

Don McGahn, Ann Donaldson & Jo Ann Lynch

From: [Director of OGE](#)

To: [Shelley K. Finlayson](#); [David J. Apol](#); (b) (6)

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Call with OGE

OGE will call (b) (6)

Recurring appointment every Monday and Thursday for 45 minutes.

If any adjustments need to be made please contact me.

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.
Confidential Assistant to the Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Tel. 202.482.9286

Don McGahn, Ann Donaldson & Jo Ann Lynch

From: [Director of OGE](#)
To: [Shelley K. Finlayson](#); [David J. Apol](#); (b) (6) [Walter M. Shaub](#)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Call with OGE

Updating the Monday, 1/2/17 appointment only to instead take place on Tuesday, 1/3/17 at 11:00 am.

OGE will call (b) (6).

If any adjustments need to be made please contact me.

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.
Confidential Assistant to the Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Tel. 202.482.9286

Don McGahn, Ann Donaldson & Jo Ann Lynch

From: [Director of OGE](#)
To: [Shelley K. Finlayson](#); [David J. Apol](#); (b) (6) [Walter M. Shaub](#)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Call with OGE

Updating the Monday, 1/9/17 appointment only to instead take place on Tuesday, 1/10/17 at 10:30 am.

OGE will call (b) (6)

If any adjustments need to be made please contact me.

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.
Confidential Assistant to the Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Tel. 202.482.9286

Don McGahn, Ann Donaldson & Jo Ann Lynch

From: [Director of OGE](#)
To: [Shelley K. Finlayson](#); [David J. Apol](#); (b) (6) [Walter M. Shaub](#)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Call with OGE

Updating the Monday, 1/9/17 appointment only to instead take place on Tuesday, 1/10/17 at 4:30 pm.

OGE will call (b) (6)

If any adjustments need to be made please contact me.

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.
Confidential Assistant to the Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Tel. 202.482.9286

Don McGahn, Ann Donaldson & Jo Ann Lynch

From: [Director of OGE](#)
To: [Shelley K. Finlayson](#); [David J. Apol](#); (b) (6) [Walter M. Shaub](#)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Canceled: Call with OGE
Importance: High

Today's meeting is cancelled per correspondence from Jones Day.

If we are able to reschedule I will send out an updated appointment.

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.
Confidential Assistant to the Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Tel. 202.482.9286

Don McGahn, Ann Donaldson & Jo Ann Lynch

From: [Director of OGE](#)
To: [Walter M. Shaub](#); [Shelley K. Finlayson](#); [David J. Apol](#); (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Conference Call with OGE

OGE will call Mr. McGahn's office at (b) (6)

Thank You,

Matthew Marinec, M.P.P.
Confidential Assistant to the Director
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Tel. 202.482.9286

From: [Ann M Donaldson](#)
To: [Deborah J. Bortot](#); [Heather A. Jones](#)
Subject: DeVos
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2017 11:55:03 AM

Should be back to you all.

Ann M. Donaldson

Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

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=====

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Subject: DeVos
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2017 2:44:54 PM
Attachments: [ea for preclearance DeVos.docx](#) (b)(5) attachment - draft; final version available on OGE's website

I've attached the draft EA

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#)
Subject: Elaine Chao
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 8:51:07 AM

Annie,

Just making sure you are aware that we have not received the authorization from you to send Elaine Chao's paperwork to the Senate.

We precleared her 1/3/2017.

Thanks,

Deb

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Tuesday, January 03, 2017 7:08 PM
To: 'Ann M. Donaldson'
Cc: Sandra S. Mabry; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; Herr, Ellen (OST); Keith Labedz; 'Kaleta, Judy (OST)'
Subject: PRECLEASED: Elaine Chao

Annie, Elaine Chao is precleared. Sandy, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [Sprague, Marcia](#); [Goodridge, Marcella](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Megan V. Khaner](#); [Lorna A. Syme](#)
Cc: [Heather A. Jones](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#)
Subject: FW: Mrs. Betsy DeVos
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2017 5:41:50 PM

From: Ann M Donaldson [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2017 5:38 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Cc: Ann Donaldson
Subject: Mrs. Betsy DeVos

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Mrs. Betsy DeVos to be Secretary of Education. Please transmit herpre-cleared 278 report and any accompanying documents to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thanks,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

=====

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=====

From: Deborah J. Bortot

Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2017 5:08 PM

To: 'Ann M Donaldson'

Cc: Megan V. Khaner; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; Sprague, Marcia; Goodridge, Marcella; Rowell, Theresa; (b) (6) Stefan C. Passantino

Subject: PRECLEASED: Elisabeth DeVos

Annie, Elisabeth DeVos is precleared.

I've attached the precleared ethics agreement.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Stephanie Nonluecha](#)
To: (b) (6) Ann Donaldson
Cc: ["Heller, Susan"](#)
Subject: FW: PRECLEARED: John Kelly
Date: Friday, January 06, 2017 11:16:19 AM Attachment available on OGE's website
Attachments: [Kelly, John F.signed EA.pdf](#)

Please see attachment.

Regards,

Stephanie Nonluecha

Program Analyst (Finance)

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

(202) 482-9243

snonlue@oge.gov

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov

Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

From: Deborah J. Bortot

Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 11:09 AM

To: 'Ann M Donaldson'

Cc: Stephanie Nonluecha; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; 'Heller, Susan'

Subject: PRECLEARED: John Kelly

Annie, John Kelly is precleared.

Stephanie, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 3:15 PM
To: Teresa L. Williamson
Subject: FW: Secretary Elaine Chao
From: Ann M Donaldson [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 1:38 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Secretary Elaine Chao

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Secretary Elaine Chao to be Secretary of Transportation. Please transmit her pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

