

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: Vernon Baker III
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 2/16/25 Return: 2/21/25
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Ireland Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: U.S.-Ireland Partnership for Growth
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: The group met with government officials and business leaders in Cork and Dublin to discuss matters of tax and trade
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: 3/24/25

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: Hakeem Jeffries

Date: 3/24/25

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: US-Ireland Partnership for Growth

2. Travel Destination(s): Cork & Dublin, Ireland

3. Date of Departure: Sunday, February 16, 2025 Date of Return: Friday, February 21, 2025

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Vernon Baker

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	\$1,291.43	\$1,129.00	\$407.71	
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 _____ contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: February 27, 2025

Name: Ben English Title: Executive Director

Organization: US-Ireland Partnership for Growth

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

Address: 1469 Oglethorpe Street, NW Washington, DC 20011

Telephone: 301-518-6336 Email: andrea@mietusevents.com

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

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: Vernon Baker III

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): Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries

Office Address: 2267 Rayburn

Telephone Number: (202) 225-4700

Email Address of Contact Person: vernon.baker@mail.house.gov

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: Vernon Baker III
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: US-Ireland Partnership for Growth
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Ireland
4. a. Date of Departure: 2/16/25 Date of Return: 2/21/25
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.**
I am a Senior Policy Advisor to Leader Jeffries, advising on tax and trade, and the trip will involve meeting with Irish business and political leaders to discuss the US-Ireland economic relationship.

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: 2/11/25

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:

US-Ireland Partnership for Growth

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): _____

Please see attached list

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

6. Date of Departure: Sunday, February 16, 2025 Date of Return: Friday, February 21, 2025

7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC- Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

b. Destination(s): Dublin, Ireland

c. City of return: Washington, DC-Washington Dulles international Airport (IAD)

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:
Please see attached.
-

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): The cost of meals per day will be equal to or less than \$104 in Cork and \$138 in Dublin based on State Dept. guidelines
 - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____
Please see attached
-

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: The Maldron Dublin Airport Hotel City: Dublin Cost Per Night: 153.00
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Planning to check in at 5 am if scheduled meeting in Dublin occurs for shower and breakfast
- Hotel Name: The Imperial Hotel City: Cork, Ireland Cost Per Night: 184.00
 Reason(s) for Selecting: The Imperial is located in the heart of the city allowing for easy transport to and from Cork
- Hotel Name: The Marker Hotel City: Dublin Cost Per Night: 264.00
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Central location to meetings in Dublin and the rate for overnight stay met the requirements

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	\$945.21	\$1,129.00	\$574.06
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	\$525.00	Ground transportation IAD roundtrip, transport to Cork, train from Cork to Dublin, ground transport in both Cork and Dublin.
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: December 15, 2024
 Name: Ben English Title: Executive Director
 Organization: US-Ireland Partnership for Growth
 Address: 712 H Street, NW PMB 93606 Washington, DC 20002
 Email: andrea@mietusevents.com Telephone: 301-518-6336

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



US-Ireland
Partnership
for Growth

Question # 4

Below is the list of the delegation invited to attend the US-Ireland Partnership for Growth second annual Staff Delegation trip. The individuals listed below were offered an opportunity to participate due to the consistent theme throughout the programming. They were selected because they represent members who engage with (and in their own work they cover) key issues important to the US-Irish Business economic relationship and sit on key committees impacting the same- Friends of Ireland Caucus, Ways & Means, Foreign Affairs and Budget). This is in line with the Partnership's ethos of furthering economic opportunity on both sides of the Atlantic and we are pleased to have such a good representation of a bipartisan delegation.

