  
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania  
Dean Phillips, Minnesota  
Anthony Brown, Maryland

John Ratcliffe, Texas  
George Holding, North Carolina  
Jackie Walorski, Indiana  
Michael Guest, Mississippi



ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

### COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

David W. Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

Christopher A. Donesa  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

November 4, 2019

Ms. Caroline Buyak  
Office of the Honorable Martha Roby  
504 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Buyak:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to New Orleans, Louisiana, Thibodaux, Louisiana, scheduled for November 7 to 9, 2019, sponsored by Louisiana Sugar Cane Foundation Inc.

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,

Theodore E. Deutch  
Chairman

Kenny Marchant  
Ranking Member

TED/KM:jls

## 2019 Congressional Staffer Invitation List

This group was invited to educate these key congressional staffers on the vital role that Federal research programs and policy have played in building and maintaining a robust sugarcane industry in Louisiana.

<u>Staffer</u>	<u>Office</u>		<u>Title</u>
Katie Rose Allen	Cong. Derek Kilmer	(D-WA)	Legislative Director
Reyn Archer	Cong. Jeff Fortenberry	(R-NE)	Chief of Staff
Maggie Ayrea	Cong. Garret Graves	(R-LA)	Legislative Director
Paul Babbitt	Cong. Tom O'Halleran	(D-AZ)	Senior Advisor
Philippa Bradley	Cong. David McKinley	(R-WV)	Legislative Correspondent
Chloe Brown	Congressional Black Caucus		Congressional Fellow
Greg Brooks	Cong. Brad Wenstrup	(R-OH)	Legislative Assistant
Amelia Burns	Cong. Jack Bergman	(R-MI)	Scheduler
Ben Burns	Cong. Jaime Lynn Herrera Beutler	(R-WA)	Legislative Assistant
Riley Bushue	Cong. Greg Walden	(R-OR)	Legislative Director
Caroline Buyok	Cong. Martha Roby	(R-AL)	Legislative Assistant
John Caddock	Cong. Alex Mooney	(R-WV)	Legislative Assistant
Chris Carter	Cong. Richard Hudson	(R-NC)	Chief of Staff
Janie Costa	Cong. Rodney Davis	(R-IL)	Legislative Assistant
Joe Danaher	Cong. Mark Green	(R-TN)	Legislative Assistant
Mike Davin	Cong. Robert Latta	(R-OH)	Legislative Assistant
Logan DeLa Barre-Hays	Cong. Garret Graves	(R-LA)	Legislative Assistant
Ryan Dilworth	Cong. Bob Gibbs	(R-OH)	Sr. Legislative Aide
Evan Dorner	Cong. Pete Aguilar	(D-CA)	Legislative Assistant
Luke Dube	Cong. Marc Veasey	(D-TX)	Legislative Assistant
Jessika Eglin	Cong. Al Lawson	(D-FL)	Staff Assistant
Carley Esser	Cong. Vicky Hartzler	(R-MO)	Legislative Assistant
Rhonda Foux	Cong. Alma Adams	(D-NC)	Chief of Staff
Garrett Fultz	Cong. Mike Johnson	(R-LA)	Legislative Assistant
Lanette Garcia	Cong. Chuy Garcia	(D-TX)	Legislative Assistant
Sarah Gilbert	Cong. George Holding	(R-NC)	Legislative Assistant
Adam Grubbs	Cong. Trent Kelly	(R-MS)	Legislative Assistant
Emma Herrock	Cong. Ralph Abraham	(R-LA)	Scheduler/Office Manager
Sarah Hodgkins	Cong. Mario Diaz-Balart	(R-FL)	Legislative Assistant
Andrew Hogen	Cong. David Kustoff	(R-TN)	Legislative Director
Jacquelyn Incerto	Cong. Carol Miller	(R-WV)	Legislative Aide
Angeline Jabbar	Del. Stacey Plaskett	(D-VI)	Legislative Director



