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: Deena Tauster
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ ***OR*** ☐ None
   b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 8/23/24 Return: 8/23/24
   b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ ***OR*** ☐ None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Brooklyn, NY Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Wildlife Conservation Society
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Toured damage and resiliency work at the New York Aquarium and conservation efforts in the New York Bight
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:** 8/29/24

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: Andrew Garbarino **Date:** 8/29/24

Signature of Supervising Member: _____

last updated 7/2023

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: Wildlife Conservation Society
2. Travel Destination(s): Brooklyn, NY
3. Date of Departure: 8/23/24 Date of Return: 8/23/24
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Deena Tauster, Michael DeFilippis

   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	$789.27	$0	$78.84	$0
Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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: Sara S. Marinello **Date:** 8/28/24

Name: Sara S. Marinello **Title:** Vice President, Gov't Affairs

Organization: Wildlife Conservation Society

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

Address: 2300 Southern Blvd, Bronx, NY 10460

Telephone: 206-419-0455 m **Email:** smarinello@wcs.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.

last updated 7/2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Deena Tauster

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Wildlife Conservation Society

3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Brooklyn, NY

4. a. Date of Departure: 8/23/24 Date of Return: 8/23/24

   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 Chief of Staff to a member from New York and the co-chair of the Zoo and Aquarium Caucus, this program will offer a deeper understanding of the programs at the New York Aquarium and how their programs are helped by federal resources.

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:** 7/22/24

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:
   Wildlife Conservation Society
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 enclosed invitee list
5. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: August 23, 2024 Date of Return: August 23, 2024
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC
   b. Destination(s): Brooklyn, NY
   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; **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 Wildlife Conservation Society's (WCS) New York Aquarium-based scientists have spearheaded efforts to designate the Hudson Canyon as a National Marine Sanctuary. The trip will educate guests on the ecological and economic importance of the Canyon. WCS is the organizing/conducting trip sponsor.
13. ***Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:***
   a. Mode of travel: Air ■ Rail ☐ Bus ☐ Car ■ Other ■ (specify: Boat)
   b. Class of travel: Coach ■ Business ☐ First ☐ Charter ☐ Other ☐ (specify: _____)
   c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
14. ■ I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*
15. ***Check only one.*** I represent that either:
   a. ☐ The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
   b. ■ The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If "b" is checked:
      1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): $79
      2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: In situ and ex situ observation of the marine biodiversity of Hudson Canyon and related public educational interpretation with WCS experts.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
   Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
   Reason(s) for Selecting: _____
   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:**

☐ Actual Amounts ☒ Good Faith Estimates	Total **Transportation** Expenses per Participant	Total **Lodging** Expenses per Participant	Total **Meal** Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	$700	$0	$79
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		

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: 7/12/24

Name: Sara S. Marinello Title: VP, Govt & Comm Affairs

Organization: Wildlife Conservation Society

Address: 2300 Southern Blvd, Bronx, NY 10460

Email: smarinello@wcs.org Telephone: 206-419-0455

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

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

August 19, 2024

Ms. Deena Tauster
Office of the Honorable Andrew R. Garbarino
2344 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Tauster:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Brooklyn, New York, scheduled for August 23, 2024, sponsored by Wildlife Conservation Society. We remind you that, because the trip sponsor employs a federal lobbyist, you may participate in officially-connected activity on one calendar day only.

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:tn

John F. Calvelli
Executive Vice President
Public Affairs

June 16, 2024

Transmitted electronically

Deena Tauster
Chief of Staff
Office of Rep. Andrew Garbarino

Dear Deena,

On behalf of the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), I would like to invite you to attend a day trip to New York City to visit one of our exceptional facilities, the New York Aquarium, newly restored from Hurricane Sandy with FEMA funding, on Friday, August 23, 2024. This trip will provide an opportunity for you to meet with experts in marine conservation, science education and animal husbandry, as well as experience first-hand our New York Seascape Program's marine conservation work including current efforts to protect whales and sharks in the New York Bight (from Long Island Sound to Cape May, NJ) and to support the designation of Hudson Canyon as a National Marine Sanctuary.

Our world-class facilities help educate 3.5 million visitors annually on the importance of global conservation and the threats facing wildlife. I am confident that this trip will greatly benefit your work in Washington by helping you to gain a deeper and more personal understanding of WCS's programs and on-the-ground conservation projects as they relate to federal policymaking.

To abide by congressional rules on travel the following materials have been enclosed:

- Completed House Ethics Committee Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form
- Detailed Trip Agenda
- Invitee List

Please make a copy of this letter along with all three documents for your personal records and submit all documents to the Ethics Committee as soon as possible, so that adequate time is available for committee review and approval. In addition, you must fill out and submit a Traveler Form, available on the Ethics Committee website. The Committee has indicated a preference for 30 days advance notice on these types of trips, which would necessitate submission of all documents in this packet to the committee by **no later than Wednesday, July 24**.

This invitation is non-transferrable, and space is limited. Please confirm your attendance with Mio Checo at mcheco@wcs.org by July 24 so that we can make travel arrangements for you. I hope to see you in New York on August 23!

