

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: Nora Blalock
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: August 16, 2025 Return: August 24, 2025
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, D.C. Destination: Israel Return City: Washington, D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: American Isarel Education Foundation, Inc. (AIEF)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: We spent a very busy week travelling the country and meeting with a variety of stakeholders to better understand security threats to Israel and the importance of the Israel-US relationship.
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: 9/5/25

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: Representative Kathy Castor Date: 9/5/25

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: American Israel Education Foundation, Inc. (AIEF)

2. Travel Destination(s): Israel

3. Date of Departure: August 16, 2025 Date of Return: August 24, 2025

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Nora Blalock

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	\$5,476.36	\$2,282.75	\$1,550.59	\$3,771.98
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:  Date: 9/3/2025 | 15:58 EDT

Name: Rachel Hirsch Title: Chief Legal Counsel

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation, Inc. (AIEF)

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

Address: 251 H Street, NW Washington, D.C., 20001

Telephone: (202) 246-0519 Email: rhirsch@aiefdn.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

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Nora Blalock
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: American Isarel Education Foundation, Inc.
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Israel
4. a. Date of Departure: August 16, 2025 Date of Return: August 24, 2025
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 Deputy Chief of Staff for Rep. Kathy Castor, this trip will help me better understand critical issues for Israel post October 7th, including the situation in Gaza, security threats at Israel's northern border, and Israel's defense capabilities. Rep. Castor represents MacDill AFB, the home of US CENTCOM, which includes Israel in its AOR.

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: _____

Kathy Castor

Date: 7/16/2025

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:
American Israel Education Foundation, Inc.
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 find attached
5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: August 16, 2025 Date of Return: August 24, 2025
7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C.
 b. Destination(s): Israel
 c. City of return: Washington, D.C.
8. **Check only one.** I represent that
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**
 - c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee’s travel regulations.

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

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

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:

AIEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a charitable and educational mission which includes, among other things, educating policy makers and opinion leaders about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip.

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: charter bus in Israel)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
n/a

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): \$176

2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____
The trip is in Israel to educate congressional staff about the U.S.-Israel relationship.

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

Hotel Name:	<u>Orient</u>	City:	<u>Jerusalem</u>	Cost Per Night:	<u>\$332/\$439 (FRI)</u>
Reason(s) for Selecting:	<u>location and affordability</u>				
Hotel Name:	<u>David Interncontinental</u>	City:	<u>Tel Aviv</u>	Cost Per Night:	<u>\$450</u>
Reason(s) for Selecting:	<u>location and affordability</u>				
Hotel Name:	<u>Magdala</u>	City:	<u>Tiberias</u>	Cost Per Night:	<u>\$290</u>
Reason(s) for Selecting:	<u>location and affordability</u>				

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	\$5,501.81	\$2,293	\$1,238
For each Accompanying Family Member	n/a	n/a	n/a

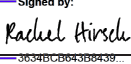
	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$3,920	Please find attached
For each Accompanying Family Member	n/a	n/a

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.**

Signed by:  Date: 7/15/2025 | 14:05 EDT
 Name: Rachel Hirsch Title: Chief Legal Counsel
 Organization: American Israel Education Foundation, Inc. (AIEF)
 Address: 251 H Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20001
 Email: rhirsch@aiefdn.org Telephone: (202) 246-0519

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

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Congressional Staff
August 16-24, 2025**

Addendum

4. Name of Travelers

Anna Adamian, Communications Director, Office of the Honorable Andy Harris (R-MD)
Ryan Altman, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Honorable Brad Finstad (R-MN)
Nora Blalock, Deputy Chief of Staff/Legislative Director, Office of the Honorable Kathy
Castor (D-FL)

Cameron Erickson, Legislative Director, Office of the Honorable Abe Hamadeh (R-AZ)
Amanda Farnan, Communications Director, Office of the Honorable Eugene Vindman
(D-VA)

Zachary Freiman, Senior Legislative Assistant, Office of the Honorable Yassamin
Ansari (D-AZ)

Christofer Horta, Legislative Director, Office of the Honorable David Scott (D-GA)

