

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, 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: Nicole Rapanos
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 4/07/2024 Return: 4/09/2024
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: DC Destination: NYC Return City: DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Governing Majority Education Fund
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: As a Chief of Staff, the activities on this trip helped me learn from experts about lowering the national debt, immigration policy, regulation with AI, healthcare, and enhancing civil engagement. This is important to NY02 constituents because all of these issues impact them.
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:  Date: 04/29/2024

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: Nick LaLota Date: 04/19/2024

Signature of Supervising Member: 

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated in the trip *within 10 days of their return*. You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

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

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: The Governing Majority Education Fund

2. Travel Destination(s): New York City, New York

3. Date of Departure: April 7, 2024 Date of Return: April 9, 2024

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Nikki Rapanos

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	\$484	\$678	\$450	\$10 - Housekeeping tip \$135 - Conference Room fee (pro-rated)
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: 4/10/24

Name: Andrew Kent Title: Executive Director

Organization: The Governing Majority Education Fund

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

Address: 10 S Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33606

Telephone: 903.372.2229 Email: dkent@tgmeff.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.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

The Governing Majority Education Fund

2. I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

3. **Check only one.** I represent that:

- a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**
- b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**
- c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: _____

4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary): _____
See attached.

5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: April 7, 2024 Date of Return: April 9, 2024

7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC or Member's District

b. Destination(s): New York, New York

c. City of return: Washington, DC, or Member's District

8. **Check only one.** I represent that

- a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**
- b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**
- c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following.**

- a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
- b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
- c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
- d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. _____

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*

11. **Check only one of the following.**

- a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify the statement is true by clicking the box; OR*
- b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.

12. For **each** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

The Governing Majority Education Fund is a 501c4 nonprofit dedicated to advancing center-right policy solutions and advancing responsible governance through research and education. TGMEF will be organizing this trip to give Members of Congress and staff the opportunity to hear from center-right thought leaders and industry leaders in key policy areas including: AI, responsible governance and civic engagement, health care, and immigration.

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): \$150

2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: Central location for experts in key issue areas and proximity to Washington, DC

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: Omni Berkshire City: New York, NY Cost Per Night: \$339

Reason(s) for Selecting: Low cost, room availability, and adequate meeting space

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

<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	\$1,000	\$678	\$450
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$	\$0	\$450

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

19. **Check only one:**

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**

- a. **I read and understand the Committee’s Travel Regulations;**
- b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
- c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: Andrew Kent Digitally signed by Andrew Kent
Date: 2024.03.02 16:20:52 -06'00' Date: 2/21/2024

Name: Andrew Kent Title: Executive Director

Organization: The Governing Majority Education Fund

Address: 610 S Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33606

Email: dkent@tgmeff.org Telephone: (903) 372-2229

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection.

This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Nicole Rapanos

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

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

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Nicholas LaLota

Office Address: 1530 Longworth, Washington DC 20515

Telephone Number: 202-225-3826

Email Address of Contact Person: nikki@nicklalota.com

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, *and* these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM. Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via email: travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Nicole Rapanos
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: The Governing Majority Education Fund
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: New York, NY
4. a. Date of Departure: 04/07/2024 Date of Return: 04/09/2024
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, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. **Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**
As a Chief of Staff, the activities on this trip will help me learn from experts about lowering the national debt, immigration policy, regulation with AI, healthcare, and enhancing civil engagement. This is important to NY01 constituents because all of these issues impact them.

9. **Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member:  Date: 03/08/2024

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Keelie Broom
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

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

April 4, 2024

Ms. Nicole Rapanos
Office of the Honorable Nick LaLota
1530 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Rapanos:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to New York, New York, scheduled for April 7 to 9, 2024, sponsored by the Governing Majority Education Fund.

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 \$480 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,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:mc

Governing Majority Education Fund

2024 Policy Retreat – New York City, NY

Sunday, April 7

4:00 PM **Members of Congress and Staff Arrival**

5:00 **Check-In at Hotel**

- Location: Omni Berkshire Hotel
 21 E. 52nd Street
 New York, NY 10022
 (212) 753-5800

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM **Welcome Reception**

- Location: Fig & Olive
 10 East 52nd Street,
 New York, NY 10022
 (212)319-2002

Monday, April 8

8:30 AM – 9:55AM **Breakfast & Member Policy Discussion**

- Host: Drew Kent
- Topic: *This will be a facilitated policy discussion with Members of Congress regarding goals and priorities for the remainder of the 119th Congress and beyond and the strategy and tactics for the members of the Republican Governance Group in trying to advance these goals within both a divided Republican party and Congress more broadly.*
- Location: Berk's Bar at the Omni Berkshire Hotel

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM **Interactive AI discussion**

- Speaker: Miriam Vogel, President and CEO, EqualAI
- Topic: *Interactive demonstration of AI and a discussion of the legal and regulatory structure around AI and the importance of establishing responsible AI governance practices. With AI policy being of increasing importance on a national level, this panel seeks to provide a demonstration of the utility of AI and a discussion of the*

Governing Majority Education Fund

2024 Policy Retreat – New York City, NY

myriad of legal and regulatory issues that the AI industry faces.