Sincerely,

John F. Calvelli

2300 Southern Boulevard Bronx, NY 10460 • 718.220.7139 • jcalvelli@wcs.org

WCS Sponsored Congressional Visit Agenda
August 23, 2024

AGENDA

7:15 – 8:26AM Flight AA 4403 DCA to LGA

8:45 – 9:30AM Van transports Group from LGA Terminal to New York Aquarium

9:45 – 10:15AM Welcome Remarks

- Opening Remarks by John Calvelli, WCS Executive Vice President, Public Affairs
- Presentation by Leigh Clayton, New York Aquarium Director on the Aquarium's work to educate the public on conservation issues through its science and exhibits
- Presentation by Noah Chesnin, Director of Policy & Outreach, WCS New York Seascape Program on the ecological importance of the New York Bight and Hudson Canyon within the mid-Atlantic and WCS's work to advance biodiversity conservation in the region

10:15 – 11:15AM Tour of New York Aquarium

- Tour Ocean Wonders: Sharks! exhibit to illustrate how the aquarium is educating public about the biodiversity, economic and cultural importance of Hudson Canyon and the New York Bight and related marine conservation issues such as sustainable fisheries, ocean plastics pollution, and protection of the Canyon from future oil and gas exploration through interpretive signage, interactive displays and education programs
- Tour the aquarium's systems/mechanicals to illustrate how FEMA funding was instrumental in restoring the Hurricane Sandy-devastated campus and mitigating against future severe weather events. Discuss how the aquarium is working collaboratively with Coney Island community to develop a community-led climate resilience action plan to inform federal funding including Army Corps of Engineers investments.

11:30 –11:50AM Van transports Group from New York Aquarium to Sheepshead Bay Boat Slip

12:00 – 3:30PM Ecological boat tour of New York Bight

- WCS marine scientists Howard Rosenbaum, Hans Walters and Merry Camhi will illustrate first-hand New York Seascape marine conservation work related to whales, sharks and other species within the New York Bight as well as current related efforts to designate Hudson Canyon as a National Marine Sanctuary (box lunch provided)

3:30 – 4:00PM Van departs Boat Slip for Gargiulo's Restaurant

4:00 – 5:30PM Dinner Debrief at Gargiulo's Restaurant

- John Calvelli will lead discussion on the value of Hudson Canyon as a National Marine Sanctuary

5:30 – 6:30PM Van transports Group from Gargiulo's Restaurant to LGA Terminal

7:34 – 8:54PM Flight AA 1191 LGA to DCA

WCS Congressional Staff Delegation Trip
Brooklyn, NY
August 23, 2024

Invite List

Allison Herwitt, Chief of Staff, Sen. Chris Murphy
Joel Kelsey, Chief of Staff, Sen. Richard Blumenthal
Ayanti Grant, Chief of Staff, Rep. Joe Courtney
Rebecca Salay, Chief of Staff, Rep. Rosa DeLauro
Cara Camacho, Chief of Staff, Rep. Jim Himes
Allison Murphy, Chief of Staff, Rep. Jeff Van Drew
Amy Pfeiffer, Chief of Staff, Rep. Andy Kim
John McDonough, Legislative Director, Rep. Chris Smith
Liam Fitzsimmons, Chief of Staff, Rep. Frank Pallone
Danielle Scharfenberger, Chief of Staff, Rep. Thomas Kean Jr.
Kari Osmond, Chief of Staff, Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman
Veronica Duron, Chief of Staff, Sen. Cory Booker
Alex Bolton, Chief of Staff, Rep. Nicole Malliotakis
Mike deFillipis, Chief of Staff, Rep. Nicole Malliotakis
Gerardo Bonilla Chavez, Chief of Staff, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Christopher Cox, Chief of Staff, Rep. Yvette D. Clarke
Chloe Anduiza, Chief of Staff, Rep. Yvette D. Clarke
Jess Fassler, Chief of Staff, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand
Andrea Grace, Chief of Staff, Rep. Mike Lawler
Maeve Healy, Chief of Staff, Rep. Grace Meng
Josephine Amusa, Enviro Policy Advisor, Democratic Leader
Tasia Jackson, Chief of Staff, Rep. Hakeem Jeffries
Melissa Jung, Chief of Staff, Rep. Nydia Velazquez
Michael Lynch, Chief of Staff, Sen. Chuck Schumer
Nicole Rapanos, Chief of Staff, Rep. Nick LaLota
Deena Tauster, Chief of Staff, Rep. Andrew Garbarino
Angel Vazquez, Chief of Staff, Rep. Ritchie Torres
Kayla Williams, Chief of Staff, Rep. Gregory Meeks
Robert Gies, Chief of Staff, Rep. Anthony D'Esposito
Neil Campbell, Chief of Staff, Sen. Jack Reed
Monalisa Dugue, Chief of Staff, Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse
Clay Schroers, Chief of Staff, Rep. Seth Magaziner
Annmarie Goyzueta, Chief of Staff, Rep. Jahana Hayes
Aneiry Batista, Chief of Staff, Rep. Adriano Espaillat
John Doty, Chief of Staff, Rep. Jerry Nadler
Matt Fried, Chief of Staff, Rep. Tomn Suozzi
Sarah Iddrissu, Chief of Staff, Rep. Jamaal Bowman
Scott Haley, Chief of Staff, Rep. Dan Goldman
Matt Fried, Chief of Staff, Rep. Tom Suozzi