

Mr. Richard C. Visek
Principal Deputy Legal Adviser and
Designated Agency Ethics Official
Office of the Legal Adviser
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

October 14, 2021

Re: Ethics Undertakings

Dear Mr. Visek:

The purpose of this letter is to describe the steps that I will take to avoid any actual or apparent conflict of interest in the event that I am confirmed as the Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa. It is my responsibility to understand and comply with commitments outlined in this agreement.

SECTION 1 – GENERAL COMMITMENTS

As required by the criminal conflicts of interest law at 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which I know that I have a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which I know that a person whose interests are imputed to me has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the particular matter, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me:

- Any spouse or minor child of mine;
- Any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner;
- Any organization in which I serve as an officer, director, trustee, general partner, or employee; and
- Any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

In the event that an actual or potential conflict of interest arises during my appointment, I will consult with an agency ethics official and take the measures necessary to resolve the conflict, such as recusal from the particular matter or divestiture of an asset.

In addition, I will recuse myself from participation on a case-by-case basis in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I determine that a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would question my impartiality in that matter, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to the impartiality regulations at 5 C.F.R. Part 2635, Subpart E.

I understand that a heightened prospect of a conflict of interest could exist as to companies that maintain a presence in South Africa, because they may be more likely than other

companies to seek official assistance from or make other contact with the Embassy or otherwise be affected by policies and engagement implemented by the Embassy. I will remain alert to the possible need for recusal where appropriate.

I have a managed account. I will direct the account manager to obtain my prior approval on a case-by-case basis for the purchase of any assets other than cash, cash equivalents, investment funds that qualify for the regulatory exemption for diversified mutual funds and unit investment trusts at 5 C.F.R. § 2640.201(a), obligations of the United States, or municipal bonds. I will monitor whether the account manager is following this direction regarding prior approval.

I understand that as an appointee I will be required to sign the Ethics Pledge (Exec. Order No. 13989) and that I will be bound by it. Among other obligations, I will be required to recuse from particular matters involving specific parties involving my former employer or former clients for a period of two years after I am appointed, with the exception of federal, state and local government.

I will receive a live ethics briefing from a member of the ethics office after my confirmation but not later than 15 days after my appointment pursuant to the ethics program regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305. Within 90 days of my confirmation, I will submit my Certification of Ethics Agreement Compliance which documents my compliance with this ethics agreement.

I will not modify this ethics agreement without your approval and the approval of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics pursuant to the ethics agreement requirements contained in the financial disclosure regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2634.803(a)(4).

SECTION 2 – RESIGNATIONS

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my positions with the following entities:

- University of the South
- McLarty Associates
- Crowley Solutions
- SAIC

Pursuant to the impartiality regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502, for a period of one year after my resignation from each of these entities, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know that entity is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d). In addition, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know a former client of mine is a party or represents a party for a period of one year after I last provided service to that client, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

SECTION 3 – SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT

My spouse is employed by Washington Adventist Hospital, in a position for which she receives a fixed annual salary. Pursuant to the impartiality regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502, for as long as my spouse continues to work for Washington Adventist Hospital, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know Washington Adventist Hospital, is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

My spouse is also employed on a part-time basis by Inova Health Care Services, in a position for which she receives a fixed salary. Pursuant to the impartiality regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502, for as long as my spouse continues to work for Inova Health Care Services, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know Inova Health Care Services, is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

SECTION 4 – FAMILY TRUST

I will retain my position as a trustee of the Family Revocable Trust. I will not receive any fees for the services that I provide as a trustee during my appointment to the position of Ambassador. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of the Family Revocable Trust, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2).

SECTION 5 – PUBLIC POSTING

I have been advised that this ethics agreement and the Certification of Ethics Agreement Compliance will be posted publicly, consistent with the public information law at 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with ethics agreements of other Presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'REB II', with a stylized flourish above the letters.

Reuben E. Brigety, II