Mary Hrinkevich, Legislative Director, Office of the Honorable Nick LaLota (R-NY)

Zachary Kahan, Legislative Director, Office of the Honorable Luz Rivas (D-CA)

Nicholas Keddy, Legislative Assistant, Office of the Honorable Andrew Garbarino (R-
NY)

Angelle Kwemo, Deputy (Acting) Chief of Staff, Office of the Honorable Sheila
Cherfilus-McCormick (D-FL)

Shine Lee, Legislative Director, Office of the Honorable Young Kim (R-CA)

Samuel Luna, Legislative Director, Office of the Honorable Anna Paulina Luna (R-FL)

Kyle Pierre, Legislative Assistant, Office of the Honorable Cleo Fields (D-LA)

Zev Siegfeld, Legislative Director, Office of the Honorable Claudia Tenney (R-NY)

George Wang, Senior Legislative Assistant, Office of the Honorable John Larson (D-CT)

5. Breakdown of other expenses

Other Cost	Cost per participant
Security	\$1,319.53
Speaker Fees	\$918.41
Room Rentals and Setup	\$366.45
Meals for contract staff and guests	\$300.97
Hotels for contract staff	\$296.88
Tour Guide/Yad Vashem Guide	\$290.00
Airport Assistance	\$147.12
Entrance fee	\$50.17
Photography	\$35.18
Miscellaneous	\$31.55
Transportation for contract staff and speakers	\$8.82
Tips	\$6.91
Total per participant	\$3,771.98

**American Israel Education Foundation
Educational Seminar in Israel
U.S. Congressional Staff
August 16-24, 2025**

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

2:00 PM Amtrak #94 departs Washington, D.C. (Zachary Freiman)
4:57 PM Amtrak #94 arrives Newark (Zachary Freiman)
11:50 PM El Al #26 departs Newark (Zachary Freiman)

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

5:15 PM El Al #26 arrives Tel Aviv (Zachary Freiman)

Thursday, August 14, 2025

5:05 AM American Airlines #1148 departs Washington, D.C. (Cameron Erickson)
7:40 AM American Airlines #1148 arrives Miami (Cameron Erickson)
12:00 PM El Al #18 departs Miami (Cameron Erickson)

Friday, August 15, 2025

6:55 AM El Al #18 arrives Tel Aviv (Cameron Erickson)

Saturday, August 16, 2025

3:20 PM Amtrak #168 departs Washington, D.C. (Anna Adamian, Ryan Altman, Amanda Farnan, Mary Hrinkevich, Nicholas Keddy, Angelle Kwemo, Shine Lee, Samuel Luna, Zev Siegfeld)
5:00 PM Delta #5713 departs Washington, D.C. (Christofer Horta, Kyle Pierre)
5:10 PM JetBlue #1579 departs Washington, D.C. (Zachary Kahan)
5:15 PM Delta #5666 departs Washington D.C. (Nora Blalock)
6:21 PM Amtrak #168 arrives Newark (Anna Adamian, Ryan Altman, Amanda Farnan, Mary Hrinkevich, Nicholas Keddy, Angelle Kwemo, Shine Lee, Samuel Luna, Zev Siegfeld)
6:39 PM Delta #5713 arrives JFK (Christofer Horta, Kyle Pierre)
7:07 PM Delta #5666 arrives Boston (Nora Blalock)
7:52 PM JetBlue #1579 arrives Fort Lauderdale (Zachary Kahan)

11:50 PM El Al #26 departs Newark (Anna Adamian, Ryan Altman, Amanda Farnan, Mary Hrinkevich, Nicholas Keddy, Angelle Kwemo, Shine Lee, Samuel Luna, Zev Siegfeld)

11:50 PM El Al #8 departs JFK (Christofer Horta, Kyle Pierre)

11:50 PM El AL #116 departs Boston (Nora Blalock)

11:55 PM El Al #22 departs Fort Lauderdale (Zachary Kahan)

Sunday, August 17, 2025

5:22 AM Amtrak #160 departs Union Station (George Wang)

8:21 AM Amtrak #160 arrives Newark (George Wang)