**U.S. Ireland Partnership for Growth
U.S. House of Representatives Staff Delegation 2025**

First Name	Last Name	Role	Office
Vernon	Baker	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries (NY-08)
Natalie	Baldassarre	Deputy Chief of Staff	Office of Rep. Nicole Malliotakis (NY-11)
Gideon	Bragin	Executive Director	Office of the Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries (NY-08)
Brandon	Casey	Staff Director	Office of the Democratic Ways & Means Committee
Tyler	Fagan	Senior Policy Advisor	Office of Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (LA-04)
Lizzy	Fallon	Legislative Director	Office of Rep. Tom Emmer (MN-06)
Scott	Heppard	Chief of Staff	Office of Rep. Brendan Boyle (PA-02)
Ricky	Le	Chief of Staff	Office of Rep. Linda Sanchez (CA-38)
Sean	Murphy	Legislative Director	Office of Rep. Michelle Fischbach (MN-07)
Quinn	Ritchie	Legislative Director	Office of Rep. Mike Kelly (PA-16)
Brooke	Scannell	Chief of Staff	Office of Democratic Whip Katherine Clark (MA-05)
Taylor	Smith	Tax & Economic Policy Advisor	Office of Democratic Whip Katherine Clark (MA-05)
Beverly	Weshnak	Tax Counsel	U.S. House Committee on Ways & Means



US-Ireland
Partnership
for Growth

**US IRELAND PARTNERSHIP FOR GROWTH SECOND ANNUAL STAFFDEL
CORK & DUBLIN, IRELAND
Sunday, February 16 – Friday, February 21, 2025**

NOTE: Internal Preliminary Staff Delegation Agenda not for Public Distribution - Subject to Change

DRESS CODE IS BUSINESS ATTIRE ACROSS ALL OFFICIAL PROGRAMMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 16, 2025

- 2:00 pm **Arrive at Washington Dulles Airport (IAD) for Departure**
- 5:10 pm **Aer Lingus Flight #116 departs Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)**

Monday, February 17, 2025

- 4:55 am **Arrive at Dublin International Airport (DUB)**
- Depart the airport via hotel shuttle to the Maldron Hotel Dublin Airport- Shuttles depart every 20 minutes*
- 5:30 am –10:00 am **Check-in, breakfast & freshen up at the Maldron Hotel Dublin Airport**

Business Attire Required

- 10:00 am **Bus arrives for transport from the Maldron Airport Hotel to the Merrion Hotel**
- 10:15 am **Depart the Maldron Dublin Airport Hotel for the Merrion Hotel**
Merrion St Upper, Dublin 2, Ireland
- Drive time 20-40 minutes*
- 11:15 am **Arrive the Merrion Hotel for Fireside Discussion**
- 11:30 am -12:30 pm **Fireside Discussion with An Taoiseach Micheál Martin (Prime Minister of Ireland) in conversation with
Lucinda Creighton, CEO, Vulcan Consulting**
Merrion Street Upper, Dublin 2, D02 R583, Ireland- Wellesley Room
- 12:45 pm **Depart Merrion Hotel for Aidan Kennedy Farm (Ornua Farm)**
Dranagan House, Cahir, Co. Tipperary, E21 HP92

Drive time 2 hours and 15 minutes

****All guests must wear long pants, flat, soft-sole shoes and dress warm****

- 3:00 pm **Arrive at Aidan Kennedy Farm (Ornua Farm)**
- 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm **The Heart of Agriculture:** The delegation will tour a local dairy farm crucial to the operations of Ornua, Ireland's largest dairy exporter and owner of the number 2 branded butter (Kerrygold) in the United States. The delegation will hear from Ornua representatives on the role of local farmers in producing their grassfed products and gain a deeper understanding of the E2E farming process that kickstarts the production of Kerrygold, one of the world's leading dairy brands.
Speakers: Ben English-Executive Director, US Ireland Partnership for Growth, Lindsay Brady, President of Ornua Foods North America, Ornua Aidan Kennedy (Award winning dairy farmer)
- 5:10 pm **Depart Aidan Kennedy Farm (Ornua Farm) to The Imperial Hotel Cork**
76 S Mall, Street, Cork, T12 A2YT, Ireland
- Drive time 1 hour and 10 minutes*
- 6:10 pm **Arrive at The Imperial Hotel Cork**
- 6:15 pm – 7:00 pm **Check-in & Executive Time**
- 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm **Dinner & Roundtable Discussion with Cork Business Leaders**
The Imperial Hotel Cork, The Pembroke
- Engaging with Local Business Leaders: Tax Talks in Cork**
Business Leaders from across Cork will lead a discussion and provide their insight into how local taxes work, including corporate tax rates, VAT (Value Added Tax), income tax, and other relevant tax obligations for businesses in Ireland.
- RON **The Imperial Hotel Cork**
76 S Mall, Street, Cork, T12 A2YT, Ireland