=====

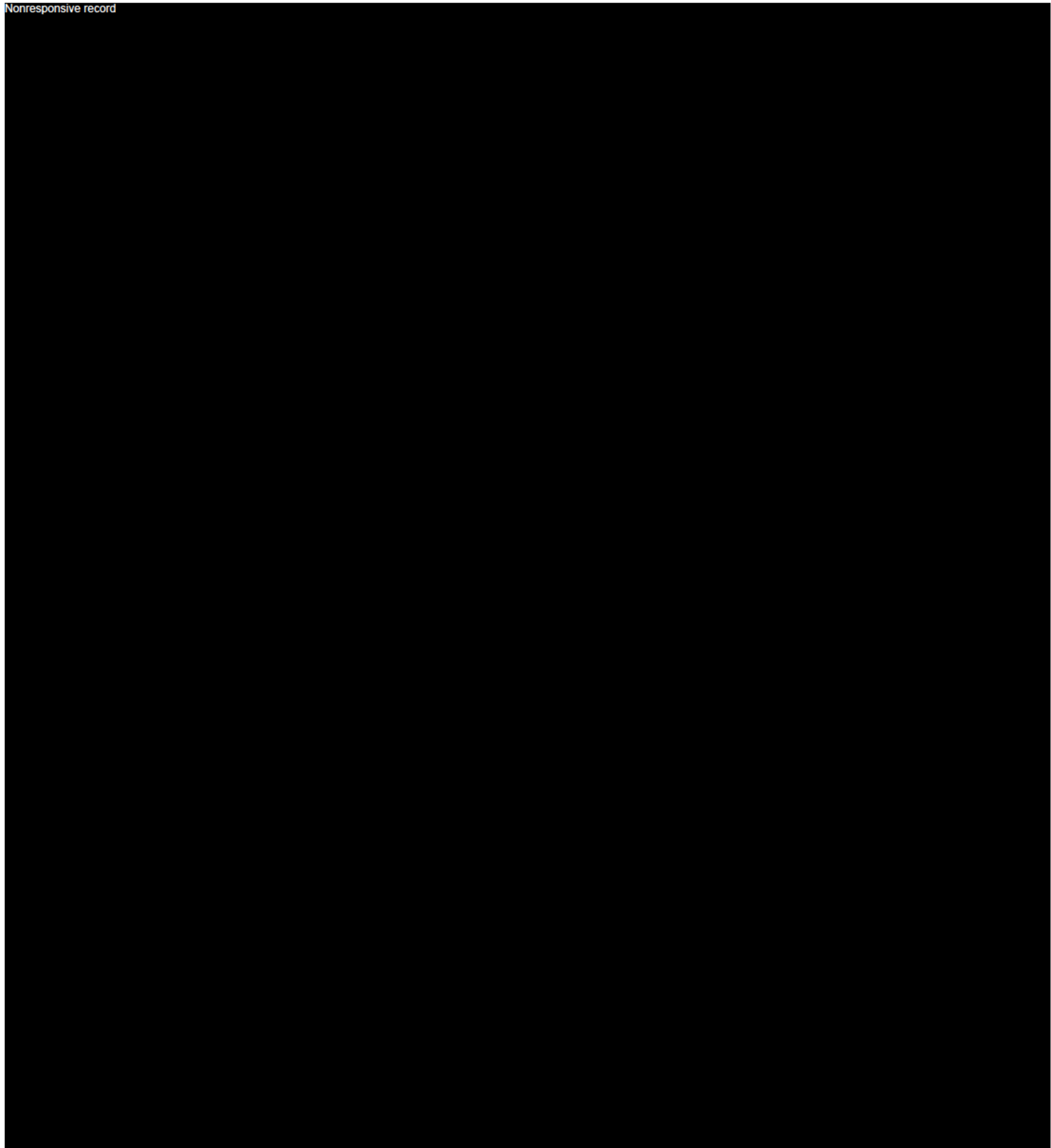
This e-mail (including any attachments) may contain information that is private, confidential, or protected by attorney-client or other privilege. If you received this e-mail in error, please delete it from your system without copying it and notify sender by reply e-mail, so that our records can be corrected.

=====

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Megan V. Khaner](#)
Subject: Fw: Signed Ethics Agreement
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2017 8:26:53 PM

See email below. The ethics agreement has been finalized and signed.

Nonresponsive record



From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Herr, Ellen \(OST\)](#); [Keith Labedz](#); ["Kaleta, Judy \(OST\)"](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Elaine Chao
Date: Tuesday, January 03, 2017 7:07:47 PM

Annie, Elaine Chao is precleared. Sandy, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Ann M Donaldson](#)
To: [Heather A. Jones](#)
Cc: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Benjamin Carson
Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 9:12:29 PM

Thank you. Let me know if you need anything else from us.

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

From: "Heather A. Jones"
To: 'Ann M Donaldson', "Deborah J. Bortot"
Date: 01/10/2017 08:48 PM
Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Benjamin Carson

Looks like he just signed.

From: Ann M Donaldson [[mailto:](#)(b) (6)]
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 8:26 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot
Cc: Heather A. Jones
Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Benjamin Carson

I've been told it has been signed and submitted via Integrity. Can you confirm?

Thanks,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

From: "Deborah J. Bortot" <djbortot@oge.gov>
To: 'Ann M Donaldson' (b) (6)
Cc: "Heather A. Jones" <hajones@oge.gov>
Date: 01/10/2017 07:42 PM

Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Benjamin Carson

Annie,

I received your email. Mr. Carson now needs to do his final review of the report and if he approves, then he should submit the final report in Integrity by doing the following:

1. click on "submit report"
2. check the box next to the certification statement
3. click on "submit OGE Form 278e button"

Thanks,

Deb

From: Ann M Donaldson [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 7:36 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot
Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Benjamin Carson

You should have just received it. Please confirm receipt and let us know if we can help with getting a signature. Many thanks.

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

From: "Deborah J. Bortot" <djbortot@oge.gov>

To: 'Ann M Donaldson' (b) (6)

Date: 01/10/2017 07:29 PM

Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Benjamin Carson

Do you have an ETA on when you will be sending the authorization email?

From: Ann M Donaldson [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 7:28 PM
To: Monica M. G. Ashar
Cc: Deborah J. Bortot; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Benjamin Carson

Thank you. Got the updated version.
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

From: "Monica M. G. Ashar" <mmgashar@oge.gov>

To: 'Ann M Donaldson' (b) (6)

Lindsey A. Allen

Cc: "Deborah J. Bortot" <djbortot@oge.gov>, (b) (6)

Date: 01/10/2017 07:20 PM

Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Benjamin Carson

I apologize – there was a small typo in the ethics agreement. Please use this version instead.

Monica Ashar
Assistant Counsel
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (202) 482-9282

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov

Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

From: Monica M. G. Ashar

Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 7:14 PM

To: 'Ann M Donaldson'

Cc: David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; (b) (6) Deborah J. Bortot

Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Benjamin Carson

Lindsey A. Allen

Attached is the precleared ethics agreement.

Monica Ashar
Assistant Counsel
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (202) 482-9282

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov

Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 7:12 PM
To: 'Ann M Donaldson'
Cc: Monica M. G. Ashar; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; (b) (6)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Benjamin Carson
Lindsey A. Allen

Annie, Benjamin Carson is precleared.

Monica, please send the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!
Deb

Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

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From: Deborah J. Bortot

Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2017 5:07 PM

To: 'Ann M Donaldson'

Cc: Megan V. Khaner; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; Sprague, Marcia; Goodridge, Marcella; Rowell, Theresa; (b) (6); Stefan C. Passantino

Subject: PRECLEARED: Elisabeth DeVos

Annie, Elisabeth DeVos is precleared.

I've attached the precleared ethics agreement.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: Deborah J. Bortot

Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 11:09 AM

To: 'Ann M Donaldson'

Cc: Stephanie Nonluecha; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; 'Heller, Susan'

Subject: PRECLEASED: John Kelly

Annie, John Kelly is precleared.

Stephanie, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: Deborah J. Bortot

Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2017 5:08 PM

To: 'Ann M Donaldson'

Cc: Megan V. Khaner; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; Sprague, Marcia; Goodridge, Marcella; Rowell, Theresa; (b) (6) Stefan C. Passantino

Subject: PRECLEASED: Elisabeth DeVos

Annie, Elisabeth DeVos is precleared.

I've attached the precleared ethics agreement.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Monica M. G. Ashar](#)
To: [Deborah J. Bortot](#); ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Heather A. Jones](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); (b) (6)
Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: James Mattis
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 8:47:48 AM
Attachments: [EA for preclearance-Mattis.docx](#) (b)(5) attachment - draft; final version available on OGE's website

Attached is the copy of the precleared ethics agreement.

Best,

Monica

Monica Ashar
Assistant Counsel
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (202) 482-9282
Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov
Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 5:14 PM
To: 'Ann M Donaldson'
Cc: Monica M. G. Ashar; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; (b) (6)
Subject: PRECLEARED: James Mattis

Eric. C. Rishel

Annie, James Mattis is precleared.

