



U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, D.C. 20530

SEP 19 2019

Emory A. Rounds, III
Director
Office of Government Ethics
Suite 500
1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005-3919

Dear Mr. Rounds:

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 Mr. Ralph Sozio. President Trump has nominated Mr. Sozio to serve as the United States Marshal for the Southern District of New York. We have conducted a thorough review of the nominee's report and have counseled him on the government ethics rules.

As required by 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), Mr. Sozio will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which he knows that he has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which he knows that a person whose interests are imputed to him has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, unless he first obtains a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualifies for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). He understands that the interests of the following persons are imputed to him: his spouse; minor children; any general partner of a partnership in which he is a limited or general partner; any organization in which he serves as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which he is negotiating or has an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

Mr. Sozio was the sole owner of Sozio Consulting LLC, a holding company which held Eagles Nest Cigar Company LLC (Eagles Nest) as its sole asset. He sold Sozio Consulting LLC, including its asset Eagles Nest, on April 25, 2019. The purchaser dissolved Sozio Consulting on May 6, 2019. For a period of one year after the sale of Sozio Consulting, with its asset Eagles Nest, Mr. Sozio will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which he knows Eagles Nest is a party or represents a party, unless he is first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

Mr. Sozio resigned from his position as the managing member of 150 RS Pelham LLC on March 11, 2019. He will continue to have a financial interest in 150 RS Pelham LLC, but he will not provide services material to the production of income. Instead, he will receive only passive investment income from it. He will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to his knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of 150 RS Pelham LLC, unless he first obtains a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

If Mr. Sozio has a managed account or otherwise uses the services of an investment professional during his appointment, he will ensure that the account manager or investment professional obtains his 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), or obligations of the United States.

Mr. Sozio 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.

Mr. Sozio will meet live with United States Marshals Service ethics officials in connection with his appointment to the position of United States Marshal for the Southern District of New York during the timeframe established by 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305(b) in order to complete the initial ethics briefing required under 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305. Within 90 days of his confirmation, he will document his compliance with this ethics agreement by notifying United States Marshals Service ethics officials in writing when he has completed the steps described in this ethics agreement.

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

Based on the above agreements and counseling, I am satisfied that the enclosed report presents no conflicts of interest under applicable laws and regulations and that you may 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 Ethics Agreement signed by Lee J. Loftus, Assistant Attorney General for Administration and Designated Agency Ethics Official on Sept. 19, 2019, 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 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.

Ralph Sozio



Date: Sept. 19, 2019