

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#); [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Wednesday, October 7, 2020
Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 11:54:53 AM

The Senate and House are not in session.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

FEDWeek reports on recent guidance from the Office of Government Ethics pertaining to federal employees who are considering writing a book related to their official duties. [Thinking of Writing a Book? Watch Out for Ethics Rules, Says OGE](#)

Multiple outlets report that Kanye West reported his financial assets and liabilities in an October filing as part of his run for president. [Kanye West reports financials in filing for his presidential run \(Bangor Daily News\)](#); [Names and faces \(Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette\)](#); [Kanye West discloses he's worth 'hundreds of millions of dollars' \(not billions!\) in documents filed as part of his presidential bid \(Daily Mail\)](#)

Modern Farmer also reports that Sonny Perdue, the head of the USDA, has been accused of several violations of the Hatch Act. [USDA Chief Under Fire for Alleged Hatch Act Violations](#)

The American Prospect discusses the strengths and weaknesses of Joe Biden's transition code of ethics. [The Biden Transition's Ethics Pledge Is a Paper Tiger](#)

The National Herald reports that President Trump's 2017 financial disclosure report indicated that he had stakes in the manufacturers of the antibody cocktail he's taken as part of his COVID-19 treatment. The article notes that the president's subsequent disclosure forms did not list those companies. [Trump Had Stakes in Regeneron and Gilead, Makers of Antibody Cocktail, Remdesivir](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

Government Executive reports that lawmakers have renewed their efforts to convince the Trump administration to allow federal employees to opt out of the controversial decision to defer payroll taxes across the executive and military service branches of the government. [Lawmakers Revive Push to Make Feds' Payroll Tax Deferral Optional](#)

FEDWeek reports that OPM has effectively put a hold on diversity type training in federal agencies pending its review of materials used for such training under a recent executive order. [OPM Review Requirement Effectively Suspends Diversity Training](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: Oct. 5 - Nov. 13

Senate: Oct. 12 - Nov. 6

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From: [Grant Anderson](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#); [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Friday, October 9, 2020
Date: Friday, October 9, 2020 3:25:53 PM

The Senate and House meet in pro forma sessions.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Multiple outlets report on a [letter](#) from the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) finding that Agriculture Secretary Perdue violated the Hatch Act. [Perdue rebuked for violating ethics law by boosting Trump's reelection \(Politico\)](#); [USDA head cited for breaking law by backing Trump reelection \(AP\)](#); [Special counsel raps Perdue for political talk on taxpayer dime \(Roll Call\)](#)

The New York Times and *Open Secrets* report on the president's financial disclosures and tax records. [Trump made more than \\$200 million from foreign business interests since 2016 \(Open Secrets\)](#); [Trump Engineered a Sudden Windfall in 2016 as Campaign Funds Dwindled \(New York Times\)](#)

Celebrity Net Worth reports on Kanye West's financial disclosure report. [Did A Federal Election Filing Just Expose Kanye West's Net Worth As "Hundreds Of Millions" Instead Of Billions? NO! Don't Believe The Headlines](#)

East Idaho News reports that a construction company owner pleaded guilty to paying a bribe to a FBI employee. [Businessman admits to bribing FBI employee during construction of Pocatello facility](#)

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Next Scheduled Recess:

House: Oct. 5 - Nov. 13

Senate: Oct. 12 - Nov. 6

From: [Sara Nekou](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#); [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Tuesday, April 20, 2021
Date: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 11:01:39 AM

The Senate convened at 10:00 a.m.

According to *CQ*, the Senate convened at 10 a.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act (S 937). At noon, the Senate will proceed to executive session and vote on the Schumer, D-N.Y., motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Gary Gensler to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission (reappointment). The Senate will then recess until 2:15 p.m. for weekly caucus lunches. At 2:15 p.m., if cloture is invoked on the Gensler nomination, the Senate will vote on confirmation.

The House reconvenes at 12:00 p.m.