Monica, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: Ann M Donaldson
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2017 4:02 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: General James Mattis

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate General James Mattis to be Secretary of Defense. Please transmit her pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

=====
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=====

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: (b)(6) Leah Brewer
Cc: [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Subject: Public Financial Disclosure Report General James N. Mattis
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 6:56:08 PM
Attachments: [Mattis, James N. Senate Letter.pdf](#)
[Mattis, James N. final 278.pdf](#)
[MATTIS James Ethics Agreement.pdf](#)

Publicly Available on OGE's Website

Good Evening,

I've attached the financial disclosure package for General James N. Mattis. President-Elect Trump has announced his intention to nominate General Mattis for the position of Secretary, Department of Defense.

The hard copy of the attached documents will be placed at OGE reception for pick up by a Senate rider page per our agreement. If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Williamson @ 202-482-9283.

Please respond to this message to confirm receipt of the attached package, and please let me know in your response whether you will send a Senate rider page.

Thanks!

Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Keith Labedz](#)
Subject: FW: Senate Transmissions
Date: Thursday, December 22, 2016 4:43:14 PM

From: Ann M Donaldson [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 3:46 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot
Subject: Senate Transmissions

Deb,

You will be receiving emails shortly regarding transmitting Senator Sessions and Mr. Pompeo's pre-cleared 278 Reports and Ethics Agreements to the appropriate Senate committee. Going forward, we will send such emails to confirm the President-elect's intent to nominate once we have received confirmation of a filer's pre-clearance from your office. We will continue this process until Inauguration Day.

Thanks,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

=====

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=====

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Megan V. Khaner](#); [Stephanie Nonluecha](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#)
Subject: FW: AG Scott Pruitt
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 8:06:38 AM

From: Ann M Donaldson [mailto:a(b) (6)]
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 9:05 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: AG Scott Pruitt

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Attorney General Scott Pruitt to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

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=====

From: [Heather A. Jones](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Subject: FW: is there a number where I can call you?
Date: Sunday, January 15, 2017 5:21:34 PM

This is the changed language (b) (5) [REDACTED]

From: Heather A. Jones
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2017 4:38 PM
To: 'Kassinger, Theodore W.'
Subject: RE: is there a number where I can call you?

(b) (6) [REDACTED]

From: Kassinger, Theodore W. [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2017 4:35 PM
To: Heather A. Jones
Subject: RE: is there a number where I can call you?

(b) (5), (b) (6) [REDACTED]

From: Heather A. Jones [<mailto:hajones@oge.gov>]
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2017 4:01 PM
To: Kassinger, Theodore W.
Subject: is there a number where I can call you?

Heather Jones
(202) 482-9316
Office of Government Ethics
Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov
Follow OGE on Twitter: [@OfficeGovEthics](#)

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From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [Teresa L. Williamson](#)
Cc: [Heather A. Jones](#); [Keith Labedz](#)
Subject: FW: Mr. Wilbur Ross
Date: Sunday, January 15, 2017 5:54:52 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Ann M Donaldson [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2017 5:44 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Mr. Wilbur Ross

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Mr. Wilbur Ross to be Commerce Secretary. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
JONES DAY® - One Firm Worldwide
(b) (6)

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Gangwere, Robert L.](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Rachel K. Dowell](#)
Subject: Fw: Mrs. Linda McMahon
Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 6:56:05 AM

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Ann M Donaldson
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2017 11:11 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Mrs. Linda McMahon

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Mrs. Linda McMahon to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration. Please transmit herpre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the contact information and signature of Ann M. Donaldson. The text "(b) (6)" is written in red at the top left of the redacted area.

=====

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=====

From: [Emory A. Rounds III](#)
To: [Rachel K. Dowell](#)
Subject: FW: POC for McMahon
Date: Friday, December 30, 2016 10:43:56 AM

FYI . . .

From: Cooper Smith [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Friday, December 30, 2016 10:43 AM
To: Emory A. Rounds III
Subject: POC for McMahon

Hey Emory-

To contact Ms. McMahon, first try her personal cell (b) (6), and if she doesn't answer that you can call her assistant (b) (6)

Coop

From: [Sandra S. Mabry](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Subject: FW: Public Financial Disclosure Report of Thomas E. Price
Date: Thursday, January 12, 2017 7:12:21 PM
Attachments: [Price, Thomas E. final278.pdf](#)
[Price, Thomas E. finalEA.pdf](#)
[Price, Thomas E. finalsenateltr-HELP---docx.pdf](#)

Publicly Available on OGE's Website

Annie,

Yesterday we sent the documents for Dr. Price to the Senate Finance Committee, the committee that handles the nomination for the Secretary of Health and Human Resources. With the email below, we have transmitted the package to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, consistent with long-time practice. If you have any questions, please call me at 202-482-9258 or Deb at 202-482-9277. Thanks, Sandy

From: Sandra S. Mabry
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2017 7:01 PM
To: (b) (6) Chung Shek
Cc: Deborah J. Bortot; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Heather A. Jones; 'Ann M Donaldson'
Subject: Public Financial Disclosure Report of Thomas E. Price

Good Evening,

I've attached the financial disclosure package for Thomas E. Price. President-Elect Trump has announced his intention to nominate Dr. Price for the position of Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

The hard copy of the attached documents will be placed at OGE reception for pick up by a Senate rider page per our agreement. If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Williamson @ 202-482-9283.

Please respond to this message to confirm receipt of the attached package, and please let me know in your response whether you will send a Senate rider page.

Thanks!

Sandra Mabry
Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW - Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
202-482-9258

From: Teresa L. Williamson
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2016 12:17 PM
To: (b) (6) Desiree Sayle
Cc: Deborah J. Bortot; Sandra S. Mabry; Rodrick T. Johnson; Heather A. Jones;
(b) (6) Ann Donaldson
Subject: Public Financial Disclosure Report of Michael R. Pompeo

Good Afternoon,

I've attached the financial disclosure package for Michael R. Pompeo. President-Elect Trump has announced his intention to nominate Mr. Pompeo for the position of Director, Central Intelligence Agency.

The hard copy of the attached documents will be placed at OGE reception for pick up by a Senate rider page per our agreement. If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Williamson @ 202-482-9283.

Please respond to this message to confirm receipt of the attached package, and please let me know in your response whether you will send a Senate rider page.

Thanks!

Teresa Williamson
Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW - Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
202-482-9283

-----Original Message-----

From: Shek, Chung (HELP Committee) [mailto:(b) (6)]

Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2017 7:10 PM

To: Sandra S. Mabry

Cc: Deborah J. Bortot; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Heather A. Jones; Ann M Donaldson

Subject: Re: Public Financial Disclosure Report of Thomas E. Price

Thank you!

We all very much appreciate the work that you do.

> On Jan 12, 2017, at 7:03 PM, Sandra S. Mabry <ssmabry@oge.gov> wrote:

>

>

> Good Evening,

>

> I've attached the financial disclosure package for Thomas E. Price. President-Elect Trump has announced his intention to nominate Dr. Price for the position of Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

>

> The hard copy of the attached documents will be placed at OGE reception for pick up by a Senate rider page per our agreement. If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Williamson @ 202-482-9283.

>

> Please respond to this message to confirm receipt of the attached package, and please let me know in your response whether you will send a Senate rider page.

>

> Thanks!