Emily Kolano	Cong. Denny Heck	(D-WA)	Legislative Assistant/Press Secretary
Jeff Kratz	Cong. Don Bacon	(R-NE)	Legislative Director
Will Layden	Cong. Bruce Westerman	(R-AR)	Legislative Assistant
Hunter Lipscomb	Cong. Steven Palazzo	(R-MS)	Chief of Staff
Michael Maloof	Cong. Tim Burchett	(R-TN)	Legislative Director
Bryan Martin	Cong. Walter Jones	(R-NC)	Legislative Assistant
Prescott Martin	House Ag Committee		Senior Counsel
Travis Martinez	Cong. Dan Newhouse	(R-WA)	Legislative Assistant
Sean Maxwell	Cong. David Price	(D-NC)	Legislative Director
Chyna Melton	Cong. Cedric Richmond	(D-LA)	Legislative Aide
Justin Melvin	Cong. David Kustoff	(R-TN)	Legislative Assistant
Jessica Mulligan	Cong. Pramila Jayapal	(D-WA)	Legislative Assistant
Elaina Murphy	Cong. Brett Guthrie	(R-KY)	Legislative Assistant
Katy Nazaretova	Cong. Rick Larsen	(D-WA)	Legislative Assistant
Matt Neighbors	Cong. Cathy McMorris Rodgers	(R-WA)	Legislative Counsel
John Partin	Cong. William Timmons	(R-SC)	Legislative Assistant
Rachel Pearce	Cong. Don Bacon	(R-NE)	Legislative Assistant
Sydney Pettit	Cong. David McKinley	(R-WV)	Legislative Assistant
Alex Pinson	Cong. Harold Rogers	(R-KY)	Sr. Legislative Assistant/Counsel
Kris Pratt	Cong. Peter DeFazio	(D-OR)	Legislative Director
Paniz Rezaeero	Cong. Joe Cunningham	(D-SC)	Legislative Assistant
Katy Rowley	Cong. John Yarmuth	(D-KY)	Legislative Director
Nick Runkel	Cong. Steve Womack	(R-AR)	Military Legislative Assistant
Aaron Schmidt	Cong. Suzan DelBene	(D-WA)	Chief of Staff
Beth Schoenbach	Cong. Peter DeFazio	(D-OR)	Communications Director
Rebekah Smith	Cong. Harold Rogers	(R-KY)	Communications Director
Katherine Stewart	Cong. Alma Adams	(D-NC)	Legislative Assistant
Mike Stranz	Cong. Collin Peterson	(D-MN)	Subcommittee Staff Director
Maxine Sugarman	Cong. Suzanne Bonamici	(D-OR)	Legislative Assistant
Tiana Thomas	Del. Stacey Plaskett	(D-VI)	Legislative Assistant
Jack Walecki	Cong. Mike Johnson	(R-LA)	Legislative Assistant
John Weber	Cong. Dusty Johnson	(R-SD)	Legislative Assistant
Victor Yang	Cong. Barbara Lee	(D-CA)	Special Assistant
Perry Yates	House Appropriations Committee		Professional Staff Member

LOUISIANA  
SUGAR CANE  
FOUNDATION



## LOUISIANA SUGAR CANE FOUNDATION, INC.

P. O. Box 874  
Thibodaux, LA 70302  
e-mail: [lscf@bellsouth.net](mailto:lscf@bellsouth.net)

Kenneth Gravois, President  
Daniel Viator, Secretary  
Mike Sternfels, Treasurer

September 6, 2019

To Prospective Participants –

The Louisiana Sugar Cane Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization founded to increase public awareness of the Louisiana sugar industry through education and stewardship opportunities, is sponsoring a congressional staff trip to Louisiana on November 7-9, 2019. The purpose of the trip is to give staffers an opportunity to visit the Louisiana sugar industry to gain firsthand knowledge of sugarcane research, harvesting and processing operations, and to discuss the impact of the sugar industry on Louisiana.

The Foundation would like to extend an invitation to you to participate in this trip. As a participant, you will depart from Ronald Reagan National Airport on American airlines flight # 4588 on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 8:30 a.m., arriving in New Orleans International Airport at 10:35 a.m. From New Orleans, you will ride by chartered bus approximately one hour to the USDA-ARS Sugarcane Research Laboratory in Houma for a luncheon presentation outlining the history of the Louisiana sugar industry. After lunch, participants will visit the facility. This site visit will focus on the research to improve sugarcane production practices to help farmers manage risks through improved plant breeding and varietal selection. You will depart Houma for Thibodaux for a site visit of the John Deere Thibodaux plant, which manufactures cane harvesting machinery. Hotel accommodations for Thursday evening will be at the Hampton Inn in Thibodaux and a dinner is scheduled at 6:00 p.m. at the Tractor Barn. You will return to the Hampton at 8:45 p.m.

On Friday, participants will visit a farm harvesting operations in Napoleonville, followed by a site visit of Lula Raw Sugar Factory in Belle Rose to experience the steps required to make raw sugar from sugarcane. Lunch will be served at St. Jules Catholic Church Hall. Here Dr. Michael Deliberto, an agricultural economist with the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, will discuss the impact of the sugar industry on the Louisiana economy. Following lunch, you will travel to Louisiana Sugar Refinery in Gramercy. Here you will see the process of producing refined sugar from raw sugar. After departing the refinery, you will arrive at the Astor Crowne Plaza in New Orleans where you will be staying for the night. That evening, dinner will be provided at a nearby restaurant. On Saturday morning, breakfast will be provided at 7:30 a.m. in a designated room of the Astor Crowne Plaza. At 8:30 a.m., a shuttle will transport you back to the New Orleans airport for your American airlines flight #4588 departing New Orleans at 11:05 a.m. arriving Washington Reagan at 2:32 p.m. The Foundation will assume all travel, lodging and meal expenses associated with the trip. Vouchers will be distributed to cover the costs of local transportation to and from National Airport.



**Participating House employees must submit the attached completed form to the House Committee at least thirty (30) days before the date of the proposed trip.** If you have any questions regarding the rules of the House Committee on Standard Official Conduct, please contact the Committee at 202-225-7103.