1:30 PM El Al #28 departs Newark (George Wang)

4:50 PM El AL #116 arrives Tel Aviv (Nora Blalock)

5:10 PM El Al #8 arrives Tel Aviv (Christofer Horta, Kyle Pierre)

5:15 PM El Al #26 arrives Tel Aviv (Anna Adamian, Ryan Altman, Amanda Farnan, Mary Hrinkevich, Nicholas Keddy, Angelle Kwemo, Shine Lee, Samuel Luna, Zev Siegfeld)

6:50 PM El Al #22 arrives Tel Aviv (Zachary Kahan)

Sunday, August 17th

4:50 – 6:50 PM Flights arrive Tel Aviv
Transfer to Jerusalem
Check-in to the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

8:15 PM Depart for Dinner

8:30 –10:00 PM **Welcome Dinner and Orientation**
-at Eucalyptus restaurant

10:15 PM Depart for the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

10:30 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Monday, August 18th

6:55 AM El Al flight #28 arrives Tel Aviv (George Wang)

7:30 AM Breakfast on Own
-at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

8:30 – 9:30 AM	Pulse of the Nation With David Horowitz Founding Editor, Times of Israel -at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem
9:30 AM	Depart
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Strategic Survey of Jerusalem: The Holy Basin Guided visit through the Old City of Jerusalem
1:15 – 2:00 PM	Lunch -at Luciana restaurant
2:15 PM	Depart for the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem
2:45 PM	Arrive at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem
3:15 – 4:15 PM	Israeli Politics 101 With Prof. Reuven Hazan Professor of Political Science, Hebrew University of Jerusalem -at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem
4:30 – 5:30 PM	Regional Strategic Overview Briefing by Brig. Gen. (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel Former Director, Counter-Terrorism Bureau at Prime Minister's Office -at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem
5:45 PM	Depart for the Mount Herzl Military Cemetery, Jerusalem
6:00 – 6:45 PM	The Israeli Psyche pt. I: Israel's Fallen Soldiers Visit to the Mount Herzl Military Cemetery, Jerusalem
6:45 PM	Depart
7:00 – 9:15 PM	Politics and Policy in Israel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Sagiv, Political Advisor, the Honorable Benny Gantz, National Unity Party • Ariel Segal, Senior Political Advisor to the Leader of the Opposition, the Honorable Yair Lapid, Yesh Atid Party • Tuvia Chertok, Advisor to the Honorable Amichai Chikli, Likud Party -at Andalucia restaurant
9:30 PM	Depart for the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem
10:00 PM	Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Tuesday, August 19th

7:30 AM	Breakfast on own -at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem
8:30 AM	Depart
9:00 –11:00 AM	The Israeli Psyche: The Significance of the Holocaust Guided visit to Yad Vashem: The World Holocaust Remembrance Center
11:15 AM	Depart
11:45 AM –12:45 PM	A Palestinian Voice Post-October 7 Meeting with Ibrahim Dalalsha Executive Director, Horizon Center for Political Studies & Media Outreach -at the Vert hotel, Jerusalem
12:45 –1:30 PM	Lunch -at the Vert Hotel, Jerusalem
1:30 PM	Depart for Tel Aviv
2:45 PM	Check-in to the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv
3:00 – 3:45 PM	Israeli Democracy in Action, Part I: The Coalition Meeting with Topaz Luk Former spokesperson for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu -at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv
4:00 – 5:15 PM	Break
5:30 PM	Depart for the Link Hotel, Tel Aviv
6:00 – 6:45 PM	Israeli Democracy in Action, Part II: The Opposition Meeting with Yair Zivan Foreign Policy Advisor to the Honorable Yair Lapid, Yesh Atid party -at the Link Hotel, Tel Aviv
6:45 PM	Depart for dinner
7:00 – 9:15 PM	Activism in Israeli Society: Minorities and Diversity Dinner with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ibrahim Abu Ahmed, Israeli Arab Activist• Ashager Arraro, Ethiopian Community Activist -at Goshen restaurant
9:30 PM	Return to the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv
9:30 PM	Overnight at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