>

> Sandra Mabry

> Presidential Nominations Branch

> U.S. Office of Government Ethics

> 1201 New York Avenue, NW - Suite 500

> Washington, DC 20005

> 202-482-9258

>

>

>

>

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> <Price, Thomas E. final278.pdf>

> <Price, Thomas E. finalEA.pdf>

> <Price, Thomas E. finalsenateltr-HELP--.docx.pdf>

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [Teresa L. Williamson](#)
Subject: FW: Representative Tom Price
Date: Friday, December 16, 2016 1:10:00 PM

From: Ann M Donaldson [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2016 12:56 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot
Cc: James Carroll; Katja Bullock
Subject: Representative Tom Price
Good afternoon,

The Public Financial Disclosure Report (OGE-278) for Tom Price is now available for your review in *Integrity* regarding a possible nomination by the President-Elect to be Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Because Representative Price has not been formally nominated, please treat the identity and contents of the report confidentially, unless and until the Presidential Transition Team makes an official announcement.

Representative Price can be reached via Stefan Passatino of Dentons at (b) (6)

Please begin your review of the report and coordinate with our office as soon as possible. The Presidential Transition Team contact currently assigned to this matter is Jim Carroll. Mr. Carroll can be reached at (b) (6) or by email at (b) (6)

Thank you,

Presidential Transition Team

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

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=====

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [Teresa L. Williamson](#)
Subject: FW: Representative Tom Price
Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 2:09:11 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Ann M Donaldson [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 1:22 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Representative Tom Price

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Representative Tom Price to be Secretary of Health and Human Services. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
JONES DAY® - One Firm Worldwide
(b) (6)

From: [Heather A. Jones](#)
To: [Lorna A. Syme](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#)
Subject: Fw: Steven Mnuchin
Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 3:31:00 PM

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Ann M Donaldson
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 3:26 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Steven Mnuchin

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Mr. Steven Mnuchin to be Secretary of the Treasury. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)

(b) (6)
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

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=====

From: [Jim Robertson](#)
To: (b) (6) Ann Donaldson
Cc: [Deborah J. Bortot](#); [Heather A. Jones](#)
Subject: Gov. Perry's report still precleared
Date: Monday, January 09, 2017 2:07:25 PM

Annie,

I've talked with DOE ethics and they tell me Governor Perry's team has no other changes to the report. If you know of other changes, please let us know, otherwise Deb has asked me to convey that his report is still precleared.

Thanks,

Jim

From: [Heather A. Jones](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Maggi, David \(Federal\)](#); ["Jacobi, Will \(Federal\)"](#); [Deborah J. Bortot](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Director of OGE](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#)
Subject: Preclearance: Wilbur L. Ross
Date: Sunday, January 15, 2017 5:20:44 PM
Attachments: [Ethics Agreement for Preclearance - Ross, Wilbur L 5pm.docx](#)

(b)(5) attachment - draft; final version available on OGE's website

Annie, Wilbur Ross is precleared. I have attached the ethics agreement.

Thanks!

Heather

Heather Jones

(202) 482-9316

Office of Government Ethics

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From: [Director of OGE](#)
To: [Deborah J. Bortot](#); ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Director of OGE](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Leigh J. Francis](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Huitema, David P](#); [Nightingale, Robert L](#); [Martin, Janice N](#)
Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: Rex Tillerson
Date: Monday, January 02, 2017 4:17:08 PM
Attachments: [CLEAN COPY Final ethics agreement \(Monday416PM\).docx](#)

(b)(5) attachment - draft; final version available on OGE's website

Attached is a corrected version of the ethics agreements. (b) (6)
Use this version instead.

Walt

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Monday, January 02, 2017 4:10 PM
To: 'Ann M Donaldson'
Cc: Director of OGE; Heather A. Jones; Teresa L. Williamson; David J. Apol; Leigh J. Francis; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Emory A. Rounds III; Rodrick T. Johnson; Huitema, David P; Nightingale, Robert L; Martin, Janice N
Subject: PRECLEARED: Rex Tillerson
Annie, Rex Tillerson is precleared. I've attached the ethics agreement.
Thanks!
Deb
Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Jim Robertson](#)
Subject: Rick Perry
Date: Friday, December 30, 2016 6:20:38 PM

Annie,

We are following up to make sure you have initiated a new report for Rick Perry because (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

Thanks.

Deb

Jennifer Matis

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 3:52 PM
To: Teresa L. Williamson; Jack MacDonald
Subject: FW: Senator Sessions

From: Ann M Donaldson [mailto:(b)(6) contact info]
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 3:51 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Senator Sessions

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Senator Jeff Sessions to be Attorney General. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report and any accompanying documents to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

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From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [\(b\)\(6\) Anne](#) Ann Donaldson
Cc: [Jack MacDonald](#); ["Rodgers, Janice \(JMD\)"](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Keith Labedz](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Jefferson Sessions
Date: Friday, December 16, 2016 9:40:53 AM

Annie, Jefferson Sessions is precleared.

Janice, please let us know [\(b\)\(5\)](#)

Jack, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Teresa L. Williamson](#)
To: (b) (6) Kasey O'Connor
Cc: [Deborah J. Bortot](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); (b) (6)
Subject: Public Financial Disclosure Report of Jefferson B. Sessions Ann Donaldson
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 12:15:18 PM
Attachments: [Sessions, Jefferson B. finalEA.pdf](#) 278 and EA publicly available on website
[Sessions, Jefferson B. finalsenateletter.pdf](#)
[Sessions, Jefferson B. final278.pdf](#)

Good Morning,

I've attached the financial disclosure package for Jefferson B. Sessions. President-Elect Trump has announced his intention to nominate Senator Sessions for the position of Attorney General, Department of Justice.

The hard copy of the attached documents will be placed at OGE reception for pick up by a Senate rider page per our agreement. If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Williamson @ 202-482-9283.

Please respond to this message to confirm receipt of the attached package, and please let me know in your response whether you will send a Senate rider page.

Thanks!

Teresa Williamson
Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW - Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
202-482-9283

From: [Teresa L. Williamson](#)
To: [Stephanie Nonluecha](#)
Subject: FW: Governor Nikki Haley
Date: Friday, December 09, 2016 10:11:21 AM

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Friday, December 09, 2016 9:16 AM
To: Teresa L. Williamson
Subject: FW: Governor Nikki Haley

From: Ann M Donaldson [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Friday, December 09, 2016 8:38 AM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; [\(b\)\(6\)](#)
Cc: Rene Augustine
Subject: Governor Nikki Haley J.N. Martin

The Public Financial Disclosure Report (OGE-278) for Governor Nikki Haley is now available for your review in *Integrity* regarding a possible nomination by the President-Elect to be Ambassador to the United Nations.

Because Governor Haley has not been formally nominated, please treat the identity and contents of the report confidentially, unless and until the Presidential Transition Team makes an official announcement.

Governor Haley can be reached via [\(b\)\(6\)](#) [\(b\) \(6\)](#)

Please begin your review of the report and coordinate with our office as soon as possible. The Presidential Transition Team contact for this matter is Rene Augustine. Ms. Augustine can be reached at [\(b\) \(6\)](#) or by email at [\(b\) \(6\)](#)

