Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress as Amended

## OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### **REPORT**

Review No. 12-8236

The Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics (the "Board"), by a vote of no less than four members, on August 24, 2012, adopted the following report and ordered it to be transmitted to the Committee on Ethics of the United States House of Representatives.

SUBJECT: Representative Bill Owens

NATURE OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATIONS: Representative Bill Owens may have accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan from an impermissible source, resulting in an impermissible gift, in violation of federal law and House rules.

Representative Owens may have accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan, when that trip was in some part planned, organized, requested, or arranged by agents of a foreign principal, in violation of House rules.

RECOMMENDATIONS: The OCE Board recommends that the Committee on Ethics further review the first allegation as there is substantial reason to believe that Representative Owens accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan from an impermissible source, resulting in an impermissible gift, in violation of federal law and House rules.

The OCE Board recommends that the Committee on Ethics further review the second allegation as there is substantial reason to believe that Representative Owens accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan, when that trip was in some part planned, organized, requested, or arranged by agents of a foreign principal, in violation of House rules.

VOTES IN THE AFFIRMATIVE: 6

VOTES IN THE NEGATIVE: 0

**ABSTENTIONS: 0** 

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR STAFF DESIGNATED TO PRESENT THIS REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS: Omar S. Ashmawy, Staff Director & Chief Counsel.

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#### FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

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## OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### FINDINGS OF FACT AND CITATIONS TO LAW

Review No. 12-8236

On August 24, 2012, the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics (the "Board") adopted the following findings of fact and accompanying citations to law, regulations, rules and standards of conduct (*in italics*).

The Board notes that these findings do not constitute a determination of whether or not a violation actually occurred.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. Summary of Allegations

- 1. Representative Bill Owens may have accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan from an impermissible source, resulting in an impermissible gift, in violation of federal law and House rules.
- 2. Representative Owens may have accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan, when that trip was in some part planned, organized, requested, or arranged by agents of a foreign principal, in violation of House rules.
- 3. The OCE Board recommends that the Committee on Ethics further review the above allegations as there is substantial reason to believe that violations of federal law or House rules occurred.

#### **B.** Jurisdictional Statement

4. The allegations that were the subject of this review concern Representative Bill Owens, a Member of the United States House of Representatives from the 23rd District of New York. The Resolution the United States House of Representatives adopted creating the Office of Congressional Ethics directs that, "[n]o review shall be undertaken...by the board of any alleged violation that occurred before the date of adoption of this resolution." The House adopted this Resolution on March 11, 2008. Because the conduct under review occurred after March 11, 2008, review by the Board is in accordance with the Resolution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> H. Res 895, 110th Cong. §1(e) (2008) (as amended).

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#### C. Procedural History

- 5. The OCE received a written request for preliminary review in this matter signed by at least two members of the Board on May 23, 2012. The preliminary review commenced on May 24, 2012. The preliminary review was scheduled to end on June 22, 2012.
- 6. At least three members of the Board voted to initiate a second-phase review in this matter on June 22, 2012. The second-phase review commenced on June 23, 2012.<sup>3</sup> The second-phase review was scheduled to end on August 6, 2012.
- 7. The Board voted to extend second-phase review for an additional period of fourteen days on July 27, 2012. The additional period was scheduled to end on August 20, 2012.
- 8. Pursuant to Rule 9(B) of the OCE Rules for the Conduct of Investigations, Representative Owens submitted a statement to the OCE Board on August 22, 2012.
- 9. The Board voted to refer the matter to the Committee on Ethics for further review and adopted these findings on August 24, 2012.
- 10. The report in this matter was transmitted to the Committee on Ethics on August 30, 2012.

#### D. Summary of Investigative Activity

- 11. The OCE requested and received documentary and, in some cases, testimonial information from the following sources:
  - (1) Representative Bill Owens;
  - (2) Representative Owens' Chief of Staff;
  - (3) Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant;
  - (4) Park Strategies, LLC;
  - (5) China Airlines, Ltd.; and
  - (6) The Regent Taipei Hotel.
- 12. The following individuals or entities declined to provide documentary or testimonial information in response to Requests for Information and were determined to be non-cooperating witnesses:
  - (1) Chinese Culture University;

<sup>2</sup> A preliminary review is "requested" in writing by members of the Board of the OCE. The request for a preliminary review is "received" by the OCE on a date certain. According to the Resolution, the timeframe for conducting a preliminary review is thirty days from the date of receipt of the Board's request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> According to the Resolution, the Board must vote on whether to conduct a second-phase review in a matter before the expiration of the thirty-day preliminary review. If the Board votes for a second-phase, the second-phase begins when the preliminary review ends. The second-phase review does not begin on the date of the Board vote.

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- (2) Former Senator Alfonse D'Amato, Founder and Managing Director, Park Strategies, LLC;
- (3) Sean King, Senior Vice President, Park Strategies, LLC; and
- (4) John Zagame, Vice President, Park Strategies, LLC.
- 13. The OCE also requested documentary and testimonial evidence from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States ("TECRO"). TECRO declined to provide documents or to make officials available for interviews.

# II. REPRESENTATIVE OWENS ACCEPTED PAYMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR AN OFFICIALLY CONNECTED TRIP TO TAIWAN FROM AN IMPERMISSIBLE SOURCE, RESULTING IN AN IMPERMISSIBLE GIFT, IN VIOLATION OF FEDERAL LAW AND HOUSE RULES

#### A. Laws, Regulations, Rules, and Standards of Conduct

- 14. Travel Paid for by a Foreign Government
  - (1) United States Constitution, Article I, Section 9, Clause 8

"No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States: and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state."

(2) Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act

"Congress consents to the acceptance by a Federal employee of grants and other forms of assistance provided by a foreign government to facilitate the participation of such Federal employee in a cultural exchange...but the Congress does not consent to the acceptance by any Federal employee of any portion of any such grant or other form of assistance which provides assistance with respect to any expenses incurred by or for any member of the family or household of such Federal employee."

(3) House Ethics Manual

"[T]he Constitution prohibits federal government officials from accepting any gift from a foreign government without the consent of Congress, and Congress has consented to the acceptance of certain gifts from foreign governments – including travel in limited circumstances – in two enactments: the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act ('FGDA') and the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 22 U.S.C. § 2458a(a)(1). For purposes of this provision, "Federal employee" is defined to include Members of Congress. *See id.* at § 2458a(a)(2).

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Act ('MECEA'). A Member, officer, or employee may accept travel expenses from a unit of foreign government **only** under one of these two statutory grants of authority."<sup>5</sup>

"Under MECEA...the traveling Member or employee may **not** accept travel expenses for a spouse or family member."

#### 15. Permissible Sources of Expenses for Officially Connected Travel

#### (1) House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(A)

"A reimbursement (including payment in kind) to a Member...for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to a meeting, speaking engagement, factfinding trip, or similar event in connection with the duties of such individual as an officeholder shall be considered as a reimbursement to the House and not a gift prohibited by this clause when it is from a private source other than a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or a private entity that retains or employs registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal (except as provided in subdivision (C)), if the Member...

(ii) discloses the expenses reimbursed or to be reimbursed and the authorization to the Clerk within 15 days after the travel is completed."

#### (2) House Rule 25, clause 5(b)(1)(C)

"A reimbursement (including payment in kind) to a Member...for any purpose described in subdivision (A) also shall be considered as a reimbursement to the House and not a gift prohibited by this clause (without regard to whether the source retains or employs registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal) if it is, under regulations prescribed by the Committee on Ethics to implement this provision –

- (i) directly from an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; or
- (ii) provided only for attendance at or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and an overnight stay).

#### (3) House Ethics Manual

"The rule requires that a private entity (or entities) that pays for officially-connected travel will organize and conduct the trip, rather than merely pay for a trip that is in fact organized and conducted by another entity."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> House Ethics Manual (2008) 108 (citations omitted).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 110 (citation omitted; emphasis in original).

