

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: Willie Lyles
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: August 22, 2025 Return: August 29, 2025
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Tel Aviv Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: J Street Education Fund
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Our meetings with the IDF, PA and representatives from various NGOs working in the West Bank and Israel were very instructive on the current state of play.
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: 9/15/2025

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: Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr. Date: 9/15/2025

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: J Street Education Fund

2. Travel Destination(s): Tel Aviv

3. Date of Departure: 8/22/2025 Date of Return: 8/29/2025

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Willie Lyles

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	\$3,806	\$1,116	\$1,156	See Attached
Accompanying Family Member				

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box.

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

Signature:  Date: 9/9/2025

Name: Jeremy Ben-Ami Title: President

Organization: J Street Education Fund

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

Address: P.O. Box 66073, Washington DC 20035

Telephone: (917) 312-1869 Email: cooperboyar@jstreet.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.



The Len Hill Education Program

Dedicated to providing American policy makers and opinion leaders with balanced information that lays the groundwork for pursuing Israeli-Palestinian peace through diplomacy.

August 22-29, 2025

ITINERARY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

4:00 PM	Amtrak - 178 Northeast Regional departs DC Union Station (Maha Syed, Caroline Jones, Sara Engelhard, Mackenzie Fallt)
5:00 PM	Amtrak - 136 Northeast Regional departs DC Union Station (Willie Lyles)
7:00 PM	Amtrak - 178 Northeast Regional arrives at Newark Liberty International Airport
8:00 PM	Amtrak - 136 Northeast Regional arrives at Newark Liberty International Airport
11:50 PM	UA0090 departs Newark Liberty International Airport (Maha Syed, Caroline Jones, Willie Lyles, Sara Engelhard, Mackenzie Fallt)
10:50 PM	Flight UA0090 Departs EWR

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23: WELCOME

8:00 PM	Flight UA3016 arrives in Tel Aviv.
8:30 PM	Drive to dinner
9:30 - 10:45 PM	Welcome Dinner: Overview of the War and Current Moment

A leading journalist will provide an overview of the current social and political moment in Israel.

Speaker: Neri Zilber, Journalist and Middle East Politics Analyst

Location: Porter & Sons, HaArba'a St 14, Tel Aviv-Yafo

Hotel: Port Tower Hotel | Hayarkon 300, Tel Aviv-Yafo | +972 3 715 6666

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24: THIS MOMENT IN ISRAEL

8:15 - 8:45 AM

Drive to Hostages Square

8:45 - 9:45 AM

Meeting with Hostage Families Forum

We will hear the personal story of a family member of a released hostage and tour Hostages Square, an exhibit and hub for protest and advocacy established by the Hostages Families Forum.

Speaker: Maya Roman, Cousin of a released hostage

Location: Hostages Square, Tel Aviv

9:45 - 10:15 AM

Tour of Hostages Square

The Hostages Square, located outside of the Tel Aviv Museum, was established by the Hostages Families Forum and is used as a hub to protest, showcase exhibitions, and express solidarity in support of the families. Participants will have an opportunity to interact with the exhibitions on display, such as a mock tunnel representing the experiences of the hostages in Gaza.

10:15 - 10:30 AM

Walk to American Zionist House, 1 Daniel Frisch Street, Tel Aviv-Yaffo

10:30 - 11:45 AM

Israeli-Palestinian Conflict 101

This session will serve as an orientation, with the goal of framing the week ahead in light of the history, geography, and political dynamics in the region.

Speaker: Cooper Boyar, Director of Public Affairs, J Street

Location: American Zionists House

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Short break

12:00 - 1:30 PM

Lunch Briefing: Israeli Politics and Public Opinion 101

An introduction to the Israeli political system, including structure, political

parties, and political trends.

Speaker: Tal Elovits, Public Policy Consultant

Location: American Zionists House

1:30 - 2:30 PM

Conversation: Israeli Strategy and Constructive Policy

A conversation on Israel's security landscape, public discourse, and evolving challenges post-October 7

Speakers:

Maj. Gen. (Res.) Nimrod Sheffer, Former Head of the Planning Directorate for the General Staff, IDF

Shira Efron, Distinguished Chair for Israel Policy and Senior Fellow at the RAND Corporation

Location: American Zionists House

2:30 - 3:00 PM

Drive to hotel

3:00 - 3:45 PM

Meeting with MK Ayman Odeh

We will meet with MK Ayman Odeh, a Palestinian Member of the Israeli Knesset and leader of the Hadash party, to discuss the current state of affairs in Israel, his vision regarding the future of the Israel-Hamas war, and the US-Israel relationship.

