RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp

RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS
2024 MAY 23 PM 12:36

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.**This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Certification:*In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:*

Private Sponsor(s):
The University of Austin

Travel Dates:
05/10/2024 to 05/12/2024

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
$806.81	$798.00	$165.00	$0.00

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

05/22/24
Date

Jess Andrews
Printed Name of Traveler

Jessica Andrews
Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

5/22/2024
Date

John Kennedy
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

● Yes ○ No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
Transportation	$806.81	Uber costs were originally projected to be $104, but ended up only costing $83.62.
Meals	$165.00	Meal provided on May 12 was projected at $50, but ended up only costing $30.00.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

● Yes ○ No

Explanation: May 10, 2024: The meeting originally scheduled from 2:00 - 4:00 PM with Maggie Kelly and Ben Crocker lasted from 2:00 - 4:45 PM and included Maggie Kelly, Ben Crocker and David Ruth.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

○ Yes ● No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220.** Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
Jess Andrews

Employing Office/Committee:
KENNEDY, JOHN

Private Sponsor(s):
The University of Austin

Destination(s):
Austin, Texas

Travel Dates:
05/10/2024 to 05/12/2024
NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

Sen. Kennedy has focused on improving educational outcomes and expanding educational choice, and education is an issue that I have worked on as part of this office. In addition, the senator makes policy that protects the constitutional and individual rights of every American and guards against state-sanctioned discrimination or infringement on those rights. As the lead spokesperson, I am responsible for understanding all of these issues and communicating the senator's position on them. The opportunity to be part of an exchange with some of the leading public thinkers on these fronts will strengthen both my ability to serve the office and the people we represent.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

04/30/24
Date

Jessica Andrews
Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I John Kennedy (Print Senator's/Officer's Name) hereby authorize Jessica Andrews (Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

☐ (signify "yes" by checking box)

4/30/2024
Date

John Kennedy
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

The University of Austin: First Principles Summit

Jess Andrews

Title:
Communications Director

Employing Office/Committee:
KENNEDY, JOHN

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):
Austin, Texas

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

Sen. Kennedy has focused on improving educational outcomes and expanding educational choice, and education is an issue that I have worked on as part of this office. In addition, the senator makes policy that protects the constitutional and individual rights of every American and guards against state-sanctioned discrimination or infringement on those rights. As the lead spokesperson, I am responsible for understanding all of these issues and communicating the senator's position on them. The opportunity to be part of an exchange with some of the leading public thinkers on these fronts will strengthen both my ability to serve the office and the people we represent.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
The University of Austin

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
✔ Yes ○ No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
Public Charity

Address
522 Congress Avenue

Address 2 (Optional)
Suite 300

City, State Zip
Austin, Texas 78701 United States

Phone Number
5406478652

Organization URL
https://www.uaustin.org/

History of Congressional Travel

University of Austin (UATX) has never sponsored congressional travel before.

Educational Activities

Over the past two years, UATX has hosted academic based programs available to varying populations of students: short-term academic seminars addressing the great questions of our time; extended programs cultivating leadership; weekend intellectual foundations program for high school students; philosophical symposia; and educator development programs. This coming fall, UATX will welcome its first class of students to its four-year undergraduate program.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ✔ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ✔ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ✔ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

None Entered

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

First Principles Summit is an annual event hosted by the Board, Faculty and Staff of UATX as a means of gathering expertise from specific communities and leaders in various fields to address a certain aspect of the University's development. This year's Summit is designed to explore how the Constitution of UATX will be applied to its student body and community with the launching of its first undergraduate class. Last year's summit addressed the need for and framework of the Constitution for the school which the Founders of the University of Austin ultimately composed. This Constitution serves as the guiding document to establish an institution of higher learning that champions the pursuit of truth, scientific inquiry, freedom of conscience, and civil discourse, and that is independent of government, party, religious denomination and business interest in all matters.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

The educational mission of UATX and its Constitution based on the concept of freedom of speech, pursuit of truth and civil discourse are all issues that are important to Sen. Kennedy and that align with his passion for education. The participation from his office this year will provide valuable insight into how these principles can be fully realized through the undergraduate programing being developed for the matriculating class in fall of 2024. As lead spokesperson for the senator and his office, Ms. Andrews is responsible for understanding the issues in education and communicating the senator's position on them. Her participation in the exchange of ideas with some of today's lead public thinkers on these fronts will strengthen her ability to serve the office and the people represented.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

- ☑ Yes
- ○ No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized without regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- ☑ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- ☑ The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- ☑ No funds or in-kind contributions were 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.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- ☑ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ○ The trip is limited to 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

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- ○ The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- ○ The trip is limited to 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

○ The trip is limited to 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

○ The trip is limited to 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

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

✓ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.