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#### (4) House Travel Guidelines and Regulations

"Expenses may only be accepted from an entity or entities that have a significant role in organizing and conducting a trip, and that also have a clear and defined organizational interest in the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Expenses may not be accepted from a source that has merely donated monetary or in-kind support to the trip but does not have a significant role in organizing or conducting the trip."

(5) Committee on Standards of Official Conduct Report on the Investigation into Officially Connected Travel of House Members to Attend the Carib News Foundation Multi-National Business Conference in 2007 and 2008

"To be permissible, a private source must both organize and conduct the trip, rather than merely pay for a trip that is in fact organized and conducted by someone else."

## B. Representative Owens Could Not Have Accepted Payment of Travel Expenses for His Trip to Taiwan from Either the Government of Taiwan or the Chinese Culture University

- 16. From December 27, 2011 to January 1, 2012, Representative Bill Owens and his wife visited Taiwan for an officially connected fact-finding trip. <sup>10</sup>
- 17. According to the travel disclosure forms that Representative Owens filed with the Committee on Ethics, the sponsor of the trip was the Chinese Culture University, <sup>11</sup> an educational institution founded in 1962, located in Taipei, Taiwan. <sup>12</sup>
- 18. While the Chinese Culture University was identified as the sole sponsor of Representative Owens' trip, information obtained by the OCE during the course of its review indicates that the trip was actually organized, conducted, and initially paid for by the government of Taiwan.
- 19. The government of Taiwan may have been reimbursed for the cost of Representative Owens' trip by the Chinese Culture University. 13

<sup>8</sup> Memorandum to All Members, Officers, and Employees from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, "Travel Guidelines and Regulations," at 3 (February 20, 2007).

<sup>12</sup> Chinese Culture University Educational Ideals and Characteristics, http://www.pccu.edu.tw/intl/index-e.htm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> House Ethics Manual 98.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Comm. on Standards of Official Conduct, *In the Matter of the Investigation into Officially Connected Travel of House Members to Attend the Carib News Foundation Multi-National Business Conference in 2007 and 2008*, H. Rep. 111-422, 111th Cong., 2d Sess., at 157 (2010) (citations omitted) ("Carib News Report").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See Rep. Bill Owens' Post-Travel Disclosure Forms, filed January 12, 2012 ("Travel Disclosure Forms") (Exhibit 1); Memorandum of Interview of Rep. Bill Owens, August 17, 2012 ("Rep. Owens MOI") (Exhibit 2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Travel Disclosure Forms (Exhibit 1 at 12-8236\_0004).

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- 1. The government of Taiwan was not a permissible sponsor of Representative
  Owens' trip to Taiwan, as the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act
  ("MECEA") did not apply to his trip
- 20. The initial invitation to visit Taiwan came from the government of Taiwan directly or through its agent, Park Strategies, LLC.
  - (1) According to Representative Owens, the suggestion that he visit Taiwan came from representatives of the Taiwan government during an introductory meeting that Representative Owens attended in July 2011.<sup>14</sup>
  - (2) Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant told the OCE that the idea for a Taiwan trip originated with Sean King, Senior Vice President at Park Strategies, LLC, on behalf of the firm's client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States ("TECRO").<sup>15</sup>
  - (3) Park Strategies, LLC is a lobbying firm founded in 1999 by former United States Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato, and is a registered foreign agent for TECRO. 16
  - (4) TECRO is the government of Taiwan's principal representative in the United States, serving as Taiwan's *de facto* embassy. <sup>17</sup>
  - (5) Park Strategies' Foreign Agents Registration Act ("FARA") report indicates that Sean King had an initial telephone conversation with the Senior Legislative Assistant on August 17, 2011, regarding "Taiwan travel." Mr. King had an additional four contacts with the Senior Legislative Assistant regarding "Taiwan travel" between August 22 and September 7, 2011.
  - (6) Mr. King also had two contacts with Representative Owens' Chief of Staff regarding "Taiwan travel," on August 19 and 22, 2011.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The OCE was unable to confirm whether the Chinese Culture University did, in fact, reimburse the government of Taiwan for Representative Owens' and his wife's travel expenses or, if it did so, when that reimbursement was made. Even if the Chinese Culture University made such a reimbursement, it is not clear whether Representative Owens could have accepted a gift of travel that was initially paid for by an impermissible source. In the context of gifts paid for by state and local governments, the House Ethics Manual provides that "Members and staff may **not** accept, under this provision, a meal or other gift that is paid for by an outside consultant or lobbyist for a government agency – even though the cost of the gift will ultimately be reimbursed by the government." House Ethics Manual 56 (emphasis in original).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236\_0020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Memorandum of Interview of Senior Legislative Assistant, Office of Rep. Bill Owens, August 9, 2012 ("Senior Legislative Assistant MOI") (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0026).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Mission of Park Strategies, LLC, http://www.parkstrategies.com; Foreign Agents Registration Act Supplemental Statement, filed by Park Strategies, LLC on March 1, 2012 ("Park Strategies FARA Report") (Exhibit 4 at 12-8236 0034).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> About TECRO, http://www.taiwanembassy.org/us.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Park Strategies FARA Report (Exhibit 4 at 12-8236\_0042).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> *Id.* at 12-8236 0042-0043.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> *Id.* at 12-8236\_0042; Memorandum of Interview of Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Bill Owens, August 9, 2012 ("Chief of Staff MOI") (Exhibit 5 at 12-8236\_0063).

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- (7) According to the Senior Legislative Assistant, the identity of the trip sponsor was not specifically discussed with Mr. King during their initial conversations, but he assumed that the government of Taiwan or TECRO would be the sponsor, as he understood that TECRO was a client of Park Strategies.<sup>21</sup>
- 21. Representative Owens' trip was initially to be organized and paid for by the government of Taiwan under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act ("MECEA").<sup>22</sup> On October 31, 2011, Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant emailed Mr. King, asking whether Representative Owens' trip to Taiwan "would be covered under the Mutual Education and Cultural Exchange Act (MECA [sic]), right?" Mr. King replied, "YES, it would be."<sup>24</sup>
- 22. This understanding changed when it became apparent that Representative Owens' wife could not travel with him as part of a MECEA trip. <sup>25</sup>
  - (1) In early November 2011, Representative Owens or his Chief of Staff asked the Senior Legislative Assistant to consult with the House Ethics Committee staff to see if a friend and business associate could pay for his wife's travel expenses.<sup>26</sup>
  - (2) On November 10, 2011, the Senior Legislative Assistant emailed Representative Owens and the Chief of Staff to report on the conversation he had with Ethics Committee staff.<sup>27</sup>
  - (3) Representative Owens told the OCE that, after the consultation with the Ethics Committee, he decided this was not a good option and did not pursue it.<sup>28</sup>
  - (4) According to Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant, at some point there were discussions about whether the trip could be conducted under MECEA, and it was at this point that the idea of a private sponsor was raised.<sup>29</sup> The Senior

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0026).

Representative Owens could accept travel expenses from the government of Taiwan only under one of two grants of authority: the Foreign Gift and Decorations Act ("FGDA") or the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act ("MECEA"). House Ethics Manual 108. Under the FGDA, travel paid for by a foreign government must take place totally outside the United States and therefore did not apply to Representative Owens' travel to Taiwan, which originated in the United States. *Id.* at 109.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Sean King, October 31, 2011 (Exhibit 6 at 12-8236\_0067).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Email from Sean King to Senior Legislative Assistant, October 31, 2011 (Exhibit 6 at 12-8236\_0066).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> According to the House Ethics Manual, "Members...may accept travel expenses from a foreign government in order to participate in an approved MECEA program.... Under MECEA, however, the traveling Member...may **not** accept travel expenses for a spouse or family member. All travel expenses in a MECEA trip are to be paid by the sponsoring foreign government, and none of the trip expenses may be paid by any private source." House Ethics Manual 110 (citations omitted; emphasis in original).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236\_0021); Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0026-0027).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep. Owens and Chief of Staff, November 10, 2011 (Exhibit 7 at 12-8236 0070).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236 0021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0027).