Location: Port Tower Hotel

3:45 - 6:00 PM

Executive Time

6:40 PM

IZ336 departs Rome (Laney O'Shea)

6:00 - 7:00 PM

Meeting with MK Shelly Meron

We will meet with MK Shelly Meron, a Member of the Israeli Knesset and Yesh Atid party, to discuss the current state of affairs in Israel, her vision regarding the future of the Israel-Hamas war, and the US-Israel relationship.

Location: Port Tower Hotel

7:15 - 7:30 PM

Drive to Dinner

7:30 - 9:15 PM

Dinner with Israeli Colleagues

Meet with Israeli leaders in the liberal camp to discuss the challenges and strategies of building political power and advancing progressive domestic and foreign policy.

Guests:

Mauricio Lapchik, Spokesperson, MK Ayman Odeh
Nadav Salzberger, Advisor and Spokesperson for MK Rabbi Gilad Kariv
Achiya Schatz, CEO, Fakereporter
Erez Uzan, Deputy Chairperson and Spokesperson of the Young Democrats
Tehila Wenger, Deputy Director at Geneva Initiative
Nur Younis, Media Analyst, Embassy of Switzerland
Hadas Zangi, Head of the Young Democrats

Location: Ola Ola, Simtat HaCarmel 27, Tel Aviv-Yafo

Hotel: Port Tower Hotel | Hayarkon 300, Tel Aviv-Yafo | +972 3 715 6666

MONDAY, AUGUST 25: GAZA AND THE GAZA ENVELOPE

12:40 AM IZ336 arrives in Tel Aviv (Laney O'Shea)

7:45 - 8:30 AM Bring Luggage to lobby + Drive to Machane Aviv

8:30 - 10:00 AM

IDF Briefing Strategic Briefing

Overview of the major security threats Israel faces today, IDF goals and priorities for the ongoing war in Gaza and other fronts, as well as for addressing the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Speakers:

LTC Nadav Shoshani, Head of the International Department in the IDF Spokesperson's unit
LTC Yotam Shefer, Head of Operations at COGAT HQ

Location: Machane Aviv

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Bus Briefing en route to Gaza Envelope

Geopolitical and historical overview of the Gaza strip, Israel-Hamas relations, and Israeli communities on the Gaza border.

Speaker: Ma'ayan Cohen, Resource Development Coordinator, Gisha - Legal Center for Freedom of Movement

- 12:00 - 12:45 PM Lunch at Kibbutz Alumim (unprogrammed)
- 12:45 - 1:00 PM Drive to Kibbutz Kfar Aza
- 1:00 - 2:45 PM** **Tour of the Gaza Envelope: Witnessing the Destruction of Israeli Border Communities**
We will be led on a tour by a resident of Kibbutz Kfar Aza to hear firsthand about the October 7 attacks and how the community has fared since.
- Guide:** Chen Kotler
- Location:** Kibbutz Kfar Aza
- 2:45 - 3:00 PM Drive to NOVA site
- 3:00 - 3:30 PM** **NOVA site visit**
We will visit the site where the Nova music festival took place. Since the massacre on Oct. 7, the site has become a memorial to those killed.
- 3:30 - 5:30 PM Drive to Jerusalem
- 5:30 - 7:15 PM Check in to hotel + Executive Time
- 7:15 - 7:30 PM Walk to the Dinner
- 7:30 - 9:00 PM** **Group Dinner**
A chance for the group to debrief and discuss questions they have for the remainder of the program.
- Location:** Piccolino, Yo'el Moshe Salomon St 12, Jerusalem
- Hotel: Prima Royale Hotel | Mendele Mokher Sfarim St 3, Jerusalem | +972 2*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26: PALESTINIAN POLITICS

- 8:00 - 9:00 AM Drive to Sha'ar Binyamin
- 9:00 - 10:00 AM** **Meeting with Binyamin Municipal Leadership**
We will have an opportunity to hear directly from Israelis living in the West Bank. We will learn what drives them, why they have chosen to make their homes where they have, and what their hopes are for the future.