Thank you,

Presidential Transition Team

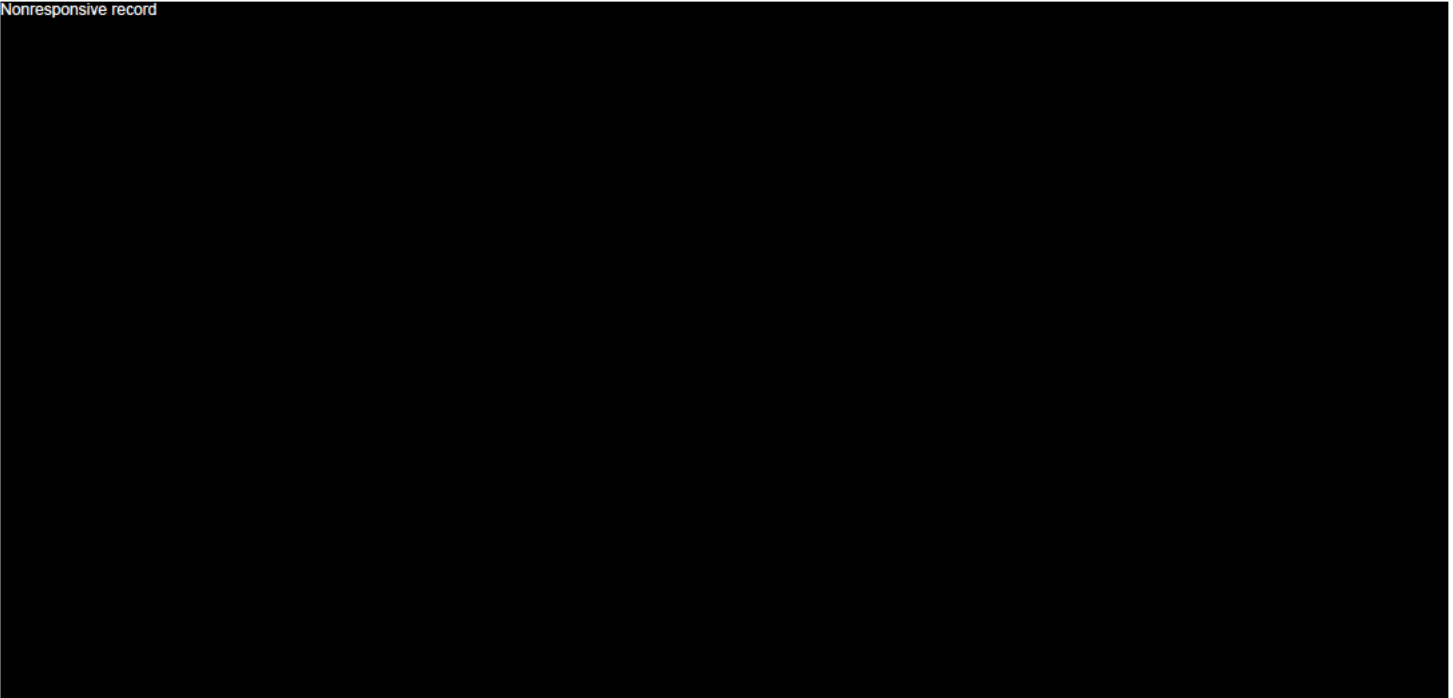
Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
[\(b\) \(6\)](#)

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=====

Nonresponsive record



From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2016 5:58 PM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: Nikki Haley report Ann Donaldson

Annie,

(b) (6)



Thanks,
Deb

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Stephanie Nonluecha](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); ["Alexander, M. J."](#); [Martin, Janice N](#); ["Huitema, David P"](#); [Heather A. Jones](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Nikki Haley
Date: Thursday, December 22, 2016 3:47:34 PM

Annie, Nikki Haley is precleared.

Alex, Stephanie will call you with a minor edit to the ethics agreement.

Stephanie, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [Stephanie Nonluecha](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#)
Subject: FW: PRECLEARED: Edward Scott Pruitt
Date: Thursday, December 29, 2016 9:27:28 AM

From: Ann M Donaldson [mailto:(b)(6)]
Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Re: PRECLEARED: Edward Scott Pruitt
We're still ok with the transmittal of this report to the Senate -- the previous email stands.

Thanks,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

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(b) (6)

From: "Deborah J. Bortot" <djbortot@oge.gov>
To: 'Ann M Donaldson' (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6), (b)(6), (b)(6), (b)(6), Stephanie Nonluecha <snonlue@oge.gov>, Emory A. Rounds III <earounds@oge.gov>, David J. Apol <djapol@oge.gov>, "Heather A. Jones" <hajones@oge.gov>, Keith Labedz <klabedz@oge.gov>
Date: 12/28/2016 05:12 PM
Subject: PRECLEARED: Edward Scott Pruitt

Annie,

Edward Scott Pruitt is precleared. (b)(5)
(b)(5). Stephanie, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks,
Deb

Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: Deborah J. Bortot

Sent: Friday, December 23, 2016 11:08 AM

To: 'Ann M Donaldson'

Daniel Fort and Justina Fugh

Cc: (b)(6) Daniel Fort's ; (b)(6) Justina Fugh's ; Stephanie Nonluecha; Emory A. Rounds III; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Megan V. Kaner

Subject: Rescinding Scott Pruitt PRECLEARANCE

Importance: High

Annie,

(b) (5)



Thanks,

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: Deborah J. Bortot

Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 6:23 PM

Daniel Fort and Justina Fugh

To: 'Ann M Donaldson'

Cc: (b)(6) Daniel Fort's ; (b)(6) Justina Fugh's ; Stephanie Nonluecha; Emory A. Rounds III; David J. Apol; Teresa L. Williamson; Sandra S. Mabry; Heather A. Jones; Keith Labedz; Rodrick T. Johnson

Subject: PRECLEASED: Scott Pruitt

Annie, Scott Pruitt is precleared. Stephanie, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

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=====

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Heather A. Jones](#)
Subject: FW: PRECLEASED: James Richard Perry
Date: Sunday, January 08, 2017 10:23:34 AM

Annie,
Susan Beard corrected some minor typos on the report. Do you know if there will be additional changes? If these are the only changes, he is still precleared.
Thanks,
Deb

Nonresponsive record

From: Deborah J. Bortot [<mailto:djbortot@oge.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 3:03 PM
To: 'Ann M Donaldson' (b)(6) >
Cc: Jim Robertson <jfrobert@oge.gov>; David J. Apol <djapol@oge.gov>; Heather A. Jones <hajones@oge.gov>; Sandra S. Mabry <ssmabry@oge.gov>; Keith Labedz <klabedz@oge.gov>; Teresa L. Williamson <tlwillia@oge.gov>; Rodrick T. Johnson <rjohnson@oge.gov>; Emory A. Rounds III <earounds@oge.gov>; Beard, Susan <(b)(6)>
Subject: PRECLEASED: James Richard Perry
Annie, James Richard Perry is precleared.
Jim, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.
Thanks!
Deb
Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

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From: [Ann M Donaldson](#)
To: [Deborah J. Bortot](#); [Heather A. Jones](#)
Subject: General James Mattis
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:02:47 PM

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate General James Mattis to be Secretary of Defense. Please transmit her pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

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(b) (6)

=====

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=====

From: [Heather A. Jones](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Deborah J. Bortot](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Director of OGE](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Rachel K. Dowell](#); [\(b\)\(6\) Robert](#); [\(b\)\(6\) Susan](#)
Subject: Preclearance: Linda McMahon Robert Ganwere, Susan Sundberg and Marilyne Barnes
Date: Monday, January 16, 2017 5:12:01 PM
Attachments: [Revised final ethics agreement.docx](#)

Annie, [Linda McMahon](#) is precleared. I have attached the ethics agreement.

Thanks!

Heather

Heather Jones

(202) 482-9316

Office of Government Ethics

Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov

Follow OGE on Twitter: [@OfficeGovEthics](#)

From: [Heather A. Jones](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Maggi, David \(Federal\)](#); ["Jacobi, Will \(Federal\)"](#); [Deborah J. Bortot](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Director of OGE](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#)
Subject: Preclearance: Wilbur L. Ross
Date: Sunday, January 15, 2017 5:20:43 PM
Attachments: [Ethics Agreement for Preclearance - Ross, Wilbur L 5pm.docx](#)

Annie, Wilbur Ross is precleared. I have attached the ethics agreement.