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- Legislative Assistant had conversations with Mr. King and TECRO officials about a private sponsor for the trip.<sup>30</sup>
- (5) In his interview with the OCE, the Senior Legislative Assistant described this period as a "transition" from a "MECEA trip" to a "private sponsor trip."<sup>31</sup>
- 23. Because Representative Owens' wife did travel with him to Taiwan, the trip could not be conducted under MECEA. Representative Owens therefore could not have accepted payment of travel expenses from the government of Taiwan.
  - 2. <u>Because Representative Owens' trip to Taiwan was organized, conducted, and initially paid for by the government of Taiwan, the Chinese Culture University was not a permissible sponsor of the trip</u>
- 24. When it became clear that the trip could not be organized under MECEA, TECRO officials sought to identify a private entity to serve as the "private sponsor" of Representative and Mrs. Owens' trip.
  - (1) On November 22, 2011, TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng emailed Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant, writing, "I need your kind help here in order to find a private sponsor in the coming days!"<sup>32</sup>
  - (2) The Senior Legislative Assistant told the OCE that he was under the impression that "this had been done before" that is, that a private sponsor had previously "stepped in" when it was not possible to conduct a trip under MECEA.<sup>33</sup>
- 25. Representative Owens' travel arrangements and itinerary were planned and organized by TECRO officials before a private sponsor was identified.
  - (1) Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant told the OCE that he worked with Frank Lee, director of TECRO's Congressional Liaison Division, and Li-Cheh Cheng, an officer with TECRO's Congressional Liaison Division, to plan Representative Owens' travel arrangements and trip itinerary.<sup>34</sup>
  - (2) On November 15, 2011, Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant emailed Sean King, saying that he "spoke with Benson<sup>35</sup> yesterday but I'll direct my followup q's to Frank [Lee]." As noted above, Mr. Lee is Director of TECRO's Congressional Liaison Division. The Senior Legislative Assistant told

 $<sup>^{30}</sup>$  Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> *Id.* at 12-8236\_0028.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Email from Li-Cheh Cheng, Officer, TECRO Congressional Liaison Division, to Senior Legislative Assistant, November 22, 2011 (Exhibit 8 at 12-8236\_0072).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236 0028).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> *Id.* at 12-8236\_0027.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> "Benson" appears to refer to Benson Huang, another TECRO official. *See* Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236 0025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Sean King, Park Strategies, November 15, 2011 (Exhibit 9 at 12-8236\_0074).

- Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress as Amended the OCE that, at this time, he was frequently speaking with TECRO officials about the trip planning.<sup>37</sup>
  - (3) On November 21, 2011, the Senior Legislative Assistant emailed Mr. King to inform him of the dates for Representative Owens' trip, adding, "I'll reach out to Mr. Frank Lee about the details but wanted to let you know. Thanks!" <sup>38</sup>
  - (4) On November 22, 2011, the same day that TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng asked the Senior Legislative Assistant for help in finding a private sponsor for Representative Owens' trip, the Senior Legislative Assistant met with TECRO officials to discuss travel logistics and a draft trip itinerary.<sup>39</sup>
  - (5) After the meeting, the Senior Legislative Assistant emailed Representative Owens and the Chief of Staff, informing them of the status of trip planning: "Just sat down with the folks from the Embassy to do a rough outline of the trip..."
  - (6) The Senior Legislative Assistant told the OCE that he does not believe he knew the identity of any private sponsor for Representative Owens' trip at the time of this planning meeting.<sup>41</sup>
  - (7) On November 28, 2011, the Senior Legislative Assistant emailed Mr. King a status report on the trip planning: "I think the Embassy has what they need from us so far, but I'll let you know when I know more."
- 26. The Chinese Culture University invited Representative Owens to visit Taiwan by letter dated November 29, 2011. 43
- 27. Despite the invitation by the Chinese Culture University, Representative and Mrs. Owens' travel arrangements and itinerary continued to be planned and organized by Taiwanese government officials.
  - (1) On December 5, 2011, TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng emailed the Senior Legislative Assistant to provide "the air itinerary for Congressman Owens & wife to Taiwan trip. Please get me their Air Canada and Delta Airlines (partnered with China Airlines) frequent flier numbers to earn miles."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Senior Legislative Assist MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236 0027).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Sean King, Park Strategies, November 21, 2011 (Exhibit 10 at 12-8236\_0076).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0028).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep. Owens and Chief of Staff, November 22, 2011 (Exhibit 11 at 12-8236\_0078).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0028).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Sean King, Park Strategies, November 28, 2011 (Exhibit 12 at 12-8236 0080).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Letter from Wannyih Wu, President, Chinese Culture University, to Rep. Bill Owens, November 29, 2011 (Exhibit 1 at 12-8236 0010).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Email from Li-Cheh Cheng, Officer, TECRO Congressional Liaison Division, to Senior Legislative Assistant, December 5, 2011 (Exhibit 13 at 12-8236\_0083).

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- (2) On December 6, 2011, TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng emailed the Senior Legislative Assistant, advising that she had "sent a cable back to Taipei yesterday, and my colleagues should start putting up this program already. Usually it will take them sometime to confirm all the meeting times and meeting officials, and I will surely let you know about the set program as soon as they cable back."<sup>45</sup>
- (3) On December 14, 2011, TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng emailed the Senior Legislative Assistant: "Also I am preparing the potential meeting for President Ma and Congressman, I will let you know if I need anything from you. Currently we have not heard back from Taipei on the official programs, I think they are trying to figure out President's, Minister's schedules. I will keep you posted."
- (4) On December 19, 2011, TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng emailed the Senior Legislative Assistant: "I did call MOFA [Ministry of Foreign Affairs] Taiwan last night and tell them to send me the schedules. My colleague said everything is set up, but my bosses are reviewing the whole itinerary—they value Congressman's visit very highly. I will call Taipei tonight and see if they can expedite."
- (5) On December 20, 2011, TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng emailed an itinerary for Representative Owens' trip to the Senior Legislative Assistant. 48
- (6) The Senior Legislative Assistant told the OCE that the itinerary for Representative Owens' trip was prepared by TECRO officials, with input from Rep. Owens' office. 49
- 28. Representative Owens' congressional staff continued to direct questions about Representative Owens' trip to TECRO officials, rather than officials at the Chinese Culture University.
  - (1) On December 6, 2011, Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant emailed TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng regarding the "Private Sponsor Travel Form," writing, "it just occurred to me looking at these forms that we'll need an

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Email from Li-Cheh Cheng, Officer, TECRO Congressional Liaison Division, to Senior Legislative Assistant, December 6, 2011 (Exhibit 14 at 12-8236\_0085).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Email from Li-Cheh Cheng, Officer, TECRO Congressional Liaison Division, to Senior Legislative Assistant, December 14, 2011 (Exhibit 15 at 12-8236\_0088).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Email from Li-Cheh Cheng, Officer, TECRO Congressional Liaison Division, to Senior Legislative Assistant, December 19, 2011 (Exhibit 16 at 12-8236\_0095).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Email from Li-Cheh Cheng, Officer, TECRO Congressional Liaison Division, to Senior Legislative Assistant, December 20, 2011 (Exhibit 16 at 12-8236\_0090). Also on December 20, 2011, Ms. Cheng felt the need to remind the Senior Legislative Assistant of the identity of the trip sponsor: "Also the host of this trip is Chinese Culture University—just a kind reminder." Email from Li-Cheh Cheng, Officer, TECRO Congressional Liaison Division, to Senior Legislative Assistant, December 20, 2011 (Exhibit 16 at 12-8236\_0090).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0028).

