



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form

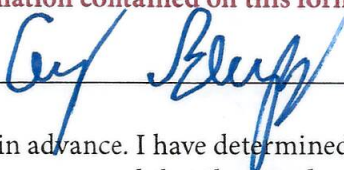
☒ Original ☐ Amendment

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: Curtis Bliamptis
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None ☒
b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: January 17, 2019 Return: January 19, 2019
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None ☒
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Cambridge, MD Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Aspen Institute (Socrates Program)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: A series of discussions and lectures on the role of Congress in government.
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:  Date: 2/3/2020

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: Alex Mooney Date: 2/3/2020

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: Aspen Institute Inc. (Socrates Program)

2. Travel Destination(s): Hyatt Regency Cambridge, Maryland

3. Date of Departure: January 17, 2020 Date of Return: January 19, 2020

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Please see attached list.

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	\$98.00	\$238.00	\$122.00	\$110.00
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:  Date: 1/29/2020

Name: Elliot Gerson Title: EVP, Policy & Public Programs

Organization: The Aspen Institute

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

Address: 2300 N St NW, Washington DC, 20037

Telephone: (202) 736-5859- Lisa Jones; General Deputy Counsel Email: lisa.jones@aspeninstitute.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: Curt Blum
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying for the trip: Aspen Institute Inc (Socrates Program)
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Cambridge, Maryland
4. a. Date of Departure: January 17th 2019 Date of Return: January 19th 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.**

As a Legislative Correspondent, this series of seminars will give me a better understanding of Congress and important legislative priorities that can better serve my boss and the people of West Virginia.

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

[Signature]

Date

12/16/19



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: Aspen Institute Inc (Socrates Program)
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: Democracy Fund, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
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.
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
6. Date of Departure: January 17, 2020 Date of Return: January 19, 2020
7. a. City of departure: Washington DC
b. Destination(s): Cambridge, MD
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: _____



U.S. House of Representatives

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 Aspen Institute's Socrates Program (AISP) has an 8 year history of providing non-partisan educational programs for Congressional Staff. The purpose of this trip is to convene to discuss leadership, responsible governance, and the role of Congress. AISP is solely responsible for organizing/conducting this seminar.
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: Chartered bus)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
- _____
14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box:* ☒
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: ☐ **OR**
- b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation: ☒
- If "b" is checked:
- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): The daily cost of meals is \$61.00 per day. We selected the Hyatt due to the close proximity to D.C. and availability of conference space. ☒
- 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: Hyatt Chesapeake City: Cambridge MD Cost Per Night: \$119.00
- Reason(s) for Selecting: Proximity to D.C, Conference Space Availability
- 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 box:* ☒



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

☐ Actual Amounts	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
☒ Good Faith Estimates			
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$98.00 for bus	\$238.00 for two nights (\$119.00 per night)	\$122.00
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	\$110.00	Conference room fees including meeting facilities, set up, take down, cleaning).
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:  Date: 12/16/19

Name: Elliot Gerson

Title: Executive Vice President, Policy and Public Programs

Organization: The Aspen Institute

Address: 2300 N St NW, Suite 700, Washington DC, 20037

Telephone: 202-736-5859 (Lisa Jones, Deputy General Counsel)

Email: lisa.jones@aspeninstitute.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

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. Doneso
Counsel to the Ranking Member

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

January 16, 2020

Mr. Curtis Bliamptis
Office of the Honorable Alex Mooney
2440 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Bliamptis:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Cambridge, Maryland, scheduled for January 17 to 19, 2020, sponsored by Aspen Institute, 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:jl

Appendix to Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, Aspen Institute
Socrates Program for the Emerging Governance Leaders Seminar, August 16-18,
2019

Question 5. Name and titles of Senate Invitees:

Sol Ortega

Deputy Director of Engagement
Office of Senator Charles Schumer

Jasmin Palomares

Legislative Aide
Office of Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

Jenna Valle-Riestra

Digital Assistant
Office of Senator Bob Casey

Steph Niaupari

Pepsi Co. Foundation National Graduate Fellow
Office of Senator Robert Menendez

Andre J. Barnett

Tax Counsel
United States Senate Committee on Finance

Anna Shepard

Legislative Correspondent
Senator Dianne Feinstein

Anthony Reyes

Staff Assistant
Office of Senator Chris Murphy

Question 12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip (response continued) – The Aspen Institute Socrates Program received general, unrestricted funding from the Democracy Fund to support the Socrates Program. The funding was not earmarked for this trip. Democracy Fund did not play a role in organizing or planning the conference, including, but not limited to the content, agenda, moderators, attendees or other logistics.

Questions 13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to the mission (response continued) –The Socrates Program seeks to provide a forum for emerging leaders from various professions to convene and explore contemporary issues through expert-moderated dialogue. The

purpose of the trip is to conduct a non-partisan educational seminar on leadership, responsible governance and the role of Congress that encourages off-the-record, candid exchanges of ideas to support staffers' learning and development.

Question 15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips) (response continued) - Socrates Program organizes seminars every year bringing together a diverse group of professional to explore issues, discuss current topics and encourage dialogue and exchange of ideas.