



# 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, by email at [gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov](mailto: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: Lauren Gros
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ OR None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: October 26, 2022 Return: October 28, 2022  
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ OR None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Miami Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: National Association of Counties
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended:  
 The meetings and events attended to reflected in the attached agenda. The meetings and events were a collaboration with local officials, so we could get a sense of how federal policy impacts local infrastructure projects.
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 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: Lauren Gros Digitally signed by Lauren Gros  
Date: 11/14/2022  
Date: 2022.11.14 13:56:23 -05'00'

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: Peter DeFazio Date: 11/14/2022

Signature of Supervising Member: \_\_\_\_\_



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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: Lauren Gros Digitally signed by Lauren Gros  
Date: 11/14/2022  
Date: 2022.11.14 13:56:23 -05'00'

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Name of Supervising Member: Peter DeFazio Date: 11/14/2022

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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: Matthew DeChere Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**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: Lauren Gros
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:  
National Association of Counties (NACo)
3. City and State OR Foreign Country of Travel: Miami, FL
4. a. Date of Departure: Oct. 26, 2022 Date of Return: Oct. 28, 2022  
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: \_\_\_\_\_  
(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, 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.**

I am the Professional Staff Member that manages emergency management issues for the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management. This trip includes a tour of an emergency operations center and will offer the chance to learn how resilience has been considered with building Miami's infrastructure. Mitigation is a priority for the Subcommittee, so it will be valuable to understand the steps Miami, a city vulnerable to climate disasters, is proactively protecting their residents and infrastructure

9. Yes  No  Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved 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 Pete DeFazio Date 09/23/2022



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:  
National Association of Counties (NACo)
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):  
Please find attached
5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: October 26, 2022 Date of return: October 28, 2022
7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C.  
b. Destination(s): Miami-Dade County, Florida  
c. City of return: Washington, D.C.
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:



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$463.81	\$287.02	\$269.22
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A

	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	\$499.75	Please find attached
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

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 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: 11/14/2022  
 Name: Matthew D. Chase Title: CEO/Executive Director  
 Organization: National Association of Counties (NACo)  
 Address: 660 North Capitol St. NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20001  
 Email: mchase@naco.org Telephone: (202) 393-6226

### INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the agenda, invitation list, any attachments, and any *Additional Trip Sponsor Forms* directly to the Travelers.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:

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

[ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov](mailto:ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov) | 202-225-7103  
More information and forms available at [ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)



# U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Washington, DC 20515

October 21, 2022

Ms. Lauren Gros  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
2167 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Gros:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Miami, Florida, scheduled for October 26 to 28, 2022, sponsored by National Association of Counties.

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 \$415 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,



Susan Wild  
Acting Chairwoman



Michael Guest  
Acting Ranking Member

SW/MG:mc





## LIST OF INVITEES

**National Association of Counties (NACo)  
2022 Federal Fellowship Program – Miami Dade County, Fla.  
October 26-28, 2022**

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is a 501(c)(4) national nonprofit that was formed in 1935 to serve and strengthen America’s counties. As an association of public elected officials, NACo is not a specific interest group but a major partner in our nation’s Federalism system of intergovernmental entities. The participants listed below play a critical role in this system, working for elected officials, congressional committees and federal agencies that appropriate funds or develop federal policy and regulations that affect counties. For many of these individuals, this trip will serve as their first opportunity to observe the critical programs and services that counties provide to our residents.

TITLE	OFFICE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Policy Advisor	House Democratic Caucus	Josephine	Amusa
Legislative Director	Office of Congresswoman Frederica Wilson	Derron	Bennett
D.C. Chief of Staff	Office of Congressman Bryan Steil	Ryan	Carney
Staff Assistant/Legislative Correspondent	Office of Congresswoman María Elvira Salazar	Liam	Diebel
District Director	Office of Representative Gerry Connolly	Marlon	Dubuisson
Policy Analyst, Democratic	House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management	Lauren	Gros
Senior Advisor	Office of the Majority Whip	Willie	Lyles
District Director	Office of Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz	Raul	Martinez
Subcommittee Director, Democratic	House Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery	Lauren	McClain
District Director	Office of Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart	Gloria	Oliveros
Deputy Chief of Staff	Office of Congressman Carlos Giménez	Nicole	Rapanos
Staff Assistant	Office of Congresswoman María Elvira Salazar	Howard	Senior

