K. Michael Conaway, Texas Chairman Linda T. Sánchez, California Ranking Member

Charles W. Dent, Pennsylvania Patrick Meehan, Pennsylvania Trey Gowdy, South Carolina Susan W. Brooks, Indiana

Pedro R. Pierluisi, Puerto Rico Michael E. Capuano, Massachusetts Yvette D. Clarke, New York Ted Deutch, Florida



ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

May 22, 2013

Daniel A. Schwager Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Joanne White Administrative Staff Director

Jackie M. Barber Counsel to the Chairman

Daniel J. Taylor Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515–6328 Telephone: (202) 225–7103 Facsimile: (202) 225–7392

The Honorable Ted Poe U.S. House of Representatives 2412 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Azerbaijan, scheduled for May 27 to 30, 2013, sponsored by the Turquoise Council of Americans and Eurasians.

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$350 from a single source on Schedule VII of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$350] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$350 received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

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If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

K. Michael Conaway
Chairman

Linda T. Sánchez
Ranking Member

KMC/LTS:tn.