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

- 6:45 am –7:15 am **US Ireland Partnership for Growth Briefing & Breakfast**
The Imperial Hotel Cork
Speaker: Ben English, Executive Director, US Ireland Partnership for Growth
- 7:20 am **Depart The Imperial Hotel for Lilly**
Dunderrow, Kinsale, Co. Cork, Ireland P17 NY71
- Drive time 35-40 minutes*
- 8:00 am **Arrive Lilly**
- *All guests must wear long pants, flat, soft-sole, closed-toed shoes ***
- 8:15 am – 9:45 am **Transforming Ideas into Impact: Tour of Lilly Kinsale**
See first-hand how Lilly's Kinsale manufacturing site uses the latest technology (including AI) to play a major role in Lilly's global manufacturing supply chain and investments with their presence in Ireland, followed by a plant tour.
- 9:50 am **Depart Lilly for Apple**
Hollyhill Lane, Hollyhill Industrial Estate, Cork, T23 YK84, Ireland

Drive time 40 minutes

10:30 am **Arrive Apple**

10:45 am – 12:30 pm **Presentation and Tour of Apple’s Cork Campus** : 2025 marks 45 years in Cork for Apple. From a single manufacturing site with 60 employees the company has grown to over 6,000 employees in Ireland, the majority based at its Hollyhill campus. During the visit, you’ll have the opportunity to meet senior site leaders and tour key parts of the campus including the Test and Engineering Facility and Advanced Research labs. Please note that certain space and confidentiality restrictions apply.
Speaker: Cathy Kearney, Vice President, European Operations

12:35 pm **Depart Apple for Kent Train Station (Cork)**
Kent Station, Lower Glanmire Rd, Cork, T23 E6TD, Ireland
Drive 15 minutes

12:55 pm **Arrive at Kent Train Station (Cork) for departure to Heuston Station (Dublin)**

1:25 pm **Depart Irish Rails Train # A22**
Rail time 2 hours and 30 minutes

3:55 pm **Arrive at Heuston Train Station (Dublin)**
Heuston Station St. Johns Road West Dublin 8. Eircode, D08 E2CV

4:15 pm **Depart Heuston Train Station for The Marker Hotel Dublin**
Grand Canal Quay, Docklands, Dublin, D02 CK38, Ireland
Drive time 30 minutes

4:45 pm **Arrive at the Marker Hotel Dublin**

4:50 pm **Check-in to The Marker Hotel Dublin**

5:45 pm **Depart the Marker Hotel for the Residence of Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the United States of America to Ireland**
7 Mespil Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, D04 A5Y8, Ireland
Drive time 10 minutes

5:55 pm **Arrive Residence of Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the United States of America to Ireland**

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm **Welcome Reception and Economic Dialogue with Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the United States of America to Ireland, Mike Clausen**
The Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the United States of America to Ireland Mike Clausen will officially welcome the delegation to Ireland and the group will have an opportunity to engage with Irish business and political leaders on economic and trade matters. The Deputy Chief of Mission will also provide an overview of the Embassy's function in Ireland.
Speakers: Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the United States of America to Ireland Mike Clausen Ben English, Executive Director, US Ireland Partnership for Growth

7:30 pm **Depart Residence of Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the United States of America to Ireland for FIRE**
The Mansion House, Dawson St, Dublin 2, D02 AF30 Ireland
Drive time 5 minutes

7:35 pm **Arrive FIRE Steakhouse Restaurant & Bar Dublin**

7:45 pm – 9:00 pm **Whiskey Craftsmanship and Heritage: A Journey to Ireland with Sazerac:**
Take a moment to come join us to meet with a local expert from Sazerac who will share all the Whiskey process from the Triple Distillation and share the difference between Grain and Pot Still Whiskey. Whiskey holds such a significant cultural, historical and economic importance to Ireland. It has Historical roots, Global Reputations and most importantly Economic impact. Buffalo Trace owner Sazerac has acquired Lough Gill Distillery in County Sligo, which is the new home for its Irish whiskey brands Paddy and Michael Collins.
Speaker: Helen Mulholland, Lough Gill Distillery Master Blender