We hope you will be able to join the Foundation on this fact-finding trip. We believe it will be a worthwhile experience and that you will gain a better understanding of the Louisiana sugarcane industry. **Space is limited, so please advise us as soon as possible if you will be able to participate or if you have any questions.** The best way to contact us is via e-mail at [lscf@bellsouth.net](mailto:lscf@bellsouth.net). Someone will return your call as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

***Kenneth Gravois***

Kenneth Gravois  
President

**ITINERARY FOR  
CONGRESSIONAL STAFF SITE VISIT  
LOUISIANA SUGAR INDUSTRY  
(November 7-9, 2019)**

**Thursday, November 7, 2019**

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>8:30 a.m. - 10:35 a.m.</b>  | Group travels to New Orleans, LA on American Airlines flight # 4588 from Washington-Reagan National Airport.   |
| <b>10:35 a.m.</b>              | Group arrives at the New Orleans International Airport.  |
| <b>10:50 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</b> | Group Leaders will pick up the group at the New Orleans Airport and transport the group for the duration of the trip. Travel to Houma, LA.   |
| <b>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>  | Lunch and itinerary briefing at the USDA-ARS, Sugarcane Research Laboratory in Houma. During this lunch, a briefing on the history of the Louisiana sugarcane industry and a description of the process of creating sugar from sugarcane will be provided.   |
| <b>1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</b>   | Site visit of the USDA-ARS, Sugarcane Research Laboratory. The focus will be on the research to improve sugarcane production practices to help farmers manage risks through improved plant breeding and varietal selection. Participants will visit the sugarcane crossing greenhouse complex and field plots. |
| <b>2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</b>   | Travel to the John Deere Thibodaux Factory, Thibodaux, LA.   |
| <b>3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</b>   | Site visit of the John Deere Thibodaux Factory. The group will learn of the local, national, and international economic impact of the largest producer of sugarcane harvesting equipment. The group will tour the factory to observe equipment being built.  |
| <b>4:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.</b>   | Travel to the Hampton Inn in Thibodaux.  |
| <b>4:45 p.m.</b>               | Arrive at the Hampton Inn in Thibodaux.  |
| <b>6:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.</b>   | Travel to the Tractor Barn in Thibodaux, LA for dinner.  |
| <b>6:15 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</b>   | Dinner at the Tractor Barn in Thibodaux, LA. Here the group will interact with growers and processors to discuss important sugar industry issues. Dinner will be served consisting of Louisiana delicacies.  |
| <b>8:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.</b>   | Depart from the Tractor Barn for the Hampton Inn in Thibodaux.   |
| <b>8:45 p.m.</b>               | Arrive at Hampton Inn for the night.   |



### **Friday, November 8, 2019**

Please check out before leaving for tours. You will not return to this hotel. Continental breakfast will be in lobby of hotel prior to our departing.

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|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.</b>   | Travel from the Hampton Inn to Trinity Farms (Mr. Gary Gravois) sugarcane farm in Napoleonville, LA.  |
| <b>9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.</b>  | Field site visit to observe the various steps for growing and harvesting sugarcane. Participants will observe sugarcane harvesting and talk with the producer to learn of the challenges and rewards of growing sugarcane in south Louisiana.   |
| <b>10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.</b> | Travel to Lula-Westfield, LLC (Lula Factory), in Belle Rose, LA.  |
| <b>11:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.</b> | Site visit of the Lula Raw Sugar Factory to observe the various steps for processing sugarcane into raw sugar that include preparation, clarification, evaporation, and crystallization.  |
| <b>12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.</b>  | Lunch will be served at St. Jules Catholic Church, Belle Rose, LA. During lunch, Dr. Michael Deliberto, Agricultural Economist with the LSU AgCenter, will discuss the impact of the sugar industry on the Louisiana economy.   |
| <b>1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.</b>   | Travel to Louisiana Sugar Refinery in Gramercy, LA  |
| <b>2:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.</b>   | Site visit of Louisiana Sugar Refinery. Participants will observe the process of converting raw sugar into refined sugar. Participants will learn of the recent business venture regarding vertical integration within the Louisiana sugar industry. A tour of the refinery will be given after the overview. |
| <b>4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.</b>   | Travel to the Astor Crowne Plaza in New Orleans, LA   |
| <b>6:00 p.m.</b>               | Arrive at the Astor Crowne Plaza.   |
| <b>7:15 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.</b>   | Dinner at Bourbon House. Staffers will continue interactions with local sugarcane growers and processors. Participants will debrief from the events of the day. They will learn of the day's sugar production from the field to the table.  |

**Saturday, November 9, 2019**

Check out prior to breakfast.

**7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.** Breakfast Briefing - meeting room in the Astor Crowne Plaza.

**8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** Van shuttle will transport you back to the New Orleans airport for your American Airlines flight # 4588 departing New Orleans at 11:09 a.m. arriving Washington Reagan at 2:37 p.m.