

KEITH ELLISON
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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
AND CONSUMER CREDIT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC AND
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY POLICY,
TRADE, AND TECHNOLOGY

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION, CIVIL
RIGHTS, AND CIVIL LIBERTIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP,
REFUGEES, BORDER SECURITY, AND
INTERNATIONAL LAW

October 7, 2009

Lorraine C. Miller
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives
Office of the Clerk
U.S. Capitol, Room H154
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Ms. Miller:

I am writing to amend the annual Financial Disclosure Statement I filed in May 2009. Based on the guidance of the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, I am making this technical correction to Schedule VI of my Financial Disclosure.

I have also enclosed a letter from the Standards Committee to further clarify the reason for this change.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff at extension 5-4755 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Ellison', written over a large, stylized flourish.

Keith Ellison
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

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BEN CHANDLER, KENTUCKY
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CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

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GREGG HARPER, MISSISSIPPI

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

Washington, DC 20515-6328

TODD UNGERECHE
COUNSEL TO THE RANKING
REPUBLICAN MEMBER

SUITE HT-2, THE CAPITOL
(202) 225-7103

September 21, 2009

The Honorable Keith Ellison
U.S. House of Representatives
1122 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

We write with regard to the disclosure on your annual Financial Disclosure Statement (FD) of an approved trip you took during calendar year 2008. You disclosed the trip properly on Schedule VII of your FD for calendar year 2008 pursuant to the guidance of the staff of the Standards Committee. Upon further review, the Committee has determined that the trip should have been reported on Schedule VI, rather than on Schedule VII as originally advised. This review is routine and pursuant to statute. As a result, you should amend the FD you filed in May 2009.

We consider this change to be merely a minor, technical correction, and we concur that you followed proper procedures and committee guidance. We view your original disclosure on Schedule VII as being properly prepared and conforming to the guidance provided to you at the time of the disclosure. Given that you did not add official meetings during the trip, as originally anticipated, we conclude that Schedule VI is the proper schedule for disclosure.

According to the information you provided in your trip request, your 2008 FD, and to Committee counsel, the background on this matter is as follows. In October 2008, the Standards Committee formally approved your request to accept from the Muslim American Society of Minnesota (MAS-MN) expenses to participate in a 12-day Hajj trip to Saudi Arabia. MAS-MN is a § 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that seeks to promote understanding between Muslims and non-Muslims. In the past, MAS-MN has paid the travel expenses of community leaders and other notable persons to further its goal of fostering greater understanding of Islam. At the time you sought Committee approval, you anticipated that you might supplement the MAS-MN itinerary with meetings of an official nature, such as with government or business leaders.

By letter dated October 10, 2008, the Committee granted your request to accept travel expenses from MAS-MN for the proposed Hajj trip. The Committee deemed the trip permissible given the nature and purpose of the sponsoring organization, as well as its past history in sponsoring trips for individuals unaffiliated with the House.

The Honorable Keith Ellison

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As part of its statutorily-mandated review of all Financial Disclosure Statements filed each year, the Committee revisited the issue of the disclosure of the MAS-MN trip. At that time, your staff informed the Committee that you did not, in fact, add any official activity to the trip, and instead undertook only the more personal itinerary scheduled by MAS-MN.

Upon further review of the matter, including the information gained during its annual review of FDs, the Committee has decided that the MAS-MN trip is more properly disclosed on Schedule VI for gifts, rather than on Schedule VII for travel. Therefore, you should amend your 2008 FD to report the trip on Schedule VI rather than on Schedule VII.

Committee staff are available to provide additional information on drafting and filing the amendment. If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Zoe Lofgren
Chair



Jo Bonner
Ranking Republican Member

ZL/JB:ced

SCHEDULE V — LIABILITIES

Name **Keith M. Ellison**

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Report liabilities of over \$10,000 owed to any one creditor at any time during the reporting period by you, your spouse, or dependent child. Mark the highest amount owed during the year. **Exclude:** Any mortgage on your personal residence (unless it is rented out); loans secured by automobiles, household furniture, or appliances; liabilities of a business in which you own an interest; and liabilities owed to a spouse, or the child, parent, or sibling of you or your spouse. Report revolving charge accounts (i.e., credit cards) only if the balance at the close of the preceding calendar year exceeded \$10,000.

SP, DC, JT	Creditor	Type of Liability	Amount of Liability												
			B \$10,001-\$15,000	C \$15,001-\$50,000	D \$50,001-\$100,000	E \$100,001-\$250,000	F \$250,001-\$500,000	G \$500,001-\$1,000,000	H \$1,000,001-\$5,000,000	I \$5,000,001-\$25,000,000	J \$25,000,001-\$50,000,000	K Over \$50,000,000			
Example:	First Bank of Wilmington, Delaware	Mortgage on 123 Main St., Dover, Del.				X									
	Congressional Federal Credit Union, DC	Checking Ready Reserve		X											

SCHEDULE VI — GIFTS

Report the source, a brief description, and the value of all gifts totalling more than \$335 received by you, your spouse, or a dependent child from any source during the year. **Exclude:** Gifts from relatives, gifts of personal hospitality of an individual, local meals, and gifts to a spouse or dependent child that are totally independent of his or her relationship to you. Gifts with a value of \$134 or less need not be added towards the \$335 disclosure threshold. **Note:** The gift rule (House Rule 25, clause 5) prohibits acceptance of gifts except as specifically provided in the rule.

Source	Description	Value
Example: Mr. Joseph H. Smith, Anytown, Anystate	Silver Platter (determination on personal friendship received from Committee on Standards)	\$345
Muslim American Society of Minnesota, Inver Grove Heights, MN	Travel expenses for 14-day trip to Saudi Arabia for purposes of Hajj (trip pre-approved by Committee on Standards)	\$19,350