9:00 pm **Depart FIRE Steakhouse Restaurant & Bar Dublin for the Marker Hotel Dublin**
Grand Canal Quay, Docklands, Dublin, D02 CK38, Ireland

Drive time 10 minutes

9:10 pm **Arrive the Marker Hotel Dublin**

RON: **The Marker Hotel Dublin**
Grand Canal Quay, Docklands, Dublin, D02 CK38, Ireland

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

7:30 am – 8:00 am **US Ireland Partnership for Growth Briefing & Breakfast**
The Marker Hotel Dublin
Speaker: Ben English, Executive Director, US Ireland Partnership for Growth

8:00 am **Depart from the Marker Hotel Dublin to Microsoft**
One Microsoft Court, South County Business Park, Leopardstown, Dublin 18, D18 DH6k

Drive time 22 minutes

8:25 am **Arrive at Microsoft**

8:30 am – 10:00 am **A Legacy of Investment and Innovation:**
With a 40-year track record of investment in Ireland, Microsoft leadership will speak with the delegation on the history of Microsoft's investment in Ireland and the innovation that has sustained their expanded footprint. The delegation will also hear from local leadership about the functions of Microsoft's current operation in Ireland and will hear from their Tax Policy Council on the challenges and opportunities stemming from Ireland's relationship with the EU and the broader relationship of the US and EU
Speaker: James O'Connor, Corporate Vice President of the Microsoft Global Operations

10:15 am **Depart Microsoft for Amgen**
Pottery Rd, Dún Laoghaire, Dublin, A96 F2A8, Ireland

Drive time 15-20 minutes

10:45 am **Arrive Amgen**

10.45 am – 12.15 pm **Touring Amgen: Exploring Cutting-Edge Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing and Innovation (lunch provided at manufacturing panel discussion)**
Amgen's operations in Dublin contributes to Ireland's growing position as a leader in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors. The company manufactures and exports a wide range of biopharmaceutical products, and its presence enhances Ireland's overall export profile. Products such as biologics, monoclonal antibodies, and therapeutic treatments are important exports, especially to other EU and international markets.
Speaker: Paul Greene, Vice President Site Operations

12:20 pm **Depart Amgen for Fidelity Investment**
1 Waterside, Kingswood Avenue, Citywest West Business Campus, Dublin, D24 WA02, Ireland

Drive time 30 minutes

12.45 pm **Arrive at Fidelity Investment**

12.50 pm – 2.00 pm **Leveraging the European Ecosystem for Innovation, Intelligence, and Collaboration:**
Fidelity opened a presence in Ireland in 1996, the first office outside the US. Over almost three decades the regional location has developed extensive collaborative partnerships across the Irish and European ecosystem. We will share several vignettes with the delegation.
Speakers: Brian Binchy, Chief Compliance Officer for FDA Ireland
Lorna Martyn, Fidelity Ireland Regional Chair and Senior Vice President of Technology
Richard Murphy, Head of European Ecosystem Research at the Fidelity Centre for Applied Technology (FCAT), Gearoid Terry, Senior Vice President, Enterprise Cybersecurity

2:05 pm **Depart Fidelity Investment for SAP**
3, Waterside Citywest Business Campus Dublin, D24 WA02, Ireland

Walk time 2 minutes

2:05 pm **Arrive SAP**

2:10 pm -3:20 pm **Promoting Global U.S. Innovation and Competitiveness:**
The event will introduce the delegation to SAP's investments in the U.S. and Ireland and contributions to those respective economies including our business strategy, key customers, employee footprint and research and development activity. SAP will provide examples of how our cutting-edge technologies in fields such as artificial intelligence empower U.S. companies to grow and compete around the globe. The presentation will touch on key international and domestic tax policies that governments can use to promote these investments and activities.
Speakers: Paul Cunningham, Managing Director, SAP Ireland
Jason Coady Chief Financial Officer, SAP Ireland.