Wednesday, August 20th

7:00 AM	Breakfast on Own -at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv
8:30 – 9:15 AM	October 7, Part. I: How It Unfolded Gabi Duec, Israel Seminars Leader -at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv
9:30 AM	Depart for the Gaza Envelope
9:30 –10:30 AM	Enroute Briefing: The History of Gaza, 1948-October 6
10:45 –11:45 AM	October 7, Part II: Hamas in Southern Israel Experience October 7 through the eyes of Israeli survivors -Israel-Is Center, Sderot
12:00 PM	Depart
12:15 –12:45 PM	Lunch -at Haimos restaurant, Sderot
12:45 PM	Depart
1:15 –1:45 PM	October 7, Part III: The Nova Festival Visit the site of the music festival -at Reim
1:45 – 2:00 PM	Understanding October 7: The Story of the Bomb Shelters Visiting Aner & Hersh’s shelter -at Reim
2:00 PM	Depart
3:00 – 4:30 PM	U.S.-Israel Partnership: Developing Multilayer Air Defense Systems Site visit at Israel Test-Bed, ITB With Major Netta Blum, Head of the Technological Division Israel’s Ministry of Defense -at Elbit Systems, Holon
4:45 PM	Depart for Tel Aviv
5:15 PM	Arrive at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv
7:00 – 9:00 PM	Service and Innovation: Responding to Unique Challenges Dinner with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boaz Hochstein, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships at Restart Global• Sivan Cohen Shachari, CEO, DeserTech & Climate Innovation Center -at Nomi Restaurant, the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

9:15 PM Overnight at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

Thursday, August 21st

7:30 AM Breakfast on Own
-at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

8:45 – 9:45 AM **International Law and IDF Ethics**
Briefing with Major (Res.) Ben Wahlhaus
Former Head, International Negotiations and Agreements
International Law Department, Israel Defense Forces
-at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

10:00 –11:00 AM **Status Update: Humanitarian Aid During ‘Swords of Iron’**
Briefing by Lt. Col. Yotam Sheffer
Head of the Foreign Relations Branch, Coordinator of Government Affairs in the
Territories (COGAT)
-at the David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv

11:15 AM Depart

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM **Israel-Iran War: A New Geopolitical Reality**
Briefing by Yonah Jeremy Bob
Journalist and Author
-at Tetto restaurant, Tel Aviv

12:50 –1:10 PM **Visit an Iran attack site**
-at Sarona, Tel Aviv

1:15 – 2:15 PM Lunch
-at Tetto restaurant

2:15 PM Depart for Alfei Menashe

2:30 – 3:00 PM **En Route Briefing: West Bank Settlements**

3:15 – 3:45 PM **Israel’s Quest for Defensible Borders**
Strategic briefing overlooking Israel’s population center
-at the Alfei Menashe overlook

3:45 – 4:45 PM **West Bank Strategic Implications: Looking Forward**
With Lt. Col. (Res.) Jonathan Conricus
Former International Spokesperson of the Israel Defense Forces
-at the Alfei Menashe overlook

4:50 PM Depart for Northern Israel

5:00 – 5:45 PM **En Route Briefing: History of Hezbollah**

6:45 PM Check-in to the Magdala Hotel, Migdal

7:30 PM Depart

7:45 – 9:30 PM **Dinner and Discussion**
-at Pagoda restaurant, Migdal

9:45 PM Depart for the Magdala Hotel, Migdal

10:00 PM Overnight at the Magdala Hotel, Migdal

Friday, August 22nd

7:30 AM Breakfast on Own
-at the Magdala Hotel, Migdal

8:30 AM Depart

8:45 –10:00 AM **Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee**
Guided Survey of Christian Sites

10:00 AM Depart

10:00 –10:30 AM **En route briefing: The History of Syrian - Israeli relations**

10:45 AM – 11:15 AM **Strategic Survey of the Syrian Border**
Briefing with Maj. (Res.) Ilan Schulman
-at the Syrian Border

