

February 25, 2022

Mr. Richard C. Visek  
Principal Deputy Legal Adviser and  
Designated Agency Ethics Official  
Office of the Legal Adviser  
U.S. Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Re: Ethics Undertakings

Dear Mr. Visek:

The purpose of this letter is to describe the steps that I will take to avoid any actual or apparent conflict of interest in the event that I am confirmed for the position of Ambassador to the Netherlands. It is my responsibility to understand and comply with commitments outlined in this agreement.

#### SECTION 1 – GENERAL COMMITMENTS

If confirmed as Ambassador to the Netherlands, as required by the criminal conflicts of interest law at 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which I know that I have a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which I know that a person whose interests are imputed to me has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the particular matter, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me:

- Any spouse or minor child of mine;
- Any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner;
- Any organization in which I serve as an officer, director, trustee, general partner, or employee; and
- Any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

*In the event that an actual or potential conflict of interest arises during my appointment, I will consult with an agency ethics official and take the measures necessary to resolve the conflict, such as recusal from the particular matter or divestiture of an asset.*

I understand that a heightened prospect of a conflict of interest could exist as to companies that maintain a presence in the Netherlands because they may be more likely than other companies to seek official assistance from or make contact with the Embassy or otherwise

be affected by policies and engagement implemented by the Embassy. I will remain alert to the possible need for recusal where appropriate.

In addition, I will recuse myself from participation on a case-by-case basis in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I determine that a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would question my impartiality in that matter, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to the impartiality regulations at 5 C.F.R. Part 2635, Subpart E.

I have a managed account, and I will direct the account manager to obtain my 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 regulatory exemption for diversified mutual funds and unit investment trusts at 5 C.F.R. § 2640.201(a), obligations of the United States, or municipal bonds. I will monitor whether the account manager is following this direction regarding prior approval.

I will receive a live ethics briefing from a member of the ethics office after my confirmation but not later than 15 days after my appointment pursuant to the ethics program regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305. Within 90 days of my confirmation, I will submit my Certification of Ethics Agreement Compliance which documents my compliance with this ethics agreement.

I understand that as an appointee I will be required to sign the Ethics Pledge (Exec. Order No. 13989) and that I will be bound by it. Among other obligations, I will be required to recuse from particular matters involving specific parties involving my former employer or former clients for a period of two years after I am appointed, with the exception of federal, state and local government.

I will not modify this ethics agreement without your approval and the approval of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics pursuant to the ethics agreement requirements contained in the financial disclosure regulation at 5 C.F.R. § 2634.803(a)(4).

## SECTION 2 – NON-FEDERAL POSITIONS

I will retain my positions as trustee of a family revocable trust and two family irrevocable trusts. During my appointment to the position of Ambassador, I will not receive any fees for the services that I provide as a trustee for any of these trusts. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of these trusts, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1) or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2).

## SECTION 3 – DIVESTITURES

I will divest my interests in the following entities, as soon as practicable but not later than 90 days after my confirmation:

- Alphabet Inc.
- Amazon.com, Inc.
- Mastercard Inc.
- Palo Alto Networks, Inc.

With regard to each of these entities, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of this entity until I have divested it, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2).

I also have an interest in Quantamentals Large-Cap Fund, L.P., that has underlying holdings that the State Department has determined constitute a conflict of interest with the position of Ambassador to the Netherlands. I will divest my interest in this fund as soon as practicable but not later than 90 days after my confirmation. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of the fund or its underlying holdings until I have divested it, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2).

I have verified that I will be able to carry out the divestitures in this Section within the timeframe described above.

I understand that I may be eligible to request a Certificate of Divestiture for qualifying assets and that a Certificate of Divestiture is effective only if obtained prior to divestiture. Regardless of whether I receive a Certificate of Divestiture, I will ensure that all divestitures discussed in this agreement occur within the agreed upon timeframes and that all proceeds are invested in non-conflicting assets. I understand that I must timely submit my request for a Certificate of Divestiture to allow for adequate time for OGE to process the Certificate of Divestiture, and in order to divest assets within the agreed upon timeframe.

I (including my spouse and dependent children if applicable) will not repurchase any asset I was required to divest without consulting with my agency ethics official and the U.S. Office of Government Ethics.

If I rely on a *de minimis* exemption under 5 C.F.R. § 2640.202 with regard to any of my financial interests in securities, I will monitor the value of those interests. If the aggregate value of interests affected by a particular matter increases and exceeds the *de minimis* threshold, I will not participate personally and substantially in the particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the interests, unless I first obtain a written waiver pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

If I rely on a *de minimis* exemption under 5 C.F.R. § 2640.201(b) with regard to any of my financial interests in sector mutual funds, I will monitor the value of those interests. If the aggregate value of my interests in sector mutual funds that concentrate in any one sector exceeds \$50,000, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of any holdings of the

funds that are in the specific sector in which the funds concentrate, unless I first obtain a written waiver pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

#### SECTION 4 – INVESTMENT FUNDS

You have advised me that, at this time, I do not need to divest my interests in Owl Rock Access Fund, L.P. At this time, this fund does not pose a likely conflict of interest. However, you have explained that there is a heightened risk of a conflict of interest if this fund is acquiring new holdings. I understand that I am personally responsible for avoiding conflicts of interest with respect to this fund and its holdings and I will monitor the investment information made available to me regarding this fund and consult as appropriate with the Office of the Legal Adviser for Ethics and Financial Disclosure at the Department of State. If in the future the holdings of this fund are determined to pose a conflict with the performance of my official duties, then I may be directed to divest my interest in the fund. In that event, I will do so within 90 days of such order. With regard to this fund, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of the fund or its underlying holdings, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2).

#### SECTION 5 – SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT

My spouse is a partner with FFL Partners, and has an equity interest in FFL Partners LLC, FFL Partners, L.P., FFL Partners Holdings, LLC, and additional FFL-affiliated funds. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of any FFL entity or FFL-affiliated fund in which my spouse has an equity interest unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2).

#### SECTION 6 – PUBLIC POSTING

I have been advised that this ethics agreement and the Certification of Ethics Agreement Compliance will be posted publicly, consistent with the public information law at 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.

Sincerely,



Shefali Razdan Duggal