Speakers:

Governor Israel Ganz, Binyamin Regional Council.
Ruthie Lieberman, Political Advisor, Binyamin Regional Council.

Location: Sha'ar Binyamin

10:00 - 10:30 AM

Drive to Ritaj, Al-Qasr, Emil Touma Street, Ramallah

10:30 - 11:30 AM

Briefing: Palestinian Politics 101

We will discuss the history of the Palestinian national movement, the post-Oslo system of governance in the West Bank, and the current state of Palestinian politics.

Speaker: Sam Bahour Co-founder & Emeritus Member, Americans for a Vibrant Palestinian Economy (A4VPE)

Location: Ritaj

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Lunch with Palestinian Civil Society

An opportunity to engage with Palestinian leaders in civil society to discuss the Palestinian public's attitudes toward their leadership, Israel, and the US.

Speakers:

Bushra Khalidi, Policy Lead, Oxfam
Mohammad Asideh, Director of Advocacy, Rozana Health Diplomacy

Location: Ritaj

12:30 - 1:00 PM

Drive to location

1:00 - 2:00 PM

Meeting with Major General Jibril Rajoub

An opportunity to hear the current state of affairs in the West Bank and the Fatah's interests and priorities regarding the war in Gaza, the US-Palestinian relationship, and creating a political horizon for Palestinians.

Location: Ramallah

2:00 - 2:30 PM

Drive to Jalazone Refugee Camp

2:30 - 3:45 PM

UNRWA Site Visit: Briefing on Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza and the West Bank

We will hear from UNRWA representatives at the Jalazone Refugee Camp about providing services both in the West Bank and in Gaza, and the impact of recent Israeli legislation on UNRWA operations.

Speakers:

Roland Friedrich, Director of UNRWA Affairs in the West Bank
Sam Rose, Director of UNRWA Affairs-Gaza Field

Location: Jalazone Girls School, UNRWA Jalazone Camp

3:45 - 5:15 PM

Drive to Jerusalem

5:15 - 7:15 PM

Executive Time

7:15 - 7:30 PM

Walk to dinner

7:30 - 9:00 PM

Dinner Discussion: Regional Challenges and Opportunities

Discussion on Iran's role in the region and its impact on Israeli and Gulf security, opportunities for defense cooperation and shifting alliances, and what it means for US interests.

Speakers: Nimrod Novik, Executive Team, Commanders for Israel's Security (CIS)

Location: Sea Dolphin, Shim'on Ben Shatakh St 9, Jerusalem

Hotel:

Prima Royale Hotel | Mendele Mokher Sfarim St 3, Jerusalem | +972 2 560 7111

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27: WEST BANK IN THE SHADOW OF WAR

8:00 - 9:15 AM

Introduction to Settlements

Overview of the history and evolution of the Israeli settler movement, including long-term vision and strategy.

Speaker: Yehuda Shaul, Ofek - The Israeli Center for Public Affairs

Location: Prima Royale Hotel

9:15 - 11:00 AM

Settlement Tour en route to Hebron

Learn about the geopolitical significance of the settlements, their role in Israeli security, and potential territorial solutions.

Speaker: Yehuda Shaul, Ofek - The Israeli Center for Public Affairs

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Walking tour of Hebron

Sometimes described as a microcosm of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Hebron is an ancient holy city and home to over 200,000 Palestinians and close to 1,000 Israeli settlers who live in guarded enclaves in the middle of the city. We will be guided by former Israeli soldiers who served in the city on a tour of downtown, see both Jewish areas of the city and checkpoints, learning how life in the city has changed over time. On this walking tour of Hebron, we will visit the H2 area, see checkpoints in the city and see the Jewish settlement of Hebron.

Speaker: Yehuda Shaul, Ofek - The Israeli Center for Public Affairs

1:00 - 1:45 PM

Drive to South Hebron Hills + Lunch on the bus

1:45 - 3:30 PM

Site Visit to Palestinian Villages of Zanuta and Umm al-Khair

Hear firsthand from Palestinians living in the South Hebron Hills in Area C of the West Bank, in communities under pending demolition orders.

