

September 23, 2021

John Einstman
Designated Agency Ethics Official
Legal Division
U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20581

Dear Mr. Einstman:

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 for the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"). It is my responsibility to understand and comply with commitments outlined in this agreement.

SECTION 1 – GENERAL COMMITMENTS

As required by criminal conflicts of interest law 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.

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.

If I have a managed account or otherwise use the services of an investment professional during my appointment, then 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 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 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 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 myself 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 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 within the financial disclosure regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2634.803(a)(4).

SECTION 2- EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position as Senior Associate Dean of Faculty and Academics, however I will take an unpaid leave of absence from my position as Professor of Law at Emory University School of Law. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that, to my knowledge, has a direct and predictable effect upon the financial interests of Emory University, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for either the exemption for employees on leave from institutions of higher learning allowing participation in certain particular matters of general applicability at 5 C.F.R. § 2640.203(b), or another regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2).

SECTION 3- OTHER RESIGNATIONS

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position with the:

- Association for the Promotion of Political Economy.

Additionally, in December 2020, I resigned from my position with Tulane University. 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).

SECTION 4 – DIVESTITURES

As soon as practicable, but not later than 90 days after my confirmation, I will divest my interests in the following:

- Bitcoin (Coinbase account)

- The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.
- JPMorgan Chase & Co.

With regard to each of these entities and virtual currency, 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 entities or virtual currency until I have divested it, 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 have verified that I will be able to carry out the divestitures within the timeframe described above.

I understand that I may be eligible to request a Certificate of Divestiture for qualifying assets and that a Certificate of Divestiture is effective only if obtained prior to divestiture. Regardless of whether I receive a Certificate of Divestiture, I will ensure that all divestitures discussed in this agreement occur within the agreed upon timeframes and that all proceeds are invested in non-conflicting assets. I understand that I must submit in a timely fashion my request for a Certificate of Divestiture to allow for adequate time for OGE to process the Certificate of Divestiture, and in order to divest assets within the agreed upon timeframe.

I (including my spouse and dependent children if applicable) will not repurchase any asset I was required to divest without consulting with an agency ethics official and the U.S. Office of Government Ethics.

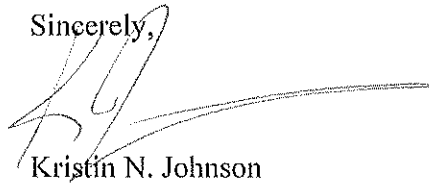
SECTION 5 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Before learning of my consideration for a possible nomination to a position at the CFTC, I completed work on a handbook on the subject of artificial intelligence and the law for Cambridge University Press. I may receive future royalties from Cambridge University Press for sales for the print or audio edition of the handbook. I understand that I may not work on this book or perform any other services for compensation during my appointment to the position of Commissioner. Pursuant to the impartiality regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know Cambridge University Press is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

SECTION 6 – 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 a 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 'Kristin N. Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kristin N. Johnson