✓ Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

ⓘ Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will not** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
05/10/2024 @ 09:32 AM

⇄

Trip End Date/Time:
05/12/2024 @ 05:25 PM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

○ Yes ✓ No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $827.19 | Accompanying Family Member: $0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	$723.19
Note Round Trip Airfare on United Airlines		
Ground Transportation	Coach	$104.00
Note 5/10/24 Driskill Hotel to Hock Residence ($20.00) Hock Residence to Driskill Hotel ($20.00) 5/11/24 Driskill Hotel to Lonsdale Residence ($32.00) Lonsdale Residence to Driskill Hotel ($32.00)		

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $798.00)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
05/10/2024	05/12/2024	Driskill Hotel	Austin	Texas	United States	2	$399.00	Yes

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem

Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason
The hotel selected will be housing all guests for the weekend. It is the preferred hotel due to its close proximity to the UATX campus and its ability to accommodate all Summit delegates. The hotel is providing a group discount and the rate is comparable to other hotels in the area. Room rates are higher than normal that weekend due to University of Texas graduation and Mother's Day.

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $185.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
05/10/2024	$0.00	$0.00	$50.00	$0.00	**$50.00**	Austin	Texas	United States	No
05/11/2024	$10.00	$25.00	$50.00	$0.00	**$85.00**	Austin	Texas	United States	Yes

Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason
The per diem cost per day is higher due to the nature of the evening event which is a larger group dinner event with service. Average cost for the entire trip with meals comes out less than the per diem rate.

05/12/2024	$50.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	**$50.00**	Austin	Texas	United States	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $0.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes

There are no miscellaneous expenses.

Additional Attachments

Document Name

There are no additional attachments.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: UATX First Principles Summit

Travel Date(s): May 9-12, 2024

Travel Destination(s): Austin, Texas

Sponsor: University of Austin

Ben Crocker
(printed name of sponsor representative)

Director of Special Program
(title)

(signature of sponsor representative)

4/5/24
(date)

University of Austin
First Principles Summit
May 10-12, 2024
Austin, Texas
Senate Invitee List

Jessica Andrews
Communications Director for
U.S. Senator John Kennedy
Louisiana
437 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224 4623

0000000004431 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 23, 2024

From: Ben Crocker <bcrocker@uaustin.org>
Date: March 26, 2024 at 1:38:01 PM EDT
To: Jess Andrews [redacted]
Subject: UATX First Principles Summit

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Planning is now well underway for our annual First Principles summit at the University of Austin. This year, the event will be held from Friday May 10 to Sunday May 12. The opening reception will commence at 6pm on Friday evening, and an optional concluding breakfast will take place between 8am and 10am on Sunday morning.

This year, our focus will be on the practical realization of our constitution. We are again looking forward to welcoming the best, brightest minds from around the United States, as we work together to reform American higher education. Owing to your experience in higher education and public life, I would like to invite you as a delegate to this event, where we will work at ensuring our institution lives up to the high ideals set forth in our founding documents.

The University will cover the cost of return domestic economy airfares to Austin, 2 nights accommodation at the Driskill Hotel, all main meals for the duration of the program, and transfers to and from airports. We will book you an individual room at the Driskill, and reimburse your flights and transfers. We can make family-friendly arrangements, with room for cots, and extra nights accommodation provided for those needing extra time to travel with children.

Further details on the program and a small amount of pre-reading will be sent closer to the event. For now, if you can attend, **please fill out this short form by Friday, March 15**. If you are unable to attend, please let me know by return email as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to welcoming you all to Austin.