Thanks!

Heather

Heather Jones

(202) 482-9316

Office of Government Ethics

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From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Monica M. G. Ashar](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); (b) (6)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Benjamin Carson
Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 7:11:46 PM

Lindsey A. Allen

Annie, Benjamin Carson is precleared.
Monica, please send the ethics agreement to Annie.
Thanks!
Deb
Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

Stefan C. Passantino, Ann M. Donalson and James D. Schultz

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: (b)(6) Stefan Passantino's
Cc: (b)(6) Anne Donaldson's; (b)(6) James Schultz's; [Lorna A. Syme](#); ["Britt, Christopher"](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Keith Labedz](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: David Shulkin
Date: Friday, January 27, 2017 10:32:31 AM

Stefan, David Shulkin is precleared.

Lorna, please forward the ethics agreement to Stefan.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Monica M. G. Ashar](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [\(b\)\(6\) Eric Rishel's](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: James Mattis
Date: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 5:13:54 PM

Annie, James Mattis is precleared.

Monica, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [\(b\)\(6\) Anne](#)
Cc: [Jack MacDonald](#); ["Rodgers, Janice \(JMD\)"](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Keith Labedz](#)
Subject: PRECleared: Jefferson Sessions
Date: Friday, December 16, 2016 9:40:53 AM

Annie, Jefferson Sessions is precleared.

Janice, please let us know which [\(b\) \(5\)](#) will be used.

Jack, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Stephanie Nonluecha](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); ["Heller, Susan"](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: John Kelly
Date: Friday, January 06, 2017 11:09:20 AM

Annie, John Kelly is precleared.

Stephanie, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: [\(b\)\(6\) Anne](#)
Cc: [Lorna A. Syme](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [\(b\)\(6\) Carrie](#); [\(b\)\(6\) Allison G's](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Michael Pompeo
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 4:33:00 PM

Annie, Michael Pompeo is precleared. Lorna, please forward the ethics agreement to the Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Director of OGE](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Leigh J. Francis](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Huitema, David P](#); [Nightingale, Robert L](#); [Martin, Janice N](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Rex Tillerson
Date: Monday, January 02, 2017 4:09:40 PM
Attachments: [CLEAN COPY Final ethics agreement \(Monday405PM\).docx](#)

(b)(5) attachment - draft; final version available on OGE's website

Annie, Rex Tillerson is precleared. I've attached the ethics agreement.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Lorna A. Syme](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); ["Edward McDonnell"](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Ryan Zinke
Date: Friday, January 06, 2017 10:05:51 AM

Annie, Ryan Zinke is precleared.

Lorna, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [David J. Apol](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Hall, Randall \(HHS/OGC\)](#); ["Fischmann, Elizabeth \(HHS/OGC\)"](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Seema Verma
Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 3:59:28 PM
Attachments: [Ethics Agreement for Preclearance \[VERMA\].docx](#)

(b)(5) attachment - draft; final version available on OGE's website

Annie, Seema Verma is precleared.
I've attached the precleared ethics agreement.
Thanks!
Deb
Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Lorna A. Syme](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [\(b\)\(6\) Elizabeth Horton's](#); [\(b\)\(6\) Peter](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Steven Mnuchin
Date: Monday, January 09, 2017 9:31:13 PM
Attachments: [Mnuchin Ethics Agreement 1 9 17 900pm.docx](#)

Elizabeth Horton and Peter Riesen

(b)(5) attachment - draft; final version available on OGE's website

Annie, Steven Mnuchin is precleared.

I've attached the ethics agreement.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
To: ["Ann M. Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [Patrick J. Lightfoot](#); [David J. Apol](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [Hall, Randall \(HHS/OGC\)](#); ["Fischmann, Elizabeth \(HHS/OGC\)"](#)
Subject: PRECLEARED: Thomas Price
Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 12:20:34 PM

Annie, Thomas Price is precleared.

Patrick, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Monica M. G. Ashar](#)
To: ["Ann M Donaldson"](#)
Cc: [David J. Apol](#); [Heather A. Jones](#); [Sandra S. Mabry](#); [Keith Labedz](#); [Teresa L. Williamson](#); [Rodrick T. Johnson](#); [Emory A. Rounds III](#); [\(b\)\(6\) Lindsey](#); [Deborah J. Bortot](#)
Subject: RE: PRECLEASED: Benjamin Carson
Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 7:14:05 PM (b)(5) attachment - draft, final version available on OGE's website
Attachments: [EA for preclearance-Carson.doc](#)

Attached is the precleared ethics agreement.

Monica Ashar
Assistant Counsel
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: (202) 482-9282
Visit OGE's website: www.oge.gov
Follow OGE on Twitter: @OfficeGovEthics

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 7:12 PM
To: 'Ann M Donaldson'
Cc: Monica M. G. Ashar; David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; [\(b\)\(6\) Lindsey Allen's](#)
Subject: PRECLEASED: Benjamin Carson

Annie, Benjamin Carson is precleared.

Lindsey A. Allen

Monica, please send the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot
Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch
U.S. Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3917
Telephone: (202) 482-9227
Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

From: [Ann M Donaldson](#)
To: [Ann Donaldson](#); [Deborah J. Bortot](#); [Heather A. Jones](#)
Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: James Richard Perry
Date: Friday, January 06, 2017 7:54:20 PM

Check that. I think we are set. Hope you all are enjoying a little Friday night time.

----- Message from (b) (6) on Sat, 07 Jan 2017 00:51:01 GMT -----

From: (b) (6)
To: "Deborah J. Bortot" , "Heather Jones"
Subject: RE: PRECLEARED: James Richard Perry

Sorry to bother you on Friday night, but can one of you give me a call at (b)(6)

----- Message from "Deborah J. Bortot" on Fri, 06 Jan 2017 20:03:21 GMT -----

From: "Deborah J. Bortot"
To: "Ann M Donaldson"
"Jim Robertson" , "David J. Apol" , "Heather A. Jones" , "Sandra S. Mabry" ,
CC: "Keith Labedz" , "Teresa L. Williamson" , "Rodrick T. Johnson" , "Emory A.
Rounds III" , "Beard, Susan"
Subject: PRECLEARED: James Richard Perry

Annie, James Richard Perry is precleared.

Jim, please forward the ethics agreement to Annie.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

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Brandon A. Steele

From: Heather A. Jones
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 3:31 PM
To: Lorna A. Syme; Teresa L. Williamson
Subject: Fw: Steven Mnuchin

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Ann M Donaldson
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 3:26 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Steven Mnuchin

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Mr. Steven Mnuchin to be Secretary of the Treasury. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

=====

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=====

Brandon A. Steele

From: Ann M Donaldson (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 7:32 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Dr. Benjamin Carson

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Dr. Benjamin Carson to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

=====
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Brandon A. Steele

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Friday, December 23, 2016 8:07 AM
To: Teresa L. Williamson; Megan V. Khaner; Stephanie Nonluecha; Emory A. Rounds III
Subject: FW: AG Scott Pruitt

From: Ann M Donaldson [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 9:05 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: AG Scott Pruitt

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Attorney General Scott Pruitt to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.
Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

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=====

Brandon A. Steele

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2016 8:25 AM
To: Teresa L. Williamson
Subject: FW: Betsy DeVos

From: Ann M Donaldson [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2016 7:49 AM
To: Deborah J. Bortot
Cc: James Carroll; Katja Bullock
Subject: Betsy DeVos

Good morning,

The Public Financial Disclosure Report (OGE-278) for Betsy DeVos is now available for your review in *Integrity* regarding a possible nomination by the President-Elect to be Secretary of the Department of Education.