According to *CQ*, the House reconvenes at noon for legislative business and is expected to consider a measure under suspension of the rules and take votes on 16 bills previously debated under suspension of the rules.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Additional outlets report that former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and his wife made over 100 requests for department employees to do tasks of a “personal nature,” possibly in violation of ethics standards. [Watchdog Finds the Pompeos Made Over 100 Requests of ‘Personal Nature’ to Staff \(Government Executive\)](#); [State Department watchdog says Pompeo, wife violated ethics rules \(Federal Times\)](#)

Business Insider reports that the Office of Government Ethics is refusing to sign off on Kanye West's financial disclosure forms from his failed 2020 presidential campaign. [A government ethics office refused to approve Kanye West's financial disclosures from his failed presidential campaign](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

Government Executive reports that a group of senators have introduced legislation to provide federal employees with up to 12 weeks of paid family leave per year to handle illnesses and other circumstances not covered in paid parental leave benefits passed into law in 2019. [Bill to Expand Paid Family Leave Benefits for Feds Introduced in Senate](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: April 23-May 10

Senate: May 3-7

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#); [News Clippings](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Wednesday April 21, 2021
Date: Wednesday, April 21, 2021 10:57:42 AM

The Senate convened at 10:30 a.m.

According to *CQ*, the Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Vanita Gupta to be associate attorney general. At approximately 11:30 a.m., the Senate will vote on the Schumer, D-N.Y., motion to invoke cloture on the Gupta nomination. If cloture is invoked, at approximately 2:15 p.m., the Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination. Legislative action related to the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act (S 937) is possible, but has not been scheduled.

The House reconvenes at 12:00 p.m.

According to *CQ*, the House reconvenes at noon for legislative business. The chamber is expected to consider a bill (HR 1573) that would require legal representation for all individuals entering the United States and a bill (HR 1333) that would prohibit immigration bans based on religion. The House also is expected to consider an additional measure under suspension of the rules and take a vote on one bill previously debated under suspension of the rules.

Legislative and Related News

The Hill reports that the Senate voted to approve Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Gary Gensler for a full five-year term after confirming him to the Wall Street watchdog last week. [Senate confirms SEC chief Gensler to full five-year term](#)

Federal News Network reports that leadership of the House Oversight and Reform Committee are calling for a new kind of investment in IG offices — greater independence from presidential firings, the authority to subpoena former federal employees and contractors, and more urgency within the White House to name permanent watchdogs to positions left vacant for years. [Bill to strengthen IG independence seeks to correct ‘unconscionable’ long-term vacancies](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Additional outlets report that the U.S. Office of Government Ethics declined to certify Kanye West’s public financial disclosure report from his failed 2020 presidential campaign. [Government Ethics Office Reportedly Declines to Certify Kanye West’s Financial Disclosures From 2020 Campaign \(Yahoo\)](#); [Kanye West’s Presidential Campaign Financial Disclosures Got Rejected By The Office Of Government Ethics \(Uproxx\)](#); [Kanye's Presidential Campaign Financial Disclosures Rejected By OGE: Report \(iHeartRadio\)](#); [Kanye West's Presidential Campaign Financial Disclosures Rejected By Federal Ethics Agency: Report \(Hot New Hip Hop\)](#)

Forbes reports that Wilbur Ross set up a new company in the Cayman Islands while still serving as the U.S. Secretary of Commerce and other activities by the former secretary. [Sly As A Fox: How Wilbur Ross Slipped Out Of Scandal And Back Into Business](#)

Patch reports that a NASA employee faces up to 30 years in prison for fraudulently applying for more than \$280,000 in COVID-19 relief loans and also admitted to filing a false financial disclosure report. [NASA Executive Pleads Guilty To \\$285K In PPP Loan Fraud](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

House: April 23 - May 10

Senate: May 3-7



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Resolved Interaction

Interaction Number: 24062

Initiation Date*:	2022-09-07
Title*:	Past presidential public financial disclosure reports
Question*:	<p>From: Frith Higgins [mailto:(b) (6)] Sent: Wednesday, September 7, 2022 7:42 AM To: Contact OGE <contactoge@oge.gov>; foia@oge.gov Subject: Past presidential public financial disclosure reports</p> <p>Past federal presidential elections candidate financial disclosure forms</p> <p>Hello, please advise how I may obtain a copy of the Public Financial Disclosure Report (OGE Form 278e) filed by the Obama campaign for the 2008 election and the Kanye West campaign and Elizabeth Warren campaign for the 2020 election. Thanks</p>
Update:	
Categories*:	278s
Origin Of Interaction*:	Email
Source*:	Non-Agency Public Citizen
First Name:	
Last Name:	
Title:	
Position:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Other Contact Notes:	
Assignment:	Shannon Monk
Watching:	
Temporary Notes:	
<i>created by:</i>	Shannon Monk