3:30 - 5:00 PM

Drive to Jerusalem

5:00 - 6:15 PM

Executive time

6:15 - 7:15 PM

Meeting with Ministry of Foreign Affairs

In this meeting, we will discuss Israel's foreign policy priorities and the relationship the MFA has with the US Congress.

Speaker: Dor Shapira, Head of the North America Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Location: Prima Royale Hotel

7:15 - 7:30 PM

Walk to dinner

7:30 - 9:15 PM

Dinner: Peacebuilding in the Current Moment

Hear from Israeli and Palestinian peace and human rights leaders about their work, how it has been impacted by the war and their vision for the future.

Speakers:

Nivine Sandouka, Regional Director, ALLMEP

Gidon Bromberg, Executive Director, EcoPeace Middle East
Maisam Jaljuli, CEO, Tsofen-Tashbik
Robi Damelin, Parents Circle - Families Forum

Location: Tmol Shilshom, Yo'el Moshe Salomon St 5, Jerusalem

Hotel: Prima Royale Hotel | Mendele Mokher Sfarim St 3, Jerusalem | +972 2 560 7111

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28: JERUSALEM - TODAY'S REALITY + DAY AFTER

8:00 - 8:30 AM Drive to Jerusalem Old City

8:30 - 11:30 AM

Old City Geopolitical Tour

We will visit the major Jewish, Muslim, and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem – including the Al Aqsa Mosque/Temple Mount, the Western Wall, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre – and learn about the city's religious, historic, and political significance.

Guide: Hava Schwartz

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Walk to lunch

12:00 - 1:30 PM

Lunch at the Educational Bookshop in East Jerusalem

We will be joined by Palestinian residents who are active in public or private spheres in East Jerusalem. We will hear about the challenges and opportunities that Palestinians in East Jerusalem face.

Speakers:

Mahmoud Muna, Manager, Educational Bookshop

Ahmad Muna, Assistant Manager, Educational Bookshop

Location: Educational Bookshop, Salah Ad-din St 19, Jerusalem

1:30 - 3:30 PM

East Jerusalem Geopolitical Tour

A tour of East Jerusalem consisted of stops at viewpoints overlooking areas of contention in East Jerusalem to evaluate the latest developments in Jerusalem and their impact on a potential solution for the core issue of Jerusalem.

Guide: Daniel Seidemann, Terrestrial Jerusalem

3:30 - 4:30 PM

Meeting with DCM Stephanie Hallett and Incoming DCM David Brownstein

Discuss US policy in the region, the current approach and priorities of the administration, specifically as it relates to ending the war in Gaza and the role of the US in shaping the post-war reality.

Location: Prima Royale Hotel

4:30 - 5:45 PM

Check out of Hotel

5:45 - 6:30 PM

Load luggage on to bus + Drive to dinner

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Farewell dinner

Each participant will have the opportunity to share their takeaways from the past week how this experience will impact their work.

Location: Andalucia, Ze'ev Raban St 2, Jerusalem

8:20 PM

Depart for Ben Gurion Airport

11:25 PM

UA0091 departs from Ben Gurion Airport (Maha Syed, Caroline Jones, Willie Lyles, Sara Engelhard, Mackenzie Fallt, Laney O'Shea)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

4:10 AM

UA0091 arrives at Newark Liberty International Airport

6:00 AM

UA1366 departs from Newark Liberty International Airport (Sara Engelhard, Maha Syed)

7:00 AM

UA4434 departs from Newark Liberty International Airport (Mackenzie Fallt, Laney O'Shea, Caroline Jones, Willie Lyles)

7:19 AM

UA1366 arrives at Washington Dulles International Airport

8:21 AM

UA4434 arrives at Washington Ronald Reagan National Airport

Actual Per-Person Expenses List:

On-site Logistics Coordinator - \$690

Tour bus for duration of trip - \$833

Meeting Room Rentals - \$310

Speaker Honoraria - \$231

Printing - 72\$

Security - \$409

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:

J Street Education Fund

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

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

a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**

b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**

c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

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

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

Please see attached

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

6. Date of Departure: August 22, 2025 Date of Return: August 29, 2025

7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC

b. Destination(s): Tel Aviv

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:

JSEF is a non-profit organization that works to promote a nuanced understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. JSEF alone has planned the trip, chosen the attendees, and shaped the itinerary.