11:30 AM Depart

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM **Israel's Northern Front: Looking Forward in Lebanon and Syria**
Briefing with Maj. (Res.) Ilan Schulman
-at the Merom Golan Kibbutz

1:00 PM Depart

2:30 – 3:30 PM **Shared Society During Times of Crisis**
With Mohammad Darawshe, Director of Strategy at Givat Haviva
-at his home in Iksal

3:45 PM Depart

5:45 PM Check-in to the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

7:30 PM Depart

7:45 – 9:45 PM **Reflections on the Sabbath**
Traditional Sabbath Eve dinner
Hosted by the Mercer Family
-at their home, Jerusalem

10:00 PM Depart

10:15 PM Overnight at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

Saturday, August 23rd

7:30 AM Breakfast on Own
-at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

8:15 – 9:00 AM Depart for the Dead Sea

8:15 – 9:00 AM **Enroute Briefing: The Strategic Importance of Jordanian-Israeli Relations**

9:00 AM –10:00 AM **Antiquity and Modernity: Unearthing the Dead Sea Scrolls**
-at Qumran

10:15 AM Depart

10:30 –11:30 AM **Exploration of the Dead Sea Region**
-at Kalia Beach

11:45 AM Depart

11:45 AM –12:15 PM **En Route Briefing: Druze minority in Israel**

12:15 –1:15 PM Lunch
-at City View restaurant, Jerusalem

1:30 – 2:30 PM **The View from Mount Scopus: Coexistence of Abrahamic Religions**

2:30 PM Depart for the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

3:00 PM Return to the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

6:15 – 8:15 PM **Closing Dinner: Reflections on the Week**
-at the Orient Hotel, Jerusalem

8:30 PM Depart for Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv

9:30 PM Arrive at Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv

Sunday, August 24th

12:15 AM El Al #17 departs Tel Aviv (Angelle Kwemo)

12:30 AM El Al #27 departs Tel Aviv (Anna Adamian, Ryan Altman, Nora Blalock, Amanda Farnan, Zachary Freiman, Christofer Horta, Mary Hrinkevich, Nicholas Keddy, Shine Lee, Samuel Luna, Kyle Pierre, Zev Siegfeld)

1:00 AM El Al #25 departs Tel Aviv (Cameron Erickson, Zachary Kahan, George Wang)

5:15 AM El Al #27 arrives Newark (Anna Adamian, Ryan Altman, Nora Blalock, Amanda Farnan, Zachary Freiman, Christofer Horta, Mary Hrinkevich, Nicholas Keddy, Shine Lee, Samuel Luna, Kyle Pierre, Zev Siegfeld)

5:45 AM El Al #25 arrives Newark (Cameron Erickson, Zachary Kahan, George Wang)

6:30 AM El Al #17 arrives Miami (Angelle Kwemo)

8:00 AM United #4500 departs Newark (Anna Adamian, Ryan Altman, Nora Blalock, Cameron Erickson, Amanda Farnan, Zachary Freiman, Christofer Horta, Mary Hrinkevich, Zachary Kahan, Nicholas Keddy, Shine Lee, Samuel Luna, Kyle Pierre, Zev Siegfeld, George Wang)

9:21 AM United #4500 arrives Washington, D.C. (Anna Adamian, Ryan Altman, Nora Blalock, Cameron Erickson, Amanda Farnan, Zachary Freiman, Christofer Horta, Mary Hrinkevich, Zachary Kahan, Nicholas Keddy, Shine Lee, Samuel Luna, Kyle Pierre, Zev Siegfeld, George Wang)

9:54 AM American Airlines #1612 departs Miami (Angelle Kwemo)

12:33 PM American Airlines #1612 arrives Washington, D.C. (Angelle Kwemo)

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Ranking Member

John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Ashley Hinson, Iowa
Nathaniel Moran, Texas

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas
Suhas Subramanyam, Virginia



ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Jordan Downs
Chief of Staff to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
<https://ethics.house.gov>

August 12, 2025

Ms. Nora Blalock
Office of the Honorable Kathy Castor
2188 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Blalock:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for August 16 to 24, 2025, sponsored by American Israel Education Foundation.

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 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.

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>.

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:eme