

October 5, 2026

Mr. Stuart Bender
Designated Agency Ethics Official
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Mr. Bender:

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 Under Secretary of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs of the Department of Agriculture. 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, even if uncompensated; 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, 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 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 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 (OGE) 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 position with Aksarben Foundation. Additionally, I previously resigned from my positions with the following entities:

- FarmHouse Fraternity
- Flatwater Free Press

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 3 – FAMILY TRUST

I will retain my position as a trustee of Family Trust #1. I will not receive any fees for the services that I provide as a trustee during my appointment to the position of Under Secretary of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs. 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 Trust #1, 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 4 – AGRICULTURAL CONSULTING

Upon confirmation, I will cease providing any consulting services, including the representation of clients. All amounts owed to me by any of my clients will be fixed before I assume the duties of the position of Under Secretary of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, and I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the ability or willingness of any of these clients to pay these amounts. In addition, 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 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 5 – GTI, INC.

My spouse and I own GTI, Inc., a closely held corporation run by my spouse and my children. GTI Inc. participates in the USDA Conservation Stewardship Program and USDA commodity programs. I do not hold a position with this entity. I will continue to have a financial

interest in this entity, but I will not provide services material to the production of income. Instead, I will receive only passive investment income from it. 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 GTI, Inc. or any payments received from USDA programs, unless I first obtain a written waiver pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

SECTION 6 – FARMLAND

Through Family Trust #1 and Family Trust #2, my spouse and I own real property in Dawson County, Nebraska. This property is leased out for farming on a fixed cash basis to GTI, Inc. During my tenure as Under Secretary of Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, my spouse and I will maintain a fixed cash lease on the property. My spouse and I do not receive any other payments from this property. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on this property, unless I first obtain a written waiver pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

SECTION 7 – SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT

My spouse is employed by the State of Nebraska, in a position for which my spouse 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 the State of Nebraska, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know the State of Nebraska, is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

SECTION 8 – 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,
**Gregory A.
Ibach**

Gregory Ibach

Digitally signed by Gregory
A. Ibach
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