3:25 pm **Depart SAP for Meeting at the Enterprise, Tourism and Employment with Minister Peter Burke**
23 Kildare St, Dublin 2, D02 TD30,Ireland

Drive time 30- 40 minutes

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm **Meeting with Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment Peter Burke**
Discussion between the Minister and the group on Ireland's FDI policy to understand what has yielded a thriving business climate in Ireland. In addition, the delegation will learn about Ireland's indigenous business landscape that gives rise to Ireland's exporting companies and how they are significantly contributing to the US economy.
Speaker: Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment Peter Burke

5:10 pm **Depart Department of Enterprise, Tourism & Employment to Marker Hotel Dublin**
Grand Canal Quay, Docklands, Dublin, D02 CK38, Ireland

Drive time 15 minutes

5:20 pm **Arrive The Marker Hotel Dublin**

5:30 pm – 6:00 pm **Executive time**

6:10 pm **Depart the Marker Hotel Dublin for Bang Restaurant**
11 Merrion Row, Dublin, D02KW61, Ireland

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm **Innovation & Imagination: Celebrating Irish Business Globally**
This dinner will gather business, political and community leaders to celebrate Ireland’s outstanding business ecosystem and the businesses, leaders and convenors that drive its innovation and growth.
Bang Restaurant- Lower Level

RON: **The Marker Hotel Dublin**
Grand Canal Quay, Docklands, Dublin, D02 CK38, Ireland

Thursday, February 20, 2025

7:30-am – 8:00 am **US Ireland Partnership for Growth Briefing & Breakfast**
The Marker Hotel Dublin
Speaker: Ben English, Executive Director, US Ireland Partnership for Growth

8:15 am **Depart the Marker Hotel Dublin for TikTok**
63 Cardiff Ln, Grand Canal Dock, Dublin, D02 HD23, Ireland

Walk time 15 minutes

8:30 am **Arrive TikTok -The Sorting Office**

8:30 am – 10:00 am **TikTok and Content Moderation Policies:**
This visit will consist of a tour of the Transparency and Accountability Centre stations at TikTok's regional headquarters during which staff will be able to view content moderation being performed in real-time and following a panel discussion with TikTok executives to discuss the regulatory context for internet platforms in the EU.
Speakers: Susan Moss, Global Public Policy, Europe, UK, IE
John Kirwan, Trust and Safety,
Gráinne Ní Ghuidhir, Lead Privacy Counsel
Danielle Restivo, TikTok Shop Business Communications

Depart from TikTok to Executive Time at The Marker hotel Dublin
23 Kildare St, Dublin 2, D02 TD30,Ireland

Walk time 15 minutes

10:15 am – 11:30 am **Executive Time**

Walk time 20 minutes

11:50 am **Arrive Leinster House**

12:00 pm – 1.30 pm **Leinster House: A Visit, Discussion and Lunch at Dail Eireann (Irish Parliament)**
CLOSED EVENT: CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION ONLY DUE TO CAPACITY LIMITATIONS
The delegation will learn about history, mechanics and key milestones in establishing the Irish Parliament. A lunch discussion and Q&A with Senator Mark Daly will follow this.

1:40 pm **Depart Leinster House for the Department of Finance**
Government Buildings, Merrion St Upper, Dublin 2, D02 R583, Ireland

Walk time 7 minutes

1:50 pm **Arrive Department of Finance for Meeting with Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe**

- 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm **Meeting with Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe:**
 The group will meet with Ireland’s Minister for Finance will discuss key facets of the US-Ireland economic relationship. The group will hear from the Minister and their officials on Ireland’s key policy priorities and the strength of the economic relationship between both countries. The group will also have an opportunity to engage on signposts related to upcoming US legislation on tax and trade.
Speaker: Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe
- 3:05 pm **Depart Department of Finance for the Marker Hotel Dublin**
 Grand Canal Quay, Docklands, Dublin, D02 CK38, Ireland
- Walk time 20 minutes*
- 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm **Executive Time -packing for departure**
- 5:00 pm **Depart Marker Hotel for Guinness Storehouse**
 St. James's Gate, Dublin 8, D08 VF8H, Ireland
- Drive time 20 minutes*
- 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm **Tour of the Distributing and Manufacturing Facility with Diageo:**
 Participants will learn about the legendary process that sits behind one of the most recognized brands in the world. Participants will learn about the fermenting process and the ingredients used to make Guinness, in addition to how it is exported around the world. They will also learn about the evolution of the Guinness brand over time and how it has evolved into a globally recognized symbol.
- 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm **Farewell Dinner & Roundtable Discussion for Delegation- Storehouse**
 Welcome remarks from Diageo representative to further share the Global Strategy of Guinness at Diageo reflecting on economic and business ecosystem
Speakers: Faich Kelly, Head of Policy and Public Affairs, Ireland
 Closing reflection: Ben English-Executive Director, US-Ireland Partnership for Growth

