



U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, D.C. 20530

David J. Apol, Acting Director
and General Counsel
Office of Government Ethics
Suite 500
1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005-3919

MAY 22 2018

Dear Mr. Apol:

In accordance with the provisions of Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 as amended, I am forwarding the financial disclosure report of Maria Chapa Lopez. President Trump has nominated Ms. Lopez to serve as United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida.

We have conducted a thorough review of the enclosed report and have counseled Ms. Lopez on the ethics rules. Although it is not possible to provide for all of the specific circumstances which might give rise to a financial conflict of interest because the work of United States Attorneys involves a wide variety of matters involving specific parties, and it is not possible to predict where conflicts will arise until specific parties are identified, we have counseled Ms. Lopez on the applicable conflict-of-interest laws and regulations and, in particular, on the application of 18 U.S.C. § 208.

As required by 18 U.S.C. § 208 and the provisions of 5 C.F.R. § 2635.401 et seq., Ms. Lopez will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which she knows that she has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which she knows that a person whose interests are imputed to her has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, unless she first obtains a written waiver, pursuant to Section 208(b)(1), or qualifies for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to Section 208(b)(2). Ms. Lopez understands that the interests of the following persons are imputed to her: her spouse; minor children; any general partner of a partnership in which she is a limited or general partner; any organization in which she serves as an officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which she is negotiating or has an arrangement concerning prospective employment. In determining whether a particular matter has a direct and predictable effect on her financial interests or on those of any other person whose interests are imputed to her, Ms. Lopez will consult with the Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA), General Counsel's Office, and will follow the procedures outlined in the United States Attorneys' Manual, Section 3-2.170 et seq. As stated in the attachment to this Ethics Agreement, Ms. Lopez understands and agrees to comply with the conflict of interest statute and regulations, and to follow the procedures set forth in this agreement.

Ms. Lopez has been advised that the duties of the position of United States Attorney may involve particular confidential matters identified by the United States Attorney's Office (USAO) that may affect her financial interests. EOUSA has determined that it is not necessary at this time for Ms. Lopez to divest her financial interests because her recusal from particular matters in which these interests pose a conflict of interest will not substantially limit her ability to perform the essential duties of the position of United States Attorney. Immediately upon confirmation, EOUSA will prepare recusals for all particular matters in which Ms. Lopez will not be granted a waiver or will not qualify for a regulatory exemption.

Upon confirmation, Ms. Lopez will resign from Mary Kay Inc. For a period of one year after her resignation, she will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which that organization is a party or represents a party, unless she is first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 CFR § 2635.502(d).

Ms. Lopez's spouse is an employee with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Florida. For as long as her spouse holds this position, Ms. Lopez will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which she knows the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Florida is a party or represents a party, unless she is first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

The USAO has conducted a conflict review, and has found no additional conflicts of interest. Should additional conflicts arise, the USAO will seek the necessary waiver(s) or recusal(s) of the nominee immediately upon her confirmation. An appropriate screening mechanism will be identified and immediately upon appointment of the new United States Attorney, all necessary USAO personnel will be advised in writing of all matters in which the new United States Attorney may not participate. The notification will specifically list the matters and identify the Acting United States Attorney for those matters.

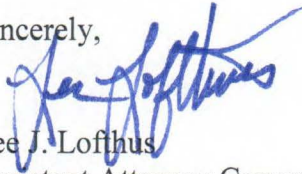
Ms. Lopez will meet in person with the United States Attorney's Office ethics advisor during the first week of her service in the position of United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida in order to complete the initial ethics briefing required under 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305. Within 90 days of her confirmation, she will document her compliance with this ethics agreement by notifying the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, General Counsel's Office, in writing when she has completed the steps described in this ethics agreement.

Ms. Lopez has been advised that this ethics agreement will be posted publicly, consistent with 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.

Finally, Ms. Lopez understands that as an appointee she is required to sign the Ethics Pledge (Exec. Order No. 13770) and that she will be bound by the requirements and restrictions therein in addition to the commitments she has made in this ethics agreement.

Based on the above agreements and counseling, I am satisfied that the report presents no conflicts of interest under applicable laws and regulations and that you can so certify to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

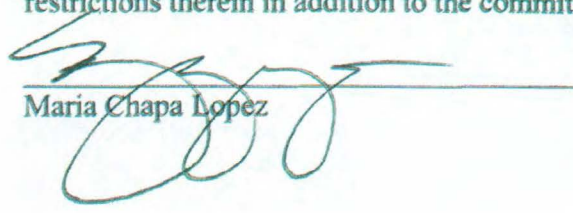


Lee J. Lofthus
Assistant Attorney General
For Administration and
Designated Agency Ethics Official

Enclosure

NOMINEE STATEMENT

I have read the attached Ethics Agreement signed by Lee J. Lofthus, Assistant Attorney General for Administration and Designated Agency Ethics Official on May 22, 2018, and I agree to comply with the conflict of interest statute and regulations, and to follow the procedures set forth in the agreement. In addition, I understand that as an appointee I am required to sign the Ethics Pledge (Exec. Order No. 13770) and that I will be bound by the requirements and restrictions therein in addition to the commitments I have made in this ethics agreement.



Maria Chapa Lopez

May 22, 2018

Date