Resolution Information

Resolution Date*:	2022-09-07
Resolution Category*:	Resolved
Response*:	<p>Copies of the public financial disclosure reports (OGE Form 278/OGE Form 278-T), ethics agreements, and, Certificates of Divestiture filed with the United States Office of Government Ethics (OGE) are available here: https://www.oge.gov/web/OGE.nsf/Officials%20Individual%20Disclosures%20Search%20Collection?OpenForm</p> <p>If an OGE Form 201 is required to request a particular report, you will be prompted to complete the form. For those reports that are immediately available, you will find a link to immediately download the documents.</p> <p>If you cannot find a filer in the database, that individual's report may remain with the employing agency. You can find instructions for requesting these reports here: https://www.oge.gov/web/OGE.nsf/accessdocs_disclosure-quickstart?OpenForm (Assigned to: Shannon Monk)</p>
Complexity (level):	1 [Click to view/hide complexity guidelines]
Time Spent (hours):	0-1 hour
Contributor:	

<input type="button" value="reopen"/>	
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Interaction History Log	
Closed	09/07/2022 08:35:40 AM by Shannon Monk
Now Assigned: Shannon Monk	09/07/2022 08:35:40 AM by Shannon Monk

Division(s) assigned: PCD



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Resolved Interaction

Interaction Number: 23844

Initiation Date*:	2022-07-26
Title*:	Non-certification
Question*:	A question arose here about when it would be appropriate to decline to certify a financial disclosure report. I know that this is discussed in 5 CFR 2634.605, but I was looking for some real-world examples. More recently, I found the cases involving OGE's decision not to certify disclosures filed by Scott Pruitt, Steve Mnuchin, Wilbur Ross, and Kanye West (for his presidential nominee 278). Are you aware of any other examples from the past 10 years?
Update:	
Categories*:	278s, 450s
Origin Of Interaction*:	Email
Source*:	Agency (b)(5)
First Name:	
Last Name:	
Title:	
Position:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Other Contact Notes:	
Assignment:	Suzanne L. Meyer
Watching:	
Temporary Notes:	
<i>created by:</i>	Suzanne L. Meyer

Resolution Information

Resolution Date*:	2022-07-26
Resolution Category*:	Resolved
Response*:	<p>Thanks for your question.</p> <p>You cite many good, public examples of non-certification by OGE. If you have a specific question about certification, please let me know.</p> <p>Please take a look at the page on certification requirements from the Public Financial Disclosure Guide: https://www.oge.gov/Web/278eGuide.nsf/2cf9ac792bc0654a85257ea1005f838a/1cda7b970b4d4a4985257f460017bd90?OpenDocument and our advisory PA-22-02 where "Declined Certification" is discussed. That Program Advisory is also attached.</p> <p>Agency follow up:</p> <p>Thanks, Suzanne. I was wondering if you had any other examples to share.</p> <p>In the meantime, thanks for sharing the program advisory and the 278 guide. Can you confirm (b) (5)</p> <p>In other words, (b) (5)</p> <p>(b) (5)</p> <p>Response:</p>

<div style="background-color: black; color: red; padding: 2px;">(b) (5)</div> <div style="background-color: black; color: red; padding: 2px;">(b) (5)</div> <div style="background-color: black; color: red; padding: 2px;">For instance, (b) (5)</div> <div style="background-color: black; color: red; padding: 2px;">(b) (5)</div> <p><i>(Assigned to: Suzanne L. Meyer)</i></p>	
Complexity (level):	2 [Click to view/hide complexity guidelines]
Time Spent (hours):	1-4 hours
Contributor:	
<input type="button" value="reopen"/>	

Reopen Information	
Date:	2022-07-26
Reason:	.

Interaction History Log	
Closed	07/26/2022 04:26:58 PM by Suzanne L. Meyer
Reopen	07/26/2022 04:23:49 PM by Suzanne L. Meyer
Closed	07/26/2022 03:58:33 PM by Suzanne L. Meyer
Now Assigned: Suzanne L. Meyer	07/26/2022 03:58:33 PM by Suzanne L. Meyer