PROGRAMMING ENDS

- 9:45 pm **Depart Guinness Storehouse to the Marker**
 Grand Canal Quay, Docklands, Dublin
- RON: The Marker

Friday, February 21, 2025

- 8:00 am **Closing Breakfast**
- 9:00 am **Depart the Marker for Dublin International Hotel**
- Drive time 30 minutes*
- 9:30 am **Arrive at Dublin International Airport (DUB)**
- 12:30 pm **Aer Lingus Flight # 117 N Depart Dublin International Airport (DUB) for Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)**
- 3:40 pm EST Arrive Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD)

Ethics Question #12

[US-Ireland Partnership for Growth](#) was established last year to facilitate more continuous engagement between U.S. and Irish business interests and political decision-makers, with a primary economic focus.

Our Inaugural STAFFDEL to Ireland in February 2024 provided a range of educational opportunities to further the understanding of the symbiotic economic relationship between the United States and Ireland. Our program during this trip again will include education roundtables with Irish business and political leaders. The goal of the program is to provide Congressional Staff with a deeper awareness of the challenges, opportunities, and growth drivers shaping the future of the US-Ireland economic relationship which is valued at an estimated \$825 billion.

The US-Ireland Partnership for Growth facilitates engagement between businesses with operations in both the United States and Ireland, and government leaders dedicated to promoting shared economic opportunity. The Partnership curates' programs that help multinational corporations remove barriers to grow and fuel a symbiotic economic relationship between the United States and Ireland.

Amid an increasingly complex global economic and political landscape, the Partnership recognizes Ireland as a critical economic partner for the United States and its most reliable gateway to the European Union.

Through policy driven advocacy and programs, the Partnership is committed to building on decades of progress to expand economic opportunity in both countries. The US-Ireland Partnership for Growth has organized and planned the trip with the professional guidance of our Executive Director, Ben English, and our Senior Advisor, Andrea Mietus.

Ethics Question #15-2

The [US-Ireland Partnership for Growth](#) was established two years ago to facilitate more continuous engagement between U.S. and Irish business interests and political decision-makers, with a primary economic focus. We believe this is an opportunity to continue to showcase and provide U.S. Congressional Staffers leading their offices as policymakers, and leaders an opportunity to engage with Irish business and political leaders on issues affecting both the U.S. and Irish economies. As we look to bridge the gap and develop ongoing opportunities to share economic growth and prosperity to highlight more robust opportunities to do so. This small, curated bipartisan delegation will focus on developing ways and opportunities to increase shared economic growth and prosperity while obtaining a greater understanding of the ways in which Irish leaders are addressing the challenges facing their nation. This year we will also be including Cork as part of our tri. Cork is central to U.S.-Ireland economic relations. Many American companies in Cork not only contribute to the Irish economy but also create a significant amount of trade between the two countries. U.S. investments in Cork and other Irish cities have helped strengthen Ireland's position as a global hub for business, particularly in sectors that align with American interests, such as technology and pharmaceuticals.



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Washington, DC 20515

February 13, 2025

Mr. Vernon Baker
Office of the Honorable Office of the Minority Leader
2267 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Baker:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Ireland,¹ scheduled for February 16 to 21, 2025, sponsored by US-Ireland Partnership for Growth.

Committee travel regulations require that you submit your complete pre-trip approval request to the Committee at least 30 days before the commencement of the trip or it will not be granted. Despite your failure to do so in this instance, we are approving your current request. However, any future requests must adhere to the 30-day requirement or they will be denied.

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.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House employees may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$480] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts

¹ Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or ohsstaff@mail.house.gov. House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Michael Guest
Chairman



Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:tn