



U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, D.C. 20530

June 9, 2017

Walter M. Shaub, Jr.
Director
Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue, NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005-3919

Dear Mr. Shaub:

In accordance with the provisions of Title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended, I am forwarding the financial disclosure report of Brian A. Benczkowski. President Trump has nominated Mr. Benczkowski to serve as Assistant Attorney General, in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

We have conducted a thorough review of the enclosed report. The conflict of interest statute, 18 U.S.C. § 208, requires that Mr. Benczkowski recuse himself from participating personally and substantially in any particular matter in which he knows that he has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which he knows that a person whose interests are imputed to him has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, unless he first obtains a written waiver, pursuant to Section 208(b)(1), or qualifies for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to Section 208(b)(2). Mr. Benczkowski understands that the interests of the following persons are imputed to him: his spouse; minor children; any general partner of a partnership in which he is a limited or general partner; any organization in which he serves as an officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which he is negotiating or has an arrangement concerning prospective employment. In determining whether a particular matter has a direct and predictable effect on his financial interests or on those of any other person whose interests are imputed to him, Mr. Benczkowski will consult with Department of Justice ethics officials.

Upon confirmation, Mr. Benczkowski will resign from his position as partner of Kirkland & Ellis. For a period of one year after his resignation, he will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which he knows the firm is a party or represents a party, unless he is first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d). In addition, he will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which he knows that a former client of his is a party or represents a party, for a period of one year after he last provided service to that client, unless he is first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

Mr. Benczkowski's spouse is a partner at West Front Strategies, LLC, a lobbying firm. Mr. Benczkowski will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to his knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of West Front Strategies,

LLC, unless he first obtains a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1). Mr. Benczkowski also will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which he knows a client of his spouse is a party or represents a party, unless he is first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d). In addition, for the duration of his appointment to the position of Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Mr. Benczkowski's spouse has agreed to not communicate directly with the Department of Justice, Criminal Division, on behalf of West Front Strategies, LLC, or any client.

If Mr. Benczkowski has a managed account or otherwise uses the services of an investment professional during his appointment, he will ensure that the account manager or investment professional obtains his prior approval on a case-by-case basis for the purchase of any assets other than cash, cash equivalents, investment funds that qualify for the exemption at 5 C.F.R. § 2640.201(a), obligations of the United States, or municipal bonds.

He will meet in person with Department ethics officials during the first week of his service in the position of Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division in order to complete the initial ethics briefing required under 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305. If circumstances do not permit a first-week meeting, he will meet with Department ethics officials not later than 15 days after his appointment as required under 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305. Within 90 days of his confirmation, he will document his compliance with this ethics agreement by notifying Department ethics officials in writing when he has completed the steps described in this ethics agreement.

Mr. Benczkowski understands that as an appointee he will be required to sign the Ethics Pledge (Exec. Order No. 13770) and that he will be bound by the requirements and restrictions therein in addition to the commitments he has made in this ethics agreement.

Mr. Benczkowski has been advised that this ethics agreement will be posted publicly, consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with ethics agreements of other Presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Based on the above agreements and counseling, I am satisfied that the report presents no conflicts of interest under applicable laws and regulations and that you can so certify to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

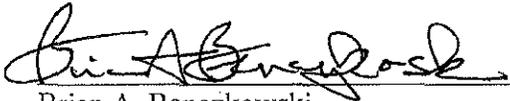


Michael Allen
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
For Administration and
Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

Enclosure

NOMINEE STATEMENT

I have read the attached Ethics Agreement signed by Michael Allen, Deputy Assistant Attorney General and Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official, on June 9, 2017 and I agree to comply with the conflict of interest statute and regulations, and to follow the procedures set forth in the agreement. I understand that as an appointee I will be required to sign the Ethics Pledge (Exec. Order No. 13770) and that I will be bound by the requirements and restrictions therein in addition to the commitments I have made in this ethics agreement.



Brian A. Benczkowski

6/9/2017
Date