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): _____
\$141

2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____
To see issues related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

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

Hotel Name: Port Tower City: Tel Aviv Cost Per Night: \$252

Reason(s) for Selecting: The hotel is a popular choice due to proximity, security, and comfort.

Hotel Name: Prima Royale City: Jerusalem Cost Per Night: \$156

Reason(s) for Selecting: The hotel is a popular choice due to proximity, security, and comfort.

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

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

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

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

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$3,000	\$1,050	\$750
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	Please see attached	Please see attached
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: July 15, 2025
 Name: Jeremy Ben-Ami Title: President
 Organization: J Street Education Fund
 Address: P.O. Box 66073, Washington DC 20035
 Email: cooperboyar@jstreet.org Telephone: 9173121869

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

In addition to the above Traveler Form, please note the following attachments:

- I. PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM
- II. PARTICIPANT LIST
- III. ADDITIONAL EXPENSES
- IV. ORIGINAL INVITATION
- V. DELEGATION ITINERARY

ATTACHMENT II: PARTICIPANT LIST

As staff for Members of Congress, the following trip participants are asked to understand and recommend votes on legislation related to the issues that will be addressed on this trip surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, US foreign aid, and other policies related to Middle East issues.

Evan Ashy, Office of Rep. Fields
Sara Engelhard, Office of Rep. Doggett
Mackenzie Fallt, Office of Rep. Crow
Caroline Jones, Office of Rep. Moulton
Willie Lyles III, Office of Rep. Carter
Laney O'Shea, Office of Rep. Conaway
Hannah Singer, Office of Rep. Brownley
Maha Syed, Office of VA-11

ATTACHMENT III. ADDITIONAL PER-PERSON EXPENSES

Logistics Coordinator fee - \$490

Tour Guide - \$45

Tour bus for duration of trip - \$565

Meeting room rentals - \$120

Speaker honoraria - \$360

Printing - \$60

Security - \$250



Willie Lyles III
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Willie,

We are pleased to invite you to join a delegation of congressional staff for an educational trip to Israel and the West Bank sponsored by the J Street Education Fund (JSEF). The trip, which will be on the ground for five days, will depart DC on Friday, August 22, and return to the US in the morning on Friday, August 29.

Through this trip, JSEF hopes to provide an opportunity for congressional staff to see the reality of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict post-October 7th, focusing on the current crisis and plans for a path forward from what is arguably the lowest point in this conflict to date. This delegation will give congressional staff a unique perspective on what is at stake in the region and how American leadership can help bring about peace.

All trip related expenses will be paid for by JSEF in compliance with House Ethics Committee rules. At least 30 days prior to departure, participants are responsible for submitting relevant paperwork in order to join this delegation.

Prior to the trip, JSEF will conduct a briefing to provide background information and logistics for staff in preparation for their visit.

I hope that you will be able to join us on this important, thought-provoking, and educational trip. If you have any questions, please contact Cooper Boyar at (917) 312-1869, or at cooperboyar@jstreet.org, at any time to discuss the details of the sponsored trip and our organization.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Ben-Ami
President
J Street Education Fund

The J Street Education Fund (JSEF) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that does not hire or retain registered lobbyists. JSEF is a member of the J Street family of pro-Israel, pro-peace organizations.



The Len Hill Education Program

Dedicated to providing American policy makers and opinion leaders with balanced information that lays the groundwork for pursuing Israeli-Palestinian peace through diplomacy.

August 22-29, 2025

ITINERARY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

Early Evening Flights Depart DCA/Dulles

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

Afternoon Flights arrive in Tel Aviv. Drive to the hotel and check in

7:00 PM Drive to dinner

7:30 - 9:00 PM

Welcome Dinner: Overview of the Current Moment in Israel
Journalist Neri Zilber will provide an overview of the current political moment in Israel in light of the Israel-Hamas war.

Speaker: Neri Zilber, Journalist and Middle East Politics Analyst

Location: Porter & Sons, HaArba'a St 14, Tel Aviv-Yafo

9:00 - 9:30 PM

Rally to Bring Home the Hostages

The group will stop by to observe the rally calling for a deal to end the war and return all of the hostages.

