COVER SHEET FOR AMENDMENT OF POST-TRAVEL SUBMISSION

Date/Time Stamp
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PUBLIC RECORDS
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Instructions: Use this form as a cover sheet for any paperwork you may need to submit to the **Office of Public Records** in order to make your Privately Sponsored Post-Travel Submission complete in accordance with Rule 35. **Only complete this form if you need to submit an amendment to a post-travel filing you have already submitted.**

SUBMIT DIRECTLY TO THE **OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS IN 232 HART BUILDING**

Name of Traveler: Anthony Mitchell

Employing Office/Committee: Senator Jeff Merkley

Travel Expenses Paid by (List all sources): The Aspen Institute Socrates Program

Travel Date(s): May 10-12, 2019

Description/Title of Attached Forms: Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form

Purpose of Amendment (describe the reason for amending original submission): This amendment reflects Ethics Committee's approved form.

8/1/19
(Date)

(Signature of Traveler)

(Revised 4/19/2010)

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PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

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1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): The Aspen Institute Inc. (Socrates Program) ("AISP")

2. Description of the trip: The AISP is sponsoring a Socrates seminar to discuss leadership, responsible governance and the role of Congress.

3. Dates of travel: May 10 -12, 2019

4. Place of travel: Queenstown, Maryland

5. Name and title of Senate invitees: See attached.

6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:

   ☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

   – OR –

   ☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) *(see question 9)*.

7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

   – AND –

   ☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

8. I *certify* that:

   ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.

   – AND –

   ☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**
I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

– OR –

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**
If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

The Aspen Institute Socrates Program is the sole sponsor of the seminar and organized and conducted the trip (including selected the participants, developed the agenda, planned the seminar and coordinated the travel). (See attached Appendix)

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

The Aspen Institute is an educational and policy studies non-partisan, non-profit organization whose mission is to foster leadership based on enduring values and provide a non-partisan forum for the exchange of ideas. The Socrates Program is a program of the Aspen Institute. (See attached Appendix)

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

The Aspen Institute has a nearly forty year history of conducting non-partisan educational congressional trips; the Socrates Program, specifically, also has conducted congressional trips.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

The Aspen Institute organizes numerous educational activities, including briefings, roundtables, forums and conferences for a diverse range of attendees including federal and state policymakers, business and organization leaders, members of the press and the general public. (See attached Appendix.)

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
☒ Good Faith estimate ☐ Actual Amounts	$78 for bus	$236 for two nights ($118 per night)	$142	$47 per day for conference room fees (includes meeting facilities, set up/take down, cleaning)

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

B) The trip involves an event that is organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

The conference center is close to Washington, DC, which provides for ease of travel for participants and moderator(s).

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Wye River Conference Center, 600 Aspen Dr, Queenstown, MD 21658

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

The conference center has sufficient meeting space and lodging to support off-the-record, non-partisan exchanges of ideas and professional learning. The Aspen Institute owns the Wye River Conference Center property.

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Lodging expenses equal the per diem rate.

Meal expenses are less than the per diem rate

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Round-trip transportation will be provided by chartered, coach-class bus between Washington D.C. and the conference center.

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

None

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: _____

Name and Title: Elliot Gerson, Executive Vice President, Policy & Public Program

Name of Organization: The Aspen Institute

Address: 2300 N Street NW, Washington DC 20037

Telephone Number: 202-736-5859 (Lisa Jones, Deputy General Counsel)

Fax Number: 202-467-0790

E-mail Address: lisa.jones@aspeninstitute.org

Appendix to Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, Aspen Institute Socrates Program for the Emerging Governance Leaders Seminar, May 10-12, 2019

Question 12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip (response continued) – The Aspen Institute Socrates Program received general, unrestricted funding from the Democracy Fund to support the Socrates Program. The funding was not earmarked for this trip. Democracy Fund did not play a role in organizing or planning the conference, including, but not limited to the content, agenda, moderators, attendees or other logistics.

Questions 13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to the mission (response continued) –The Socrates Program seeks to provide a forum for emerging leaders from various professions to convene and explore contemporary issues through expert-moderated dialogue. The purpose of the trip is to conduct a non-partisan educational seminar on leadership, responsible governance and the role of Congress that encourages off-the-record, candid exchanges of ideas to support staffers' learning and development.

Question 15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips) (response continued) - Socrates Program organizes seminars every year bringing together a diverse group of professional to explore issues, discuss current topics and encourage dialogue and exchange of ideas.

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#5. Name and titles of Senate invitees:

Ms. Elizabeth Coats
Staff Assistant
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations

Mr. Anthony Mitchell
Legislative Correspondent
Office of Senator Jeff Merkley

Ms. Alaura Ervin
Deputy Legislative Assistant
Office of Senator Tim Scott

Mr. Oliver Riquelme
Legislative Correspondent
Office of Kirsten Gillibrand

Mr. Rachit Choksi
Oversight & Investigations Counsel
U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and
Public Works

Mr. Wilson Shirley
Speech Writer
Office of Senator Roger Wicker

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