- Location: Omni Meeting Room

11:00 AM – 11:55 AM **Strengthening liberal democratic governance and promoting widespread prosperity and opportunity**

- Speakers: Soren Dayton, the Niskanen Center
Kodiak Hill-Davis, the Niskanen Center
Kristie De Pena, the Niskanen Center
David Jimenez, the Niskanen Center
- Topic: *Introduction to the Niskanen Center in general and a conversation with issue experts on strengthening immigration policies, the importance of strong pro-family policies (like the child tax credit) and enhancing civic engagement. This discussion aims to give Members of Congress a think-tank resource on a broad range of issue that they can call on when considering legislative changes that arise in these policy areas.*
- Location: Omni Meeting Room

12:00 PM – 1:20 PM **Lunch & Fiscal Policy in the 119th Congress and Beyond**

- Speaker: Brian Reidl, Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute (Invited)
- Topic: *This discussion will focus on federal fiscal policy and the need for incremental progress toward reigning in federal government spending with the focus of ensuring safety net programs endure for those who need them. In their roles, Members of Congress will be considering a variety of policies that will impact federal spending and this discussion aims to give Members a foundation for when these policies arise.*
- Location: Omni Meeting Room

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM **Biotech Industry Ecosystem discussion**

- Speaker: Jen Bland, CEO, New York BIO
- Topic: *This discussion will provide an overview of the biotech and*

Governing Majority Education Fund

2024 Policy Retreat – New York City, NY

pharmaceutical industry ecosystem. Industry leaders will discuss the process of bringing new therapies to market including the various public policy and regulatory challenges and opportunities.

- Location: Omni Meeting Room

3:00 PM **End of Policy Panels**

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM **Keynote Dinner**

- Speakers: Paul Gigot, The Wall Street Journal
John Faso, The Governing Majority Education Fund
- Topic: *Discussion regarding most important policy topics facing Congress including immigration, crime, budget and appropriations and responsible governance. .*
- Location: Nerai Restaurant
55 E 54th St
New York, NY 10022
(212) 759-5554

Tuesday, April 9

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM **Breakfast & TGMEF Board of Directors Discussion**

- Speakers: TGMEF Board Members – John Faso, Susan Brooks, Rodney Davis, Jeff Denham, Mimi Walters, Erik Paulsen
- Topic: *Introduction into TGMEF and our mission of advancing center-right policy solutions and responsible governance. Discussion regarding our programming that works to achieve this mission. This will give Members and Staff a better understanding of the tools that we offer to advance center-right solutions.*
- Location: Omni Meeting Room

9:00 AM **Check out**

10:00 AM **Members of Congress and Staff Departure**

**THE GOVERNING MAJORITY EDUCATION FUND NYC RETREAT
MEMBERS AND STAFF TRAVEL ADDENDUM**

1. Rep. Dave Joyce –
 - a. Arrival flying to LGA from PBI – Sunday, April 7 at 7:29 PM - 11:30 PM
 - b. Departure from LGA flying to DCA – Tuesday, April 9 at 12:14 PM – 1:39 PM
2. Rep. Young Kim –
 - a. Arrival flying to JFK from LAX – Sunday, April 7 at 8:00 AM - 4:32 PM
 - b. Departure from JFK to DCA – Tuesday, April 9 at 2:45 PM – 4:14 PM
3. Patrick Mocete –
 - a. Arrival flying to JFK from LAX – Sunday, April 7 at 8:00 AM – 4:32 PM
 - b. Departure flying from JFK to DCA – Tuesday, April 9 at 2:45 PM – 4:14 PM
4. Rep. David Valadao –
 - a. Arrival flying to EWR from FAT via LAX – Sunday, April 7 at 6:10 AM – 7:24 AM (FAT to LAX) and 8:15 AM - 4:35 PM
 - b. Departure flying from LGA to IAD – Tuesday, April 9 at 10:18 AM – 11:45 PM
5. Andrew Renteria –
 - a. Arrival– Sunday, April 7 at 4:30 PM
 - b. Departure flying from LGA to IAD – Tuesday, April 9 at 10:18 AM – 11:45 PM
6. Rep. Nick LaLota –
 - a. Arrival – Sunday, April 7 at 6:00 PM
 - b. Departure – Tuesday, April 9 at 10:00 AM
7. Rep. Mike Lawler –
 - a. Arrival – Sunday, April 7 at 6:00 PM
 - b. Departure – Tuesday, April 9 at 10:00 AM
8. Nikki Rapanos
 - a. Arrival via train to NY Penn Station from Union Station, Washington, D.C. – Sunday, April 7 at 4:10 PM – 7:05 PM
 - b. Departure from NY Penn Station to Union Station, Washington, D.C. – Tuesday, April 9 at 2:15 PM – 5:08 PM
9. Deena Tauster
 - a. Arrival flying to LGA from DCA – Sunday, April 7 at 1:49 PM - 3:00 PM
 - b. Departure flying from JFK to DCA– Tuesday, April 9 at 2:45 PM – 4:14 PM
10. Rep. Andrew Garbarino
 - a. Arrival via car service – Sunday, April 7 at 6:00 PM
 - b. Departure– Tuesday, April 9 at 11:00 AM