Location: Hostages Square, Tel Aviv-Yafo

Hotel:

Port Tower Hotel | Hayarkon 300, Tel Aviv-Yafo | +972 3 715 6666

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

8:30 - 8:45 AM

Drive to Hostages Square

8:45 - 9:45 AM

Meeting with Hostages Families Forum

We will hear from Israelis who have family members held hostage in the Gaza Strip about the condition of their loved ones and advocacy for their release. Hostage Square, located outside of the Tel Aviv Museum, was established by the Hostages Families Forum and is used as a hub to protest, showcase exhibitions, and express solidarity in support of the families.

Speaker: Maya Roman

Location: Hostages Square, Tel Aviv

9:45 - 10:15 AM

Tour of Hostages Square

An opportunity to walk around and see the exhibits on display at Hostages Square.

10:15 - 10:30 AM

Walk to American Zionist House, 1 Daniel Frisch Street, Tel Aviv

10:30 - 11:45 AM

Israeli-Palestinian Conflict 101

This session will serve as an orientation, with the goal of framing the week ahead in light of the history, geography, and political dynamics in the region.

Speaker: Adina Vogel Ayalon, J Street

Location: American Zionist House

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Short break

12:00 - 1:30 PM

Lunch Briefing: Israeli Politics and Public Opinion 101

An introduction to the Israeli political system, including structure, political parties, and political trends.

Speaker: Tal Elovits, Public Policy Consultant

Location: American Zionist House

1:30 - 2:15 PM

Israeli Political Meeting (TBC)

We will meet with a Member of the Israeli Knesset to discuss the current state of affairs in Israel, their vision regarding the future of the Israel-Hamas war, and the US-Israel relationship.

Location: American Zionist House

2:15 - 3:00 PM **Israeli Political Meeting (TBC)**

Location: American Zionist House

3:00 - 3:15 PM Drive to hotel

3:15 - 5:15 PM Executive Time

5:15 - 6:00 PM **Israeli Political Meeting (TBC)**

Location: Port Hotel

6:00 - 7:00 PM **Conversation: Looking Forward - Israeli Strategy and Constructive Policy**
A conversation on Israel's security landscape, public discourse, and evolving challenges post-October 7.

Speakers:
Maj. Gen (Res) Nimrod Sheffer, former head of the IDF Planning Directorate
Shira Efron, Policy Advisor, Israel Policy Forum

Location: Port Hotel

7:00 - 7:30 PM Drive to Dinner

7:30 - 9:15 PM **Dinner with Israeli Colleagues**
Meet with Israeli leaders in the liberal camp to discuss the challenges and strategies of building political power and advancing progressive domestic and foreign policy.

Guests:
Ibrahim Abu Ahmad, Geopolitical Expert
Eran Nissan, CEO, Mehazkim
Naomi Sternberg, Gender & Conflict Resolution at the Geneva Initiative
Achiya Schatz, CEO, Fakereporter
Nadav Salzberg, Spokesperson for MK Gilad Kariv
Hadas Zangi, Head of the Young Democrats

Location: Ola Ola, Simtat HaCarmel 27, Tel Aviv-Yafo

Hotel: Port Tower Hotel | Hayarkon 300, Tel Aviv-Yafo | +972 3 715 6666

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

- 8:00 - 8:30 AM Bring Luggage to lobby + Drive to Machane Aviv
- 8:30 - 10:00 AM** **IDF Briefing Strategic Briefing**
The security briefing by the IDF will acquaint us with the major security threats Israel faces today, IDF goals and priorities for the ongoing war in Gaza and other fronts, as well as for addressing the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.
- Speaker:** TBC
Location: Machane Aviv
- 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM** **Bus Briefing en route to Gaza Envelope**
Overview of Israeli policy towards the Gaza strip pre-October 7, the situation on the ground and the humanitarian crisis, and Israeli policies and barriers regarding humanitarian assistance.
- Speaker:** Ma'ayan Cohen, Resource Development Coordinator, Gisha - Legal Center for Freedom of Movement
- 12:00 - 12:45 PM Lunch at Kibbutz Alumim
- 12:45 - 1:00 PM Drive to Kibbutz Kfar Aza
- 1:00 - 2:45 PM** **Tour of the Gaza Envelope: Witnessing the Destruction of Israeli Border Communities**
We will be led on a tour by a resident of Kibbutz Kfar Aza to hear firsthand about the October 7 attacks and how the community has fared since.
- Guide:** Chen Kotler
Location: Kibbutz Kfar Aza
- 2:45 - 3:00 PM Drive to NOVA site

3:00 - 3:30 PM

NOVA site visit

We will visit the site where the Nova music festival took place. Since the massacre on Oct. 7, the site has become a memorial to those killed.