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

### TOUR OF PORTMIAMI

*PortMiami is one of America's fastest-growing global gateways. It contributes more than \$43 billion annually to Miami-Dade County's local economy and supports over 334,500 jobs in Florida. Located at the crossroads of north-south and east-west trade lanes and with big-ship capabilities, PortMiami serves ocean carrier customers by linking worldwide markets with U.S. consumers and producers. Participants will hear from the Port Director and other county stakeholders about efforts in balancing environmental, capital and economic factors into business planning and how the port impacts residents' daily lives.*

- **Hon. Rebeca Sosa**, Commissioner and Chair, Port & Environmental Resilience Committee, Miami-Dade County
- **Hydi Webb**, Port Director and CEO, PortMiami
- **Debra Owens**, Director of Government Affairs and International Relations, PortMiami
- **Gérard Philippeaux**, Strategic Initiatives Manager, PortMiami

10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

### WATER & RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE TOUR ON RIVER (LUNCH PROVIDED ON RIVER TOUR)

*Biscayne Bay is an important part of Miami-Dade County's economy, contributing \$3.8 billion in economic output, \$2.1 billion in income, and 57,000 jobs. However, the ecological health of the Bay is on the decline. Rising water temperatures and excess nutrients from aging infrastructure, stormwater and septic systems, and canals have led to algal blooms that reduced water clarity, damaged seagrass and caused unprecedented fish kills. Participants will hear from the Chief Bay Officer and Water and Sewer Director about "Connect 2 Protect," the County's approach to extending sanitary sewer service to residents on septic systems, and upgrades to aging sewer mains and stormwater systems in order to protect properties, health, and restore natural areas like the Bay. **Note that participants will be on a boat for a portion of this tour. Please dress accordingly.***

- **Hon. Eileen Higgins**, Commissioner, Miami-Dade County
- **Hon. Raquel Regalado**, Commissioner and Chair, County Infrastructure, Operations and Innovation Committee, Miami-Dade County
- **Hon. Réne Garcia**, Commissioner, Miami-Dade County
- **Irela Bague**, Chief Bay Officer, Miami-Dade County
- **Roy Coley**, Director, Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Department

1:30PM – 3:30PM

### TOUR OF MIAMI CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY: TREATMENT VS. INCARCERATION

*The Miami Center for Mental Health and Recovery, acclaimed as a national model, represents a tangible solution to the challenge of decreasing the number of individuals with mental illness in county jails. This tour of the center will shed light on how the county utilized a surplus building and acquired funding for this center to advance its objective of diverting individuals with mental illness away from its jails and into a more suitable and productive treatment environment.*

- **Hon. Sally Heyman**, Commissioner, Miami-Dade County
- **Hon. Steven Leifman**, Associate Administrative Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court of Florida

*20-mile corridor will provide high-quality transit service at 14 state-of-the-art stations. Participants will also get a comprehensive view of how the County's zoning allows for transit-supportive density initiatives near transit stations creating live-work-play neighborhoods that build transit ridership while providing affordable and workforce housing.*

- **Hon. Congressman Carlos A. Gimenez**, Florida's 26th Congressional District
- **Hon. Oliver Gilbert**, Vice Chairman, Board of County Commissioners, Miami-Dade County
- **Hon. Eileen Higgins**, Commissioner and Chair, Miami-Dade County
- **Eulois Cleckley**, Director/Chief Executive Officer, Transportation and Public Works

**12:00PM – 1:00PM**

**CLOSING LUNCHEON & REMARKS**

*Participants will hear from NACo staff and Miami-Dade County officials for a recap of activities and topics discussed throughout the site visit. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to share what they have learned throughout the duration of time in Miami-Dade County and highlight key takeaways.*

- **Hon. Eileen Higgins**, Commissioner, Miami-Dade County
- **Matt Chase**, CEO/Executive Director, NACo
- **Eryn Hurley**, Director of Government Affairs, NACo

**3:45PM – 6:16PM**

**PARTICIPANTS DEPART: FLIGHT FROM MIA to DCA (AMERICAN AIRLINES, FLIGHT NO. 1554)**