

Ms. Katherine D. McManus
Deputy Legal Adviser and
Designated Agency Ethics Official
Office of the Legal Adviser
Department of State

Re: Ethics Undertakings

Dear Ms. McManus:

I am committed to the highest standards of ethical conduct for government officials. If confirmed as the Ambassador to the Republic of Liberia, 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.

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).

I understand that a heightened prospect of a conflict of interest could exist as to companies that maintain a presence in the Republic of Liberia, because they may be more likely than other companies to seek official assistance from or make other contact with the Embassy. I will remain alert to the possible need for recusal where appropriate.

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.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Elder
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12-16-20015