3:30 - 5:30 PM

Drive to Jerusalem

5:30 - 7:15 PM

Check in to hotel + Executive Time

7:15 - 7:30 PM

Drive to the Dinner

7:30 - 9:00 PM

Group Dinner

A chance to debrief and discuss questions for the remainder of the program.

Location: Piccolino

Hotel:
7111

Prima Royale Hotel | Mendele Mokher Sfarim St 3, Jerusalem | +972 2 560

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

8:00 - 9:00 AM

Drive to Sha'ar Binyamin

9:00 - 10:00 AM

Meeting with Binyamin Regional Council

We will have an opportunity to hear directly from Israeli settlers living in the West Bank, about their lives and their hopes for the future.

Speaker: Eliana Passentin, Head of Binyamin Regional Council
International Affairs

Location: Sha'ar Binyamin

10:00 - 10:30 AM

Drive to Jalazone Refugee Camp

10:30 - 11:45 AM

UNRWA Site Visit: Briefing on Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza and the West Bank

We will hear from UNRWA representatives at the Jalazone Refugee Camp about providing services both in the West Bank and in Gaza, and the impact of recent Israeli legislation on UNRWA operations.

Speaker: Roland Friedrich, Director of UNRWA Affairs in the West Bank

Location: Jalazone Girls School, UNRWA Jalazone Camp

11:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Drive to Ritaj Managerial Solutions

12:15 - 1:15 PM

Lunch Briefing: Palestinian Politics 101

We will discuss the history of the Palestinian national movement, the post-Oslo system of governance in the West Bank, and the current state of Palestinian politics.

Speaker: Sam Bahour Co-founder & Emeritus Member, Americans for a Vibrant Palestinian Economy (A4VPE)

Location: Ritaj

1:15 - 1:30 PM

Short break

1:30 - 2:30 PM

Palestinian Public Opinion

We will learn about the state of Palestinian public opinion regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Palestinian politics, and internal Palestinian social and cultural issues.

Speaker: TBC

Location: Ritaj

2:30 - 4:00 PM

Palestinian Authority Political Meeting TBC

We will discuss the current state of affairs in the West Bank and the Palestinian Authority's interests and priorities regarding the war in Gaza, the US-Palestinian relationship, and creating a political horizon for Palestinians.

Speaker: TBC

Location: TBC

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Drive to Jerusalem

5:30 - 7:15 PM

Executive Time

7:15 - 7:30 PM

Drive to dinner

7:30 - 9:00 PM

Dinner Discussion: Regional Challenges and Opportunities

Discussion on Iran's role in the region and its impact on Israeli and Gulf security, opportunities for defense cooperation and shifting alliances, and what it means for US interests.

Speaker: Nimrod Novik, Executive Team, Commanders for Israel's Security (CIS)

Location: Sea Dolphin

Hotel: Prima Royale Hotel | Mendele Mokher Sfarim St 3, Jerusalem | +972 2 560 7111

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

8:00 - 9:00 AM

Introduction to Settlements

Overview of the Israeli settlement enterprise, the history, strategy, and vision of the settler movement.

Speaker: Yehuda Shaul, Ofek - The Israeli Center for Public Affairs

Location: Prima Royale Hotel

9:00 - 11:00 AM

Settlement Tour en route to Hebron

Learn about the geopolitical significance of the settlements, their role in Israeli security, and potential territorial solutions.

Guide: Yehuda Shaul, Ofek - The Israeli Center for Public Affairs

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Walking Tour of Hebron

On this walking tour of Hebron, we will visit the H2 area, see checkpoints in the city and see the Jewish settlement of Hebron.

Guide: Nadav Weinman, Executive Director, Breaking the Silence

1:00 - 1:30 PM

Drive to South Hebron Hills + Lunch on the bus

1:30 - 3:00 PM

Site Visit to Palestinian Village in Area C

We will hear directly from residents about life in the South Hebron Hills in Area C of the West Bank, in communities under pending demolition orders.