Best Wishes,

Ben Crocker
Director of Special Programs & Associate Director of Admissions
Office: +1 (512) 348-7252
Cell: +1 (540) 647-8652

Applications are open now! See here our call for 100 founding students to take up 100 full tuition scholarships to America's newest tier 1 University.

UATX

University of Austin (UATX) First Principles Summit
May 10-12, 2024

"The Constitution in Action"

Participant Agenda for Jessica Andrews

Friday, May 10

8:32 AM Participant departs Washington, DC, on United Flight 381
11:07 AM Participant arrives in Austin, Texas
2:00 - 4:00 PM Participant to meet with Ben Crocker, UATX Director of Special Programs & Maggie Kelly, UATX Communications Manager
Meeting to discuss communication strategies and challenges at a startup university and in higher education in general.
5:00 PM Participant to Join Summit at Driskill Hotel | 604 Brazos Street, Austin, TX
Uber to Hock Residence | Westlake Austin, TX
6:00 - 7:00 PM **Opening Cocktail Reception at Hock Residence** | Austin, TX
7:00 - 7:30 PM **Welcome Remarks by Ben Crocker, UATX Director of Special Programs & Associate Director of Admissions**
Remarks will be given to welcome guests and to review details and itinerary for the weekend.
7:30 - 8:00 PM **President's Address by Pano Kanelos, UATX Founding President**
The President's Address will serve to welcome participants to the Summit weekend and provide an update on events and admissions for UATX. Time will be spent reviewing the developments of the past year following the establishment of the school's Constitution and the current state of realizing how that will serve the UATX community once student's arrive in the fall of 2024. He will also discuss the volatility on college campuses and how UATX and its Constitution might serve as a model to renew higher education in the US.

8:00 - 9:00 PM Continued Food and Drink Service
9:00 PM Event Concludes | Uber to Driskill Hotel

Saturday, May, 11

8:25-8:30 AM Walk from Driskill Hotel to UATX Campus 6th & Congress
8:30-9:30 AM Summit Breakfast Kitchen & Atrium
9:30-10:00 AM **Retrospective and Prospective by Pano Kanelis, UATX President**
President Kanelis will present a more detailed look at what has happened at UATX since last year's Summit when the school's Constitution was originally drafted and adopted. He will cover the problems and opportunities that have surfaced as a result of its creation. He will also look forward to the challenges and opportunities on the horizon as UATX welcomes its first class of students. Summit

University of Austin (UATX) First Principles Summit
May 10-12, 2024

attendees will be tasked with considering how these opportunities might best be realized in the coming months as classes and student life develop. (Format: Lecture)

10:00-11:15 AM **SESSION #1: UATX's Philosophy: Mission, Vision, & Principles by Ben Crocker, UATX Director of Special Programs & Associate Director of Admissions**

Mr. Crocker will review the philosophy and governing mission of the school and will open discussion to consider what this looks like in real time on a college campus. Discussion will be led with questions from Mr. Crocker and attendees will break into small groups for consideration which could vary according to expertise and interests.

(Format: Small Group Discussion)

11:30-12:45 PM **SESSION #2: *UATX's Constitution hosted by Niall Ferguson, Historian, Senior Fellow at The Hoover Institution at Stanford University, Founding Board Member of UATX***

Dr. Ferguson will take a deep dive into the spirit and authority of the school's Constitution and what this practically means to the body it governs. He will challenge Summit attendees to discuss in small groups how this Constitution can be lived out on a day-to-day basis at UATX in a variety of scenarios and how this might be modeled nationally for other schools in need of revitalized governance.

Dr. Ferguson is a leading author, historian, and educator with considerable experience in academic leadership. His guidance through the sessions of this Summit will benefit the further development of UATX as a model new university for the country, but will also help shape the conversation of higher education in America.

(Format: Small Group Discussion)

12:45-1:45 PM Lunch

1:45-2:45 PM **SESSION #3: *The Pursuit of Truth: Fundamental Conditions by Niall Ferguson***

Dr. Ferguson will have the Summit attendees join for a conversation to discuss what it means to Pursue Truth, particularly in a university setting. Directives to the discussion will include the conditions that must be present to have a genuine pursuit of truth and how those conditions might be undermined without careful attention given to the preservation of authentic civil discourse and the championing of intellectual courage.