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- (2) On December 19, 2011, the Senior Legislative Assistant emailed Ms. Cheng asking for a "complete itinerary with times for what the Congressman is doing" for submission to the Committee on Ethics.<sup>51</sup> He added: "I believe the Congressman is going to try and fit 2 meetings into that final day separate from the schedule you all put together for him...."52
- 29. The Taiwan government had a significant role during Representative Owens' trip.
  - (1) Representative Owens told the OCE that a representative of the Taiwanese government met his wife and him at the airport upon arrival in Taiwan, and that this representative accompanied them throughout their trip.<sup>53</sup>
  - (2) According to Representative Owens' itinerary, he met with several Taiwan government officials, including the President of Taiwan, the Vice Minister of National Defense, the Foreign Minister, and a member of the Taiwan legislature.<sup>54</sup>
- 30. Information obtained by the OCE during the course of its review indicates that the government of Taiwan, in addition to organizing and conducting Representative Owens' trip, initially paid Representative Owens' travel expenses.<sup>55</sup>
  - (1) According to a witness with knowledge of Representative Owens' flight arrangements, the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs paid China Airlines for the airfare for Representative Owens and his wife. 56
  - (2) According to a representative of the Regent Taipei Hotel, Representative Owens' room payment was settled by the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.<sup>57</sup>

<sup>52</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Li-Cheh Cheng, Officer, TECRO Congressional Liaison Division, December 6, 2011 (Exhibit 14 at 12-8236\_0085-0086).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Li-Cheh Cheng, Officer, TECRO Congressional Liaison Division, December 19, 2011 (Exhibit 16 at 12-8236 0095).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236 0022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Tentative Itinerary of the visit by Hon. William Lewis "Bill" Owens and Mrs. Owens to the Republic of China (Taiwan), December 28-31, 2011, submitted with Rep. Owens Travel Disclosure Filings (Exhibit 1 at 12-8236 0012-0015).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> As noted above, see supra notes 22 & 25, given the circumstances of Representative Owens' trip, the government of Taiwan could not have been a permissible source of payment for travel expenses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Memorandum of Interview of Witness with Knowledge of Rep. Owens' Air Travel, August 15, 2012 (Exhibit 17 at 12-8236\_0098).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Email from Karen Chu, Regent Taipei Hotel, to OCE Investigative Counsel, July 12, 2012 (Exhibit 18 at 12-8236 0102). Unprompted by the OCE, the Hotel representative provided a supplemental response: "After checking my data, kindly correct that Mr Owens invited by Chinese Culture University but not the Ministry of Foreign Affair.... Ministry of Foreign Affair settle the payment with us first but I think that Chinese Culture University settle with Ministry of Foreign Affair later," Email from Karen Chu, Regent Taipei Hotel, to OCE Investigative Counsel, July 13, 2012 (Exhibit 19 at 12-8236 00101). When asked for the source of this additional information, the hotel representative informed the OCE:

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- (3) Representative Owens and members of his congressional staff had several indications that the Taiwan government was paying his travel expenses. For example, prior to departing for Taiwan, Representative Owens received a memorandum from TECRO officials which advised: "Please remember to **keep your boarding passes for** all domestic and international flights and return them to **TECRO**. We need to have those passes for accounting purpose and truly appreciate your cooperation." Representative Owens told the OCE that he did not focus on this instruction to keep his boarding passes, nor did he keep them. The Senior Legislative Assistant also told the OCE that while he did read this document, he did not focus on this statement.
- (4) In addition, on December 5, 2011, a China Airlines representative emailed Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant, with a copy to TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng, informing him of the price for the airline tickets: "The price that we will send invoice to TECRO is approximately USD\$8655 + tax \$357.30 = USD\$9011.80...." The Senior Legislative Assistant did not recall focusing on the reference to TECRO when he received this email. 62
- (5) While TECRO declined to provide any documents or make available any witnesses in response to the OCE's Request for Information, TECRO represented to the OCE, through counsel, that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was reimbursed by the Chinese Culture University for all costs associated with Representative Owens' trip.
- (6) The Chinese Culture University also declined to provide documents or make available witnesses in response to the OCE's Request for Information. The OCE was therefore unable to confirm whether the Chinese Culture University did, in fact, pay for Representative Owens' and his wife's travel expenses, or when such payment was made.

I just remembered some conversation they asked while made the booking last year. Ministry of Foreign Affairs talked about Chinese Culture University while made the reservation and I guess you might wish to know this information. They advised us to charge the official special rate which we provide to Ministry of Foreign Affairs first and I do not know how did they finalize the payment later. They advised me through the phone calls and there is no certain data to review. I am not sure who should I contact from them on this matter but I suggest you can contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the further information.

Email from Karen Chu, Regent Taipei Hotel, to OCE Investigative Counsel, July 16, 2012 (Exhibit 18 at 12-8236\_0100).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> "Memo: The visit of Rep. and Mrs. Bill Owens to the Republic of China (Taiwan) (December 28 to 31, 2011)" (emphasis in original) (Exhibit 19 at 12-8236 0105).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236 0022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0029).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Email from Ken Chong, China Airlines, to Senior Legislative Assistant, copy to Li-Cheh Cheng, TECRO, December 5, 2011 (Exhibit 13 at 12-8236\_0083).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12\_8236\_0028).

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- (7) Representative Owens told the OCE that the first time he learned that the Taiwan government paid for his travel expenses, but was later reimbursed by the Chinese Culture University, was when TECRO officials requested a meeting and met with members of his staff in May 2012, after press reports about the trip appeared.<sup>63</sup>
- 31. Representative Owens had no interaction with the Chinese Culture University prior to meeting with University officials in Taiwan.<sup>64</sup> Neither Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant nor his Chief of Staff had any interactions with the University.<sup>65</sup>
- 32. Representative Owens' interactions with the Chinese Culture University during his trip were limited.
  - (1) Representative Owens and his wife attended a dinner hosted by Chinese Culture University officials, including the president and the chairman of the board of the University, and two University deans.<sup>66</sup>
  - (2) One University dean attended the dinner hosted by the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. <sup>67</sup> During this dinner, Representative Owens thanked the Chinese Culture University for hosting his trip. <sup>68</sup>
- 33. While the Chinese Culture University declined to cooperate with the OCE's review, it did provide the OCE with a letter in response to the OCE's Request for Information, in which it stated: "[W]e do regularly sponsor important leaders from the United States to visit Taiwan such as Representative and Mrs. Owens' trip last year, which we believe is in accordance with U.S. House ethics rules related to private sponsorship." 69
- 34. The University further stated that, "[i]n view of Mr. Owens' important status as a member of U.S. Congress and the lack of staff of this university stationed in the United States, the program for Representative Owens' visit to Taiwan was coordinated through the kind assistance of Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States."
- 35. As noted above, the Chinese Culture University declined to provide documentary or testimonial evidence in response to the OCE's Request for Information. Pursuant to Rule 6 of the OCE Rules for the Conduct of Investigations, the OCE draws a negative inference from the University's refusal to cooperate. The OCE infers that the information

<sup>65</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0025); Chief of Staff MOI (Exhibit 5 at 12-8236\_0062).

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<sup>69</sup> Letter from Chiungli Kuo, Director of PR Office, Chinese Culture University, to OCE Staff Director and Chief Counsel (June 30, 2012) (Exhibit 20 at 12\_8236\_0110).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236\_0023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> *Id.* at 12-8236\_0021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236\_0022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> *Id.* The OCE attempted to follow-up with the Chinese Culture University after receiving this letter, but was informed that the University would not be cooperating: "The letter I sent on June 30 is the only response I am giving regarding your contact. I will not provide anything else nor reply your mail again." Email from Chiungli Kuo to OCE Investigative Counsel, July 6, 2012 (Exhibit 21 at 12-8236\_0114).

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the University refused to provide, taken together with the factual findings in this referral, supports the conclusion that there is substantial reason to believe that the alleged violation occurred.