Division(s) assigned: PCD

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Resolved Interaction

Interaction Number: 25406

Initiation Date*:	2023-07-07
Title*:	Kanye West 2020 Presidential Candidate Financial Disclosure
Question*:	<p>Dear Sir/Madam:</p> <p>News reports stated that your office refused to certify Kanye West's financial disclosure form that he filed with your office during his 2020 campaign. I attach a copy.</p> <p>I could not find any reference on your website of any form filed by Mr. West or any issue relating to its certification. I am trying to determine what procedure was followed in this matter and whether it was resolved. Is his information that is available? Any guidance that you can give me is appreciated.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Matthew Wolfe</p>
Update:	
Categories*:	278s
Origin Of Interaction*:	Email
Source*:	Non-Agency Public Citizen
First Name:	Matthew
Last Name:	Wolfe
Title:	
Position:	
Email:	(b) (6)
Phone:	
Other Contact Notes:	
Assignment:	Elise Alvidrez-Peek
Watching:	
Temporary Notes:	
created by:	Elise Alvidrez-Peek

Resolution Information

Resolution Date*:	2023-07-07
Resolution Category*:	Resolved
Response*:	<p>Hello Matthew,</p> <p>Presidential candidates file their public financial disclosure reports with the Federal Election Commission (FEC). The FEC reviews these reports and then forwards them to OGE. OGE reviews the reports and makes them available on its website here: Officials' Individual Disclosures Search Collection. The reports first become available from the FEC https://www.fec.gov/. Please make note the retention period is one year after the filer is no longer a candidate. The candidate in which you reference below does not fall within this retention period.</p> <p>For additional information, please see: Who Files, Where They File, and How to Access Their Documents and Public Financial Disclosure FAQs</p>

	Thank you, Contact OGE U.S. Office of Government Ethics Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics (Assigned to: Elise Alvidrez-Peek)
Complexity (level):	N/A <input type="button" value="[Click to view/hide complexity guidelines]"/>
Time Spent (hours):	N/A
Contributor:	
<input type="button" value="reopen"/>	

Interaction History Log	
Closed	07/07/2023 02:35:19 PM by Elise Alvidrez-Peek
Now Assigned: Elise Alvidrez-Peek	07/07/2023 02:35:19 PM by Elise Alvidrez-Peek

Division(s) assigned: PCD

Aug 24, 2018 - Uploaded by Popcornflix
 Drug trafficking, assault, money laundering... Even the most high-profile and respected hip-hop stars face ...

Rap Sheet: Hip-Hop and the Cops: Eric Adams ... - Amazon.com

<https://www.amazon.com> › Rap-Sheet-Hip-Hop-Eric-Adams

1.

Rating: 3.6 - 7 reviews

Buy Rap Sheet: Hip-Hop and the Cops: Read 7 Movies & TV Reviews - Amazon.com.

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<https://www.amazon.com> › Rap-Sheet-Hip-Hop-Cops

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Buy Rap Sheet: Hip Hop and the Cops - Microsoft Store

<https://www.microsoft.com> › en-us › rap-sheet-hip-hop-and-the-cops

Jun 4, 2018

An exciting behind-the-scenes look into the elusive world of hip-hop moguls and their struggles with law ...

Rent Rap Sheet: Hip-Hop and the Cops (2006) on DVD and ...

<https://dvd.netflix.com> › Movie › Rap-Sheet-Hip-Hop-and-the-Cops

1.

Rating: 3.4 - 53,175 votes

Rent Rap Sheet: Hip-Hop and the Cops (2006) starring Snoop Dogg and Kanye West on DVD and Blu-ray. Get unlimited DVD Movies & TV Shows delivered to ...

Rap Sheet: Hip Hop and the Cops on iTunes

<https://itunes.apple.com> › movie › rap-sheet-hip-hop-and-the-cops

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Jul 31, 2007 - Watch trailers, read customer and critic reviews, and buy Rap Sheet: Hip Hop and the Cops directed by Donald Sikorski for \$4 99.

Mr.James Kent Jones

New Phase Enterprises

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Tampa,Florida,33672

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Feedback

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Meet The Lawyer Behind Kim Kardashian's Legal Education

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1.

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Reliable Source: Kim Kardashian is funding a legal team that ...

<https://www.sfgate.com> › entertainment › article › Reliable-Source-Kim-Ka...

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May 7, 2019 - Reliable Source: Kim Kardashian is funding a legal team that has ... TV star is doing just that, bankrolling a coterie of lawyers to help secure he ...

Black Lawyer Responsible for Freeing 17 Inmates in 90 Days ...

<https://www.ebony.com> › News

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May 10, 2019 - According to several news outlets, Kim Kardashian-West has played a ... several foundations refused to help fund the program, which Barnett ...

Kim Kardashian is studying to become a lawyer. Here's why it ...