

Date: January 22, 2019

Richard C. Visek
Principal Deputy Legal Adviser and
Designated Agency Ethics Official
U.S. Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520-6310

Re: Ethics Undertakings

Dear Mr. Visek:

I am committed to the highest standards of ethical conduct for government employees. If I am appointed as Director of the Office of Foreign Missions for the Department of State, as required by 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 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 officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

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 5 C.F.R. Part 2635, Subpart E.

If I have a managed account during my appointment, 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 exemption 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.

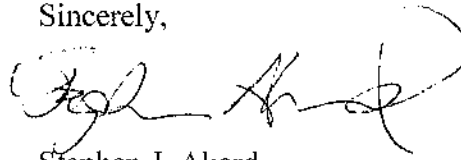
I understand that as an appointee I must continue to abide by the Ethics Pledge (Exec. Order 13770) that I previously signed and that I will be bound by the requirements and restrictions therein in addition to the commitments I have made in this ethics agreement.

I will receive a live ethics briefing from a member of the ethics office after my confirmation but no later than 15 days after my appointment as required under 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305, unless granted an extension under that regulation. Within 90 days of my confirmation,

I will document my compliance with this ethics agreement by notifying you in writing when I have completed the steps described in this ethics agreement.

I have 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen J. Akard", with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Stephen J. Akard