

January 26, 2018

Christian S. White
Designated Agency Ethics Official
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Room H-594
Washington, D.C. 20580

Dear Mr. White:

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 for the position of Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission.

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.

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

If I rely on a *de minimis* exemption under 5 C.F.R. § 2640.201(b) with regard to any of my financial interests in sector mutual funds, I will monitor the value of those interests. If the aggregate value of my interests in sector mutual funds that concentrate in any one sector exceeds \$50,000, 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 any holdings of the funds that are in the specific sector in which the funds concentrate, 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).

If I have a managed account or otherwise use the services of an investment professional during my appointment, I will ensure that the account manager or investment professional obtains 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 meet in person with you during the first week of my service in the position of Commissioner in order to complete the initial ethics briefing required under 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305. 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 understand that as an appointee I will be 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.

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.

Finally, I understand that my obligation to comply with ethics laws and regulations is ongoing and will require vigilance regarding any changes in my financial interests, the financial interests of persons and organizations imputed to me under the ethics laws and regulations, and other outside interests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Noah J. Phillips", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Noah Joshua Phillips