- 36. Representative Owens knew, or should have known, that the government of Taiwan was conducting and organizing his travel to Taiwan. As indicated above, neither Representative Owens nor members of his congressional staff had any contact with the Chinese Culture University at any point during the travel planning process.<sup>71</sup> Rather. Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant worked closely with TECRO officials on Representative Owens' travel arrangements and trip itinerary.<sup>72</sup>
- 37. When press reports surrounding Representative Owens' trip appeared in May 2012, Representative Owens made the decision to pay the travel expenses for his wife and him personally.<sup>73</sup> According to Representative Owens, he made this decision because he felt that if there was any chance that they had done something wrong, he "needed to clean it up immediately."<sup>74</sup> On May 21, 2012, he sent a personal check, made payable to the Chinese Culture University, in the amount of \$22,132.20, to the University.<sup>75</sup>
- 38. The OCE Board finds that there is substantial reason to believe that Representative Owens accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan from an impermissible sponsor, resulting in an impermissible gift, in violation of federal law and House rules.

[B]ased on the Standards Committee's longstanding precedent regarding the responsibilities Members have for the conduct and actions of their staff, the Subcommittee finds that it would not well serve the House as an institution to allow its Members to escape responsibility by delegating authority to their staff to take actions and hide behind their lack of knowledge of the facts surrounding those actions. Members choose their own staff and should expect their staff to provide them with all the information necessary to carry out their responsibilities, as well as to stay within the boundaries established by law, regulations, and standards of conduct. Many times Members act through the actions of their staff and, therefore, should be held liable for those actions in certain circumstances.

Carib News Report 192-93. The Committee went on to impute to the Member the knowledge of his staff to find that the Member knowingly accepted an impermissible gift of travel. Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236 0021); Chief of Staff MOI (Exhibit 5 at 12-8236 0062); Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12\_8236\_0025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> See, e.g., Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0027-0030). The Committee on Ethics has determined that Members may be held responsible for the knowledge of their staff. In one recent matter, the Committee explained:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236 0023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Letter from Rep. Bill Owens to Wannyih Wu, President, Chinese Culture University, May 21, 2012 (Exhibit 22 at 12-8236\_0118).

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#### III. REPRESENTATIVE OWENS ACCEPTED PAYMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR AN OFFICIALLY CONNECTED TRIP TO TAIWAN THAT WAS IN SOME PART PLANNED, ORGANIZED, REQUESTED, OR ARRANGED BY AGENTS OF A FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

#### A. Laws, Regulations, Rules, and Standards of Conduct

- 39. Travel Planned Organized, Requested or Arranged by Agents of Foreign Principal
  - (1) House Rule 25, clause 5(c)(3)

"A Member, Delegate, Resident Commissioner, officer, or employee of the House may not accept a reimbursement (including payment in kind) for transportation, lodging, or related expenses for a trip (other than a trip permitted under paragraph (b)(1)(C) of this clause) if such trip is in any part planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal."

#### (2) House Ethics Manual

"Members and staff are prohibited from participating in any multiple-day trip that was planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal."76

"Member and staff participation in officially-connected travel that is in any way planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a lobbyist is prohibited, except as provided below:

- (1) when the travel is sponsored by an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; 77 or
- (2) when the travel is for a one-day event trip and the involvement of a lobbyist in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip is de minimis, meaning only negligible or otherwise inconsequential in terms of time and expense to the overall planning and purpose of the trip."<sup>78</sup>

#### B. Representative Owens' Trip to Taiwan Was in Some Part Planned, Organized, Requested, or Arranged by the Agents of a Foreign Principal

- 40. Evidence gathered by the OCE during the course of its review indicates that Park Strategies, LLC, a registered foreign agent of TECRO, in some part planned, organized, requested, or arranged Representative Owens' trip to Taiwan.
- 41. As noted above, Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant recalled that the idea for a Taiwan trip originated with Sean King, a registered foreign agent for TECRO.<sup>79</sup>

House Ethics Manual 96.
 Institutions outside of the United States do not qualify. *See* 20 U.S.C. § 1001(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> House Ethics Manual 400-401 (emphasis in original).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236 0026).

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Park Strategies' FARA report indicates that Park Strategies lobbyist Sean King had an initial telephone conversation with the Senior Legislative Assistant on August 17, 2011, regarding "Taiwan travel." This was followed by four additional contacts on "Taiwan travel" between August 19 and September 7, 2011. Mr. King had two contacts with Representative Owens' Chief of Staff, both regarding "Taiwan travel," on August 19 and 22, 2011. August 19 and 22, 2011.

- 42. In his interview with the OCE, Representative Owens recalled a telephone conversation with Park Strategies' founder and former Senator Alfonse D'Amato on October 6, 2011, in which Senator D'Amato asked if he had any interest in going to Taiwan to meet with representatives of the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation ("TSMC"). At the time, a site in New York State near Representative Owens' congressional district was lobbying TSMC to open a facility there. 84
- 43. On November 3, 2011, Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant emailed Representative Owens and the Chief of Staff to report on a conversation he had had with Mr. King regarding potential dates for Representative Owens' travel: "D'amato's guys report that anytime Bill Owens is ready for Taiwan, Taiwan is ready for Bill Owens, so the week between Christmas and New Year's works as well." Representative Owens understood the reference to "D'amato's guys" to be to Park Strategies, LLC. 86
- 44. On November 15, 2011, Mr. King emailed Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant, advising him to contact Frank Lee, Director of TECRO's Congressional Liaison Division. According to the Senior Legislative Assistant, Park Strategies directed him to TECRO officials to plan Representative Owens' trip, but not in any "exclusionary" way. The Senior Legislative Assistant said he continued to discuss the trip with Mr. King throughout the planning process.
- 45. On November 21, 2011, Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant emailed Mr. King to advise: "[L]ooks like we have our dates. The boss and his wife are looking to travel to Taiwan beginning on December 27th. I'll reach out to Mr. Frank Lee about the details but wanted to let you know. Thanks!" <sup>90</sup>
- 46. Mr. King declined to be interviewed by the OCE as part of this review. Park Strategies did provide the OCE with a signed declaration from Christopher D'Amato, Executive

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> Park Strategies FARA Report (Exhibit 4 at 12-8236\_0042).

<sup>81</sup> *Id.* at 12-8236\_0042-0043.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> *Id.* at 12-8236 0042.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0020); *see also* Calendar Entry for October 6, 2011, 10:30 to 11:00 AM, "Phone call with D'amato re: Taiwan" (Exhibit 23 at 12-8236\_0120).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236\_0020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep. Owens and Chief of Staff (November 3, 2011) (Exhibit 24 at 12-8236 0122); Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236 0026).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236\_0021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> Email from Sean King to Senior Legislative Assistant (November 15, 2011) (Exhibit 9 at 12-8236\_0074).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0027).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Id.

<sup>90</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Sean King (November 21, 2011) (Exhibit 10 at 12-8236\_0076).

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Vice President, Managing Director, and chief compliance officer of Park Strategies. <sup>91</sup> In his declaration, Mr. D'Amato states: "After learning, on November 21, 2011, that Representative Owens was going to bring his wife on the trip to Taiwan, Park Strategies, LLC had no further involvement in creating or setting the itinerary prepared by the Chinese Culture University."