3:00 - 5:00 PM

Drive to Jerusalem

5:00 - 6:15 PM

Executive time

6:15 - 7:15 PM

Meeting with Ministry of Foreign Affairs

In this meeting, we will discuss Israel's foreign policy priorities and the relationship the MFA has with the US Congress.

Speaker: Elad Stromayer, Director of the Department for Congressional Affairs at the North American Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jerusalem.

Location: Prima Royale Hotel

7:15 - 7:30 PM

Drive to dinner

7:30 - 9:15 PM

Dinner: Peacebuilding in the Current Moment

Alliance for Middle East Peace (ALLMEP) will lead a dinner discussion on peace work in the current moment, with an emphasis on the impact of MEPPA funding cuts on the peace movement.

Speakers:

Nivine Sandouka, Regional Director, ALLMEP

Gidon Bromberg, Executive Director, EcoPeace Middle East

Maisam Jaljuli, CEO, Tsofen-Tashbik

Robi Damelin, Parents Circle - Families Forum

Location: Tmol Shilshom

Hotel:
7111

Prima Royale Hotel | Mendele Mokher Sfarim St 3, Jerusalem | +972 2 560

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

8:00 - 8:30 AM

Drive to Old City

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Old City Tour

We will visit the major Jewish, Muslim, and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem – including the Al Aqsa Mosque/Temple Mount – and learn about the city's religious, historic, and political significance.

Guide: Hava Schwartz

12:00 - 12:30 PM	Drive to lunch
12:30 - 2:00 PM	<p>Lunch at the Educational Bookshop in East Jerusalem</p> <p><i>We will be joined by Palestinian residents who are active in public or private spheres in East Jerusalem. We will hear about the challenges and opportunities that Palestinians in East Jerusalem face.</i></p> <p><u>Speakers:</u> Mahmoud Muna, Manager, Educational Bookshop Ahmad Muna, Assistant Manager, Educational Bookshop</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Educational Bookshop, Salah Ad-din St 19, Jerusalem</p>
2:00 - 3:30 PM	<p>East Jerusalem Geopolitical Tour</p> <p><i>The group will stop at viewpoints overlooking areas of contention in East Jerusalem to evaluate the latest developments in Jerusalem and their impact on a potential solution for the core issue of Jerusalem.</i></p> <p><u>Guide:</u> Daniel Seidemann, Terrestrial Jerusalem</p>
3:30 - 4:30 PM	<p>Meeting with the US Embassy</p> <p><i>Discuss US policy in the region, the current approach and priorities of the administration, specifically as it relates to policies and actions that advance an end of the war in Gaza, as well as the role of the US in shaping the post-war reality.</i></p> <p><u>Speaker:</u> TBC</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Prima Royale Hotel</p>
4:30 - 5:45 PM	Check out of Hotel
5:45 - 6:30 PM	Load luggage on to bus + drive to dinner
6:30 - 8:00 PM	<p>Farewell dinner</p> <p><i>Each participant will have the opportunity to share their takeaways from the past week how this experience will impact their work in the US.</i></p> <p><u>Location:</u> Andalucia</p>
8:30 PM	Depart for Ben Gurion Airport

Late Evening

Flights Depart Tel Aviv

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

Friday, August 29

Late Morning

Flights Arrive at DCA/Dulles

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Willie Lyles, III
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: J Street Education Fund
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Israel and The West Bank
4. a. Date of Departure: August 22, 2025 Date of Return: August 29, 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 Chief of Staff to Congressman Carter, this STAFFDEL will provide tremendous insight on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. We are scheduled to meet with members of the Israeli and Palestinian governments, gaining a better understanding of the barriers to peace and how Congress should fashion a legislative response to eliminate or mitigate those barriers.

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: 7-22-25

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 21, 2025

Mr. Willie Lyles, III
Office of the Honorable Troy A. Carter
442 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Lyles:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for August 22 to 29, 2025, sponsored by J Street Education Fund.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$480 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Guest". The first letter "M" is large and loops around the first few letters of the name.

Michael Guest
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark DeSaulnier". The signature is stylized and compact.

Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:amr