(Format: Small Group Discussion)

3:00-4:30 PM **SESSION #4: *Academic Freedom: Faculty and Students by Niall Ferguson***

Dr. Ferguson will conclude the afternoon sessions with a conversation on Academic Freedom and how this influences and impacts faculty and students on a college campus. He will build upon the concept of intellectual courage and the ability to follow evidence where it leads, not jumping to conclusions or absolute certainties. Discussions will be held to consider how the lack of freedoms in the classroom have resulted in students refraining from beneficial discourse for fear of retribution or conversely feeling pressured to express beliefs they actually do not genuinely champion. Further consideration will be given to the impact the lack of academic freedom is having on college campuses around the country and how UATX might serve as a model for restoration.

University of Austin (UATX) First Principles Summit
May 10-12, 2024

(Format: Small Group Discussion)

4:30-5:30 PM Afternoon Sessions End | Free Time
5:30-5:45 PM Uber Transfer to Lonsdale Residence | Austin, TX

5:45-6:30 PM **Delegates Cocktail Reception at Lonsdale Residence**
6:30-7:30 PM **Keynote Address "Race Politics in America" by Coleman Hughes, Author, Podcaster and Columnist**

Coleman Hughes will address the Summit delegates about the state of Race Politics in America as presented in his latest book *The End of Race Politics: Arguments for a Colorblind America*. As a leading public thinker on the issue of race in America, attendees will be challenged to consider how this "anti-racism" movement is counter-productive and how culture and policy are impacted by racial paradigms and practices.

7:30-8:30 PM Dinner Buffet
8:30 PM Evening Session of Summit Concludes
Uber Transfer to Driskill Hotel

Sunday, May 12

7:00-12:30 PM Summit Delegate Brunch & Debrief, Driskill Hotel

The Summit concludes with an open, networking opportunity for discussion and conversation regarding the topics of the weekend over breakfast.

Conclusion of UATX First Principles Summit

12:14 PM Participant departs Austin, TX, on United Airlines Flight 688
4:25 PM Participant arrives Washington, DC

Privately Sponsored Travel Checklist
For Senate Employees

Senate employees must submit requests for approval of privately sponsored travel to the Select Committee on Ethics (the Committee) at least 30 days prior to the first day of travel. The Committee encourages employees to submit requests through the Travel App, available at https://pst.senate.gov. Paper forms, a travel deadline calculator, and additional information regarding the privately sponsored travel process are available on the Committee's website at https://www.ethics.senate.gov.

Pre-Travel

- ☑ Review the Regulations and Guidelines for Privately Sponsored Travel.
- ☑ Receive unsolicited invitation from private sponsor.
- ☑ Obtain approval from your supervising Member or officer.
- ☑ Submit request for approval to the Committee ***at least 30 days prior to the first day of travel***. Required documents for request for approval include:
  - ☑ Completed and signed Form RE-1 (Employee Pre-Travel Authorization Form). This form must be signed by both the traveler and their supervising Senator.
  - ☑ Original, unsolicited invitation from the travel sponsor
  - ☑ Completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including any necessary attachments. This form is completed by the travel sponsor.
  - ☑ A detailed, hour-by-hour itinerary, including each event or activity the Senate traveler will attend; sufficient detail to assess the substance and duration of each activity; arrival and departure information for the Senate traveler; and any necessary attachments.
- ☑ Receive approval letter from Committee ***before first day of travel***.

Post-Travel

*If you used the Travel App (https://pst.senate.gov) to obtain your Pre-Travel Authorization Package, the App will generate all documents required for your post-travel disclosure.

- ☑ Confirm with sponsor that no trip details changed from the pre-travel approval request. *Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip!*
- ☑ File public disclosure with Office of Public Records (Hart 232) ***within 30 days after the last day of travel***. Requirement documents for post-travel disclosure include:
  - ☑ Completed and signed Form RE-2 (Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses Form)
  - ☑ Copies of all pre-travel documents listed above
  - ☑ If needed, Attachment 1 (Changes from Approved Pre-Travel Form)