Because Mrs. DeVos has not been formally nominated, please treat the identity and contents of the report confidentially, unless and until the Presidential Transition Team makes an official announcement.

Mrs. DeVos can be reached via (b) (6) (b) (6) or (b) (6)

Please begin your review of the report and coordinate with our office as soon as possible. The Presidential Transition Team contact currently assigned to this matter is Jim Carroll. Mr. Carroll can be reached at (b) (6)

Thank you,

Presidential Transition Team

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

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=====

Brandon A. Steele

From: Heather A. Jones
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 3:27 PM
To: Lorna A. Syme; Teresa L. Williamson
Subject: Fw: Governor Rick Perry

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Heather A. Jones
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 3:26 PM
To: Jim Robertson; Teresa L. Williamson
Subject: Fw: Governor Rick Perry

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Ann M Donaldson
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 3:24 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Governor Rick Perry

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Governor Rick Perry to be Secretary of Energy. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate

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(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the text in this block.

=====
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Brandon A. Steele

From: Deborah J. Bortot
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 4:37 PM
To: Lorna A. Syme; Teresa L. Williamson
Subject: FW: Representative Mike Pompeo

From: Ann M Donaldson [[mailto:\(b\) \(6\)](#)]
Sent: Thursday, December 22, 2016 3:53 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Representative Mike Pompeo

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Representative Mike Pompeo to be CIA Director. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report and any accompanying documents to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

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=====

Brandon A. Steele

From: Heather A. Jones
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 11:28 AM
To: Teresa L. Williamson; Lorna A. Syme
Subject: Fw: Representative Ryan Zinke

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

Original Message

From: Ann M Donaldson (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 9:33 AM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Representative Ryan Zinke

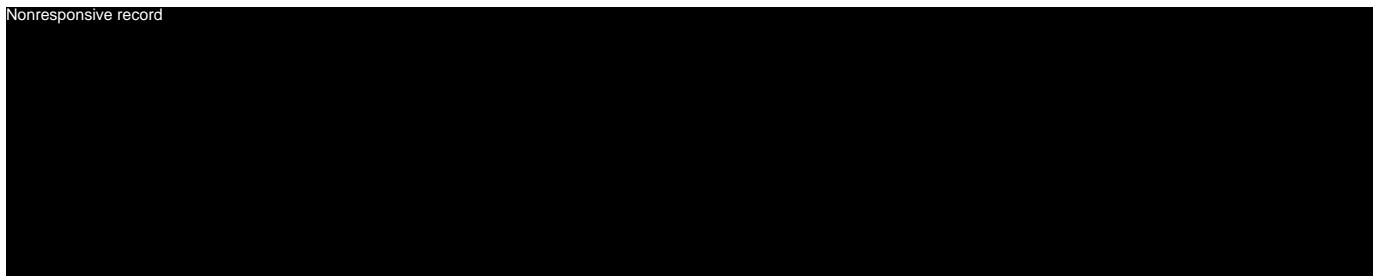
On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Representative Ryan Zinke to be Secretary of the Interior. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM

(b) (6)

Nonresponsive record



From: Deborah J. Bortot

Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 3:59 PM

To: 'Ann M Donaldson'

Cc: David J. Apol; Heather A. Jones; Sandra S. Mabry; Keith Labedz; Teresa L. Williamson; Rodrick T. Johnson; Emory A. Rounds III; Hall, Randall (HHS/OGC); 'Fischmann, Elizabeth (HHS/OGC)'

Subject: PRECLEASED: Seema Verma

Annie, Seema Verma is precleared.

I've attached the precleared ethics agreement.

Thanks!

Deb

Deborah J. Bortot

Chief, Presidential Nominations Branch

U.S. Office of Government Ethics

1201 New York Ave., NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-3917

Telephone: (202) 482-9227

Facsimile: (202) 482-9237

Brandon A. Steele

From: Ann M Donaldson (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2017 11:12 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Mrs. Linda McMahon

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Mrs. Linda McMahon to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration. Please transmit herpre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

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Brandon A. Steele

From: Ann M Donaldson (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 9:35 PM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Representative John Michael Mulvaney

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Representative John Michael Mulvaney to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
[JONES DAY® - One Firm WorldwideSM](#)
(b) (6)

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From: Ann M Donaldson [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Tuesday, January 03, 2017 8:20 AM
To: Deborah J. Bortot; Heather A. Jones
Subject: Mr. Rex Tillerson

On behalf of the President-Elect, this email serves as confirmation that the President-Elect intends to nominate Mr. Rex Tillerson to be Secretary of State. Please transmit his pre-cleared 278 report to the appropriate Senate committee.
Thank you,
Annie

Ann M. Donaldson
Associate
JONES DAY® - One Firm Worldwide<<http://www.jonesday.com/>>SM

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**Remarks of Walter M. Shaub, Jr., Director, U.S. Office of Government Ethics,
as prepared for delivery at 4:00 p.m. on January 11, 2017, at the Brookings Institution**

I wish circumstances were different and I didn't feel the need to make public remarks today. You don't hear about ethics when things are going well. You've been hearing a lot about ethics lately.

I need to talk about ethics today because the plan the President-elect has announced doesn't meet the standards that the best of his nominees are meeting and that every President in the past four decades has met. My hope is that, if the Office of Government Ethics can provide some constructive feedback on his plan, he may choose to make adjustments that will resolve his conflicts of interest.

I'll limit the scope of my remarks today, and I won't be talking about nominees whose ethics packages have not gone to the Senate. With that limitation, there's still much that can be said. For starters, I'm happy to report that it's not all bad news. OGE has been able to do good work during this Presidential transition. I'm especially proud of the ethics agreement we developed for the intended nominee for Secretary of State, Rex Tillerson.

Mr. Tillerson is making a clean break from Exxon. He's also forfeiting bonus payments worth millions. As a result of OGE's work, he's now free of financial conflicts of interest. His ethics agreement serves as a sterling model for what we'd like to see with other nominees. He clearly recognizes that public service sometimes comes at a cost. The greater the authority entrusted in a government official, the greater the potential for conflicts of interest. That's why the cost is often greater the higher up you go.

We've had similar success with some of the President-elect's other intended nominees. Some of them haven't quite gotten there yet, as I explained in recent letters to the Senate. But with an example like Mr. Tillerson's ethics agreement, I anticipate we'll get them there, too. In connection with this work, it's important to recognize that OGE is not the enforcement mechanism but the prevention mechanism. OGE is non-partisan and does its work independently. Our goal—*our reason for existing*—is to guard the executive branch against conflicts of interest.

We can't risk creating the perception that government leaders would use their official positions for profit. That's why I was glad in November when the President-elect tweeted that he wanted to, as he put it, "in no way have a conflict of interest" with his businesses. Unfortunately, his current plan cannot achieve that goal.

It's easy to see that the current plan does not achieve anything like the clean break Rex Tillerson is making from Exxon. Stepping back from running his business is meaningless from a conflict of interest perspective. The Presidency is a full-time job and he would've had to step back anyway. The idea of setting up a trust to hold his operating businesses adds nothing to the equation. This is not a blind trust—it's not even close.