- 47. In contrast, the Senior Legislative Assistant told the OCE that at no time did Mr. King or anyone at Park Strategies tell him that the firm could no longer be involved with planning Representative Owens' trip. 93
- 48. Also, Park Strategies continued to be involved with Representative Owens' Taiwan trip after November 21, 2011.
  - (1) On November 28, 2011, Mr. King emailed Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant to ask, "How's the trip planning going? I'm back in our New York office today. Call me if you need us, thanks." <sup>94</sup>
  - (2) Mr. King met with the Senior Legislative Assistant in Representative Owens' Washington, DC office on December 5, 2011, on the topic of "Taiwan travel." According to the Senior Legislative Assistant, Mr. King suggested meetings for Representative Owens' itinerary during this conversation. 96
  - (3) In his interview with the OCE, Representative Owens recalled a telephone conversation with former Senator D'Amato on December 7, 2011, in which Senator D'Amato asked him to meet with representatives of Taiwan's opposition party during his trip. This telephone conversation is reflected in Park Strategies' FARA report. 8
  - (4) Two days after his telephone conversation with Senator D'Amato, Representative Owens was asked by his Senior Legislative Assistant, in a December 9, 2011 email, if he was "ok sitting down with the opposition party in Taiwan while you're there...." Representative Owens replied that "Damto asked me too." 100

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Declaration of Christopher D'Amato, June 18, 2012 (Exhibit 25 at 12-8236\_0124). The OCE notes that Mr. D'Amato's declaration is neither notarized nor witnessed. In addition, as previously indicated, no Park Strategies employees would agree to be interviewed by the OCE.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> *Id.* Counsel for Park Strategies asserts that Park Strategies' initial involvement with Representative Owens' trip was permissible because, at that point, the trip was to be conducted under MECEA, which permits lobbyist or foreign agent involvement. However, the plain language of the Rule provides that a Member may not accept payment of travel expenses for a trip that is "*in any part* planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal." House Rule 25, clause 5(c)(3) (emphasis added). It would therefore appear that Park Strategies' initial – and continued – involvement made the trip impermissible even after it became clear that the trip would not be conducted under MECEA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0027).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> Email from Sean King to Senior Legislative Assistant, November 28, 2011 (Exhibit 12 at 12-8236\_0080).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> Park Strategies FARA Report (Exhibit 4 at 12-8236\_0044).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0028).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> Rep. Owens MOI (Exhibit 2 at 12-8236\_0022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> Park Strategies FARA Report (Exhibit 4 at 12-8236\_0042).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep. Owens, December 9, 2011 (Exhibit 26 at 12-8236\_0126).

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- The Senior Legislative Assistant then tells Representative Owens: "I'm supposed to talk to sean king monday and we might be able to find a way to get invited." <sup>101</sup>
- (5) On December 20, 2011, Sean King emailed Representative Owens' Senior Legislative Assistant, with a copy to his Park Strategies colleague Jon Zagame, asking about scheduling a meeting with a TSMC official. According to the Senior Legislative Assistant, Representative Owens was able to schedule a meeting with TMSC officials during his trip. 103
- 49. Given the contacts between Park Strategies officials and Representative Owens, as well as the contacts between Park Strategies officials and members of Representative Owens' congressional staff, Representative Owens knew, or should have known, that Park Strategies was involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging his trip to Taiwan.
- 50. As noted above, Park Strategies employees former Senator Alfonse D'Amato, Sean King, and John Zagame declined to be interviewed by the OCE. Pursuant to Rule 6 of the OCE Rules for the Conduct of Investigations, the OCE draws a negative inference from the witnesses' refusal to cooperate. The OCE infers that the information these individuals refused to provide, taken together with the factual findings in this referral, supports the conclusion that there is substantial reason to believe that the alleged violation occurred.
- 51. The OCE Board finds that there is substantial reason to believe that Representative Owens accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan, when that trip was in some part planned, organized, requested, or arranged by agents of a foreign principal, in violation of House rules.

## IV. THE CHINESE CULTURE UNIVERSITY, FORMER SENATOR ALFONSE M. D'AMATO, SEAN KING, AND JOHN ZAGAME REFUSED TO COOPERATE WITH THE OCE REVIEW

- 52. Based on the nature of the allegations in this Review, the OCE requested information from witnesses who were identified as having knowledge of relevant facts.
- 53. All the identified witnesses cooperated except the following: the Chinese Culture University, former Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato, Sean King, and John Zagame.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> Email from Rep. Owens to Senior Legislative Assistant, December 9, 2011 (Exhibit 26 at 12-8236\_0126).

Email from Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep. Owens, December 9, 2011 (Exhibit 26 at 12-8236\_0126).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> Email from Sean King to Senior Legislative Assistant, copy to Jon Zagame, December 20, 2011 (Exhibit 27 at 12-8236 0128-0129).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Senior Legislative Assistant MOI (Exhibit 3 at 12-8236\_0029).

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#### **Chinese Culture University**

- 54. The Chinese Culture University is an educational institution located in Taipei, Taiwan. The University was identified in Representative Owens' travel disclosure filings as the private sponsor of his trip to Taiwan.
- 55. The OCE requested information from the University to determine the role the University played in organizing, conducting, and paying for Representative Owens' trip to Taiwan.
- 56. The University refused to cooperate with the OCE.
- 57. Pursuant to OCE Rule 6, the OCE draws a negative inference from the University's refusal to cooperate with the OCE. The OCE infers that the information the University refused to provide, taken together with the factual findings in this referral, supports the conclusion that there is substantial reason to believe that the alleged violation occurred.

#### Former Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato

- 58. Former Senator D'Amato is the founder and Managing Director of Park Strategies, LLC.
- 59. The OCE requested an interview with Senator D'Amato to obtain information regarding his or his firm's involvement with Representative Owens' trip to Taiwan.
- 60. Senator D'Amato refused to cooperate with the OCE.
- 61. Pursuant to OCE Rule 6, the OCE draws a negative inference from Senator D'Amato's refusal to cooperate with the OCE. The OCE infers that the information Senator D'Amato refused to provide, taken together with the factual findings in this referral, supports the conclusion that there is substantial reason to believe that the alleged violation occurred.

#### Sean King

- 62. Mr. King is Senior Vice President of Park Strategies, LLC.
- 63. The OCE requested an interview with Mr. King to obtain information regarding his or his firm's involvement with Representative Owens' trip to Taiwan.
- 64. Mr. King refused to cooperate with the OCE.
- 65. Pursuant to OCE Rule 6, the OCE draws a negative inference from Mr. King's refusal to cooperate with the OCE. The OCE infers that the information Mr. King refused to provide, taken together with the factual findings in this referral, supports the conclusion that there is substantial reason to believe that the alleged violation occurred.

#### John Zagame

66. Mr. Zagame is Vice President of Park Strategies, LLC.

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- 67. The OCE requested an interview with Mr. Zagame to obtain information regarding his or his firm's involvement with Representative Owens' trip to Taiwan.
- 68. Mr. Zagame refused to cooperate with the OCE.
- 69. Pursuant to OCE Rule 6, the OCE draws a negative inference from Mr. Zagame's refusal to cooperate with the OCE. The OCE infers that the information Mr. Zagame refused to provide, taken together with the factual findings in this referral, supports the conclusion that there is substantial reason to believe that the alleged violation occurred.

#### V. CONCLUSION

- 70. The OCE Board recommends that the Committee on Ethics further review the allegation that Representative Owens accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan from an impermissible source, resulting in an impermissible gift, because there is substantial reason to believe that his acceptance of payment for these travel expenses violated federal law or House rules.
- 71. The OCE Board recommends that the Committee on Ethics further review the allegation that Representative Owens accepted payment of travel expenses for an officially connected trip to Taiwan, when that trip was in some part planned, organized, requested, or arranged by agents of a foreign principal, because there is substantial reason to believe that his acceptance of payment for these travel expenses violated of House rules.

## VI. INFORMATION THE OCE WAS UNABLE TO OBTAIN AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS

- 72. The following witnesses, by declining to be interviewed by the OCE, did not cooperate with the OCE's review:
  - (1) Former Senator Alfonse D'Amato, Founder and Managing Director, Park Strategies, LLC;
  - (2) Sean King, Senior Vice President, Park Strategies, LLC; and
  - (3) John Zagame, Vice President, Park Strategies, LLC.
- 73. As a result, the OCE was unable to obtain certain information regarding Representative Owens' trip to Taiwan in December 2011.
- 74. The Board recommends the issuance of subpoenas to former Senator D'Amato, Mr. King, and Mr. Zagame.
- 75. In addition, the OCE was unable to obtain information from the Chinese Culture University or the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United

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States. Neither entity provided documents to the OCE in response to Requests for Information, and neither agreed to interviews by OCE staff.