I think *Politico* called this a "half-blind" trust, but it's not even halfway blind. The only thing this has in common with a blind trust is the label, "trust." His sons are still running the businesses, and, of course, he knows what he owns. His own attorney said today that he can't "un-know" that he owns Trump tower. The same is true of his other holdings. The idea of limiting direct communication about the business is wholly inadequate. That's not how a blind trust works. There's not supposed to be any information at all.

Here too, his attorney said something important today. She said he'll know about a deal if he reads it in the paper or sees it on TV. That wouldn't happen with a blind trust. In addition, the notion that there won't be new deals doesn't solve the problem of all the existing deals and businesses. The enormous stack of documents on the stage when he spoke shows just how many deals and businesses there are.

I was especially troubled by the statement that the incoming administration is going to demand that OGE approve a diversified portfolio of assets. No one has ever talked to us about that idea, and there's no legal mechanism to do that. Instead, Congress set up OGE's blind trust program under the Ethics in Government Act. Under that law anyone who wants a blind trust has to work with OGE from the start, but OGE has been left out of this process. We would have told them that this arrangement fails to meet the statutory requirements.

The President-elect's attorney justified the decision not to use a blind trust by saying that you can't put operating businesses in a blind trust. She's right about that. That's why the decision to set up this strange new kind of trust is so perplexing. The attorney also said she feared the public might question the legitimacy of the sale price if he divested his assets. I wish she had spoken with those of us in the government who do this for a living. We would have reassured her that Presidential nominees in every administration agree to sell illiquid assets all the time. Unlike the President, they have to run the gauntlet of a rigorous Senate confirmation process where the legitimacy of their divestiture plans can be closely scrutinized. These individuals get through the nomination process by carefully ensuring that the valuation of their companies is done according to accepted industry standards. There's nothing unusual about that.

For these reasons, the plan does not comport with the tradition of our Presidents over the past 40 years. This isn't the way the Presidency has worked since Congress passed the Ethics in Government Act in 1978 in the immediate aftermath of the Watergate scandal. Since then, Presidents Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama all either established blind trusts or limited their investments to non-conflicting assets like diversified mutual funds, which are exempt under the conflict of interest law.

Now, before anyone is too critical of the plan the President-elect announced, let's all remember there's still time to build on that plan and come up with something that *will* resolve his conflicts of interest. In developing the current plan, the President-elect did not have the benefit of OGE's guidance. So, to be clear, OGE's primary recommendation is that he divest his conflicting financial interests. Nothing short of divestiture will resolve these conflicts.

This has been my view from the start. The media covered some messages I sent the President-elect through Twitter. While some people got what I was doing, I think some others may have missed the point. I was trying to use the vernacular of the President-elect's favorite social media platform to encourage him to divest. My thinking was that more pointed language would have been too strong at a time when he was still making up his mind. I reiterated my view in a written response to questions from the Senate, which is posted on OGE's website. I've been pursuing this issue because the ethics program starts at the top. The signals a President sends set the tone for ethics across the executive branch. Tone from the top matters.

I've had the honor and great privilege of serving as Director of the Office of Government Ethics for four years now. But I've been in ethics for much longer than that, having come up through the ranks as a career government ethics official. Over the years, I've worked closely with countless officials in administrations of both major parties. Ethics has no party.

The job hasn't always been easy, though, especially when I've had to ask nominees and appointees to take painful steps to avoid conflicts of interest. I can't count the number of times I've delivered the bad news that they needed to divest assets, break open trusts, and dissolve businesses. Most of these individuals have worked with us in good faith. Their basic patriotism usually prevails, as they agree to set aside their personal interests to serve their country's interests. Sometimes these individuals have required more persuasion, but every OGE Director has been buoyed by the unwavering example of Presidents who resolved their own conflicts of interest.

As I said, every President in modern times has taken the strong medicine of divestiture. This means OGE Directors could always point to the President as a model. They could also rely on the President's implicit assurance of support if anyone balked at doing what OGE asked them to do. Officials in any administration need their President to show ethics matters, not only through words but also through deeds. This is vitally important if we're going to have any kind of ethics program.

Now, some have said that the President can't have a conflict of interest, but that is quite obviously not true. I think the most charitable way to understand such statements is that they are referring to a particular conflict of interest law that doesn't apply to the President. That law, 18 U.S.C. § 208, bars federal employees from participating in particular matters affecting their financial interests. Employees comply with that law by "recusing," which is a lawyerly way of saying they have stay out of things affecting their financial interests. If they can't stay out of these things, they have to sell off their assets or get a waiver. That's what Presidential appointees do. But Congress understood that a President can't recuse without depriving the American people of the services of their leader. *That's* the reason why the law doesn't apply to the President.

Common sense dictates that a President can, of course, have very real conflicts of interest. A conflict of interest is anything that creates an incentive to put your own interests before the interests of the people you serve. The Supreme Court has written that a conflict of interest is, and I'm quoting here, "an evil which endangers the very fabric of a democratic society, for a democracy is effective only if the people have faith in those who govern, and that faith is bound to be shattered when high officials and their appointees engage in activities which arouse suspicions of corruption."

That same Court referred to what it called a "moral principle" underlying concerns about conflicts of interest. The Court cited, and I'm quoting again, "the Biblical admonition that no man may serve two masters, a maxim which is especially pertinent if one of the masters happens to economic self-interest." A President is no more immune to the influence of two masters than any subordinate official. In fact, our common experience of human affairs suggests that the potential for corruption only grows with the increase of power.

For this reason, it's been the consistent policy of the executive branch that the President should act as though the financial conflict of interest law applied. One of my tweets and my letter to Congress cited an OGE opinion issued during the Reagan administration that articulated this very policy.

Back when he was working for the Justice Department, the late Antonin Scalia also wrote an opinion declaring that a President should avoid engaging in conduct prohibited by the government's ethics regulations, even if they don't apply. Justice Scalia warned us that there would be consequences if a President ever failed to adhere to the same standards that apply to lower level officials. The sheer obviousness of Justice Scalia's words becomes apparent if you just ask yourself one question: Should a President hold himself to a lower standard than his own appointees?

I appreciate that divestiture can be costly. But the President-elect would not be alone in making that sacrifice. I've been involved in just about every Presidential nomination in the past 10 years. I also have been involved in the ethics review of Presidents, Vice Presidents, and most top White House officials. I've seen the sacrifices that these individuals have had to make.

It's important to understand that the President is now entering the world of public service. He's going to be asking his own appointees to make sacrifices. He's going to be asking our men and women in uniform to risk their lives in conflicts around the world. So, no, I don't think divestiture is too high a price to pay to be the President of the United States of America.

As we all know, one of the things that make America truly great is its system for preventing public corruption. For a long time now, OGE has helped developing countries set up their own systems for detecting and preventing conflicts of interest. Our executive branch ethics program is considered the gold standard internationally and has served as a model for the world. But that program starts with the Office of the President. The President-elect must show those in government—and those coming into government after his inauguration—that *ethics matters*.

All of this is to say there are reasons why experts and others are expressing concern. These calls for divestiture have been bipartisan. You have the examples of President Obama's ethics counsel, Norm Eisen, and President Bush's ethics counsel, Richard Painter. The conservative Wall Street Journal recommended divestiture. So did conservative columnist Peggy Noonan.

It's plain to see that none of this reflects any partisan motivation. All you have to do is imagine what will happen if the President-elect takes this advice and divests. He'll be stronger. He'll have a better chance of succeeding. So will the ethics program and the government as a whole. And, in turn, America will have a better chance of succeeding. We should all want that. I know I want that.

In closing, I would just like to add that I'm happy to offer my assistance and the assistance of my staff. Thank you.