## **EXHIBIT 1**

LEGISLATIVE BESONDER BENYCH

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### 2012 JAN 13 AN ID: 58

STRIPS OF THE CLERK WS. HOUSE OF REPRESSINGATIONS

#### U.S. House of Representatives 112th Congress

## MEMBER / OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received. Obtain the dollar amounts from the sponsor; if exact dollar amounts are unavailable, provide a good faith estimate.

#### TRIP EXPENSES:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	\$9566.10	\$780 total	\$720
For accompanying family member:	\$9566.10	\$780 total	\$720

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	NA	
For accompanying family member:	NA	

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER OR OFFICER:

DATE:

4412 /-/3-/2

Version date 1/2011 by Committee on Ethics

#### U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics

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#### PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM (provide directly to cach House invites)

This from should be completed by private assisted affering to provide itseri or reimbursement for travel to House Manhors, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause S. A sumplished copy of the form (and any associated) should be provided to cash invited House Mamber, officer or applicate, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip spensor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private spontage are urged to submit this force to each Heure invitee at least 30 days inforce travel is attachment may result in the invites and reactiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review proceed. Soften completing this form, appears are urged to completing this form, appears are urged to completing the private travel guidelines and subvisery memorands detailing the rules and reactivines for private travel guidelines and subvisery memorands detailing the rules and reactivines for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should sail the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Phense gave form.

Chimeness Profitering t took as railte

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3.	Dissensive and of bakes to the 140%
2.	I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or is next) by a federally-registered looblyin by a registered foreign agent (oignly) "yes" by checking dark;
3.	i represent that the tele sectional data not account from any when southe funds estimated discusty or indirectly to finance any depost of the trip (rightly "peo" by pheoding day):
4.	la movel being offense in an execompanying family member of the Hause invited(s)? Wes Wes
<b>3</b> .	Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invite, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary);  Please see attachment
že,	138762 of march December 27, 2011-January 1, 2012
Ž.,	Chics of coparture – destination – return: New York City for Weshington CC or other cities in the district; - New York City for Weshington CC or other cities in the district;
æ.	Attached is a detailed agends of the activities taking pince during the travel (i.e., in hourly description a planned activities) (agenth "you" by checking don't. [2]
g,	i represent that whack one of the following's
	2. The approach of the trip is an institution of higher actionalina within the meaning of section 101 of the blight fiducation Apr of 1968: Ear.
	b. The spaneor of the trip code not retain or employ a federally regimened labbyist or registered fureign agent for me
	s. The life is far attendance at a opendry event and labbylet involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, a arranging the trip was as minimis unser the Committee's travel requisitors.
iğ.	if moved is for participation in a encodey even (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), chack one at the littlewing: a. One-might's ledging and means are being offered: They
	b. Two-nights' ledging and music are being affered. [] if "b" is checked, explain why lise second alght is warranted;

13.	If the trip is not spendered by an institution of higher education. I represent that a federally-regulateral labbyful to family eggent will not accompany that a kiemborn or employees no any segment of the trip (signify "yes" by charking best):					
32.	Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or idention being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor is organizing and cooperating the trip:  The Change Culture University is a private academic institution regard in Teipel, Telwan, The University constantly appreciate adjustional and fact-finding programs for international visitors to travel in Telwan.					
3 Š <sub>N</sub>	13. Committee such appearant, organizational interest to the purpose of the trip:  The Chilerana Culture University either to promote international cultural exchanges in order for it to  thrive the world increasingly engineered by an irresistible thrust lowerds globalization.					
\$&.	Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, butiness-class or final-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via alternate, please indicate if travel is being affect on a commercial flight, characted flight or an attendit operated or point for by a carrier not itemated by the Foderal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or title (i.e., a private alread). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via shartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why sout travel is warranted:					
	The sponeur will provide first-class commercial flights bacause the length of flights combining both the sponeur of the state of the sponeur					
15	I represent that the capacidities related to least new travel during the trip will be unadated to purposed or concepting activities of the inviteo(s). (sign(f) "yes" by checking day):	<del></del>				
	is consecut that either (check one of the following):  i. The trip involves an event that is arranged as organized without repard to congressional participation and that medic provided to congressional participants are that medic provided to or purchased by other event microscot.  in The trip involves avents that are arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation:  if "" is checked, detail the cost particy of medic (opproximate sost may be provided)  The authorized cost of masks for each participant per day is approximately \$150 USC.					
3 73	Remote the rejecting the location of the event or trip: To isom first hard about ourself US. Talwan relations on various expects, trobusing security cooperation, trade partnership, advectional and cultural exchanges.					
38	Name of Note: or other lodging facility: Grand Formosa Regard Taips:					
	Cost you slight of hotel or other indging fadility (approximate cost may be provided):  Approximately \$200 USD per night per room					
30.	Resource) for selecting herei or other looging facility: The indial is located in downtown Taipoi close to most of the meeting venues					
And	man in the man of the second o	· . ඒ ගේ සාකාල කිර				
per see el debe	ے داکاروکی مفاصلات کا مقدرہ ا <mark>میان میں میں جاتا ہے۔ ان میں واضو کسینٹ کا کا</mark> نکار کا اور جاتا ہو ان معلمی والد					

	MOTAL EX		
21.			

Caetusi amounts Cagood falih estimeter	Total <i>Tronsportation</i> Expenses per Participam	Total Lodginy Expenses per Pentsipani	Tatal Maci Expenses per Perticinant
8	\$10,000 USD	\$800 USD	\$750 USD
For each secompanying family member	\$10,000 USD		\$750 USD

00000000	OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Repaires (e.g., Invi., parking, registration fee, etc.)
	for each Member, Offices, or employee	N/A	·
00000000000	lawly member free secompanying	N/A	

22. I represent that reinfusipement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to sed from structure, security costs, interpreter from vise application foca, and similar expenses, will be for second cress incomed and ero necessary for the purpose of the stip (signify "yes" by checking bes): [3]

-2×	s paintly, then the suballished animouses in this form is thest countries, and added to the first of will planted the
	Stephens - Thereber lus
	Name was the Chrisqui Van Director of PR Office, CCU
	Organization: Chinese Culture University
	Address: No. 55, Hwa-keng Rd., Yang-ming-shan, Telpei, 111, Talwan R.O.C.
	Telephanic cumber:
	Fax number: +886-2-2861-6824
	Smill Address

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The Committee stall may sentest the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any quastions respecting this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Commisse on libbee (1.3. Morse of Representatives 1913 Longovanh House Office Duliding Washington, OC 19919 (202) 223-7103 (shops) (202) 223-7392 (fee)

Partition diana 3-2011 Syst Sciences from an Edisar

# Members of the House of Representative invited to Delegation to Republic of China (Taiwan) from December 27-31, 2011:

- 1. Rep. Bill Owens
- 2. Mrs. Jane Owens

#### U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics

#### PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM

ř.	Name of Traveler: (1) 1925 Owing April 2008
2.	Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): China Coltune University
3.	Travel destination(s): Telpei Bod Silves
4.	a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: 12/27/11 ~ 1/1/12
	b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?   Yes No
	If yes, dates at personal expense:
5.	a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the spousor's expense? 💹 Yes 🗌 No
	b. If yes, name of accompanying family member:
	e. Relationship to traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify):
å.	<ul> <li>a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(c) on the Trip Sponsor form (i.e., the travel is being sponsored by an entity that employs a lobbyist)? Yes No</li> <li>b. If yes, check one of the following: N/A - Sponsor checked 9(a) or 9(b)</li> </ul>
	(1) Approval for one-night's lodging and meals is being requested:  or (2) Approval for two-nights' lodging and meals is being requested:  fr'(2)" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted:
7.	Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments (indicate that form is attached by checking box):
8.	Explain why participation in the trip is connected to your individual official or representational duties:
	Deschiel for testat Cromma de Comational Cosporte Gas Sec.
2.	FOR STAFF: TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:
	I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.
	Date: 10/0/1
	Signature of Employing Member

NOTE: This page must be submitted with your post-travel disclosure form within 15 days of your return, so you should maintain a photocopy of the completed form for your records.

#### U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ethics

## PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM For Members, Officers, and Employees

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form and any attachments. A copy of this form, unions this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. Please type form. Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392.

YOUR COMPLETED REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE NO LESS THAN 14 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROPOSED DEPARTURE DATE. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 14 days before the trip commences.

Name of T	raveler:	4/11	Li Beg Santanananan	<u>Owens</u>	, Jea	Ŷ	<u> 2007-13</u>	
the be	st of my	knowledge						ete, and correct to
Signat	ture:						1	
N	ime of S	ignatory (if	other tha	ın travelor):				***************************************
Fo	ir staff, n	ame of emp	oloying V	domber/Comm	ittee:			ggy yayayaya alayahida asan co ciiroo aa aa aa ka
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Phone	number		1:2:	)				
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media	appeara	if the spon nce sponso efore the tri	red by th	nat entity and	outlet and the	e trave tre bei	eler is a Membe ng submitted to	r traveling to make a the Committee less
NOTE: 3	You mu	st complet ou if additie	e the co	entact inform rmation is requ	ation fields aired.	above	, as Committee	staff may need to
if there ar	e any qu	estions rega	rding this	s form please o	contact the Co	mmitt	tee:	
U.S. 1 1015   Wash (202)	Longwoo ington, I	Representa th House O X 20515 3 (phone)		ilding				
Store in a Solar	9:00 EE Jaar	termonistein en 196	lac v					



#### 學 大 化 文 國 中

#### Chinese Culture University

MWA KANG, YANG MING SHAN TAIWAN, REPUBLIC OF CHINA

November 29, 2011

The Honorable Bill Owens
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
U.S.A.

Dear Congressman Owens:

It gives me great pleasure to invite you and Mrs. Owens to visit the Republic of China (Taiwan) from December 27 to 31, 2011, as guests of the Chinese Culture University (CCU).

Chinese Culture University is one of Taiwan's leading institutions of higher education. A private university founded in 1962, CCU has developed a comprehensive undergraduate program that reflects its understanding of Taiwan's role in the broader global community. Our founders knew that in order to grow and prosper in its present historical and global setting, Chinese culture must inherit the best that the East and the West have to offer. To this end, the university has also developed a strong program of international exchanges and sister university relations.

CCU is inviting you and others from the U.S. Congress on this educational and fact-finding visit to Taiwan as part of our effort to broaden relations through new exchange initiatives. We hope to introduce you to Taiwan, its people, and the range of issues that shape its domestic and national security policies today—and which have direct relevance to the United States and U.S.-Taiwan relations. Therefore, we have formulated a program that will include meetings with key leaders in both the government and private sectors, exchanges with policy experts from CCU and other institutions, and visits to important economic and cultural sites. CCU will provide round-trip air transportation to Taipei, and local transportation and accommodations during your stay in Taiwan.

I hope you can join your colleagues for this visit to Taiwan, which we believe will be both educational and an opportunity to exchange views and build lasting relationship. Please contact my Assistant Ms. Lynn Yu at <a href="mailto:@staff.pccu.edu.tw">@staff.pccu.edu.tw</a> for additional information. I look forward to seeing you in Taiwan.

Sincerely,

Wannyih Wu President

Annyih 1

Jo Bonner, Alabama Chairman Linde T. Sánciaz, Califorma Sunking Member

Michael T. McCaul, Texas R. Michael Conaway, Texas Charles W. Dent, Pennsylvania Greag Harner, Mississippi

John A. Varmoth, Kentucky Ooma F. Edwards, Maryland Pedro B. Piethisi, Pierto Rico Joe Courtsey, Comredicts



ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

December 20, 2011

Daniel A. Schwager Staff Director and Chief Connael

Joseph White Administrative Staff Director

Kelle A. Sutokland Countel to the Chairman

Daniel I. Taylor Counsel to the Kanking Member

1015 Lougwerth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-6328 Telephone: (202) 225-7103 Facsimile: (202) 225-7292

The Honorable William L. Owens U.S. House of Representatives 431 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your and your spouse's proposed trip to Taiwan, scheduled for December 27, 2011, to January 1, 2012, sponsored by the Chinese Culture University.

You must complete a Member Travel Disclosure Form and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Spongor Travel Certification Form, including attachments. 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.

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

Sincerely,

Jo Bonner Chainman Linda T. Sánchez Ranking Member

JB/LTS:re

### 美國聯邦眾議員歐比爾 訪華行程草案

Tentative Itinerary of the visit by Hon. William Lewis "Bill" Owens and Mrs. Owens

to the Republic of China (Taiwan)

December 28 – 31, 2011

中華民國一百年十二月二十八日 (星期三)

#### Wednesday, December 28, 2011

20:50	搭乘中華航空第005號班機抵華
	Arrive at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport via China Airlines CI-005
	本案承辦人Case Officer:高秘書國亮 Mr. Colin KAO
	公務手機Cell Phone: + ***********************************
夜宿	台北晶華酒店
	台北市中山北路二段41號
RON	Grand Formosa Regent Taipei
	41 Chung Shan North Road, Sec. 2, Taipei, Taiwan
	Tel: +
	Fax: +886-2-2523-2828
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中華民國一百年十二月二十九日(星期四)

#### Thursday, December 29, 2011

10:00	拜會國防部楊副部長念祖
	Call on President Ma / Hon. Dr. Nian-zu YANG, Vice Minister,

	Ministry of National Defense (MND)
15:00	拜會立法院外交委員會帥委員化民
	Call on Hon. SHUAI, Hua-Ming, Legislator, Member of Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee, Legislative Yuan
16:30	拜會台北市美國商會
	Call at American Chamber of Commerce in Taipei
18:00	文化大學張董事長鏡湖及 * 校長萬益 * 宴
	Dinner hosted by Dr. Chin Hu CHANG, Board Chairman of Chinese Culture University and Dr. WU, Wann Yih, President of of Chinese Culture University
20:54	搭高鐵第255號次班車往左營
	Depart for Zuoying, Kaohsiung via Taiwan High Speed Rail No. 255
22:30	抵在營
	Arrive at Zuoying, Kaohsiung
夜街	國資飯店
	地址:高雄市民生二路202號
RON	Ambassador Hotel Kaohsiung
	Phone:
	Fax: +886-7-201-0348
	ADD: 202 Min Sheng 2nd RD., Kaohsiung, Taiwan, R.O.C.

中華民國一百年十二月三十日 (星期五)

Friday, December 30, 2011

09:30	多訪左營海軍基地
	Visit Zuoying Navy Base
11:00	參訪高雄關・局「貨櫃安全計劃」及「大港計劃」執行情形
	Call at Kaohsiung Customs Office for CSI /Mega-Port Project
13:00	搭高鐵第158號次班車往台北
	Depart for Taipei via Taiwan High Speed Rail No. 158
15:00	抵台北
	Call on Rick Tsai, CFO of TSMC
18:00	拜會外交部楊部長進添
	Call on H.E. Timothy YANG, Foreign Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
18:30	外交部楊部長。宴
	Dinner hosted by Foreign Minister YANG

中華民國一百年十二月三十一日(星期六)

# Saturday, December 31, 2011

10:00	参訪國立故宮博物院
	Visit National Palace Museum
16:00	参觀中正紀念堂
	Tour Taipei 101 Financial Center
17:00	
	Meeting with Hsiao Bi-khim of the Democratic People's Party

19:00	* <u>*</u>	
	Dinner at leisure	
23:00	格中華航空第032號班機雕華	-
	Depart Taipei via CI-032	

Boughtin, Jon	
To: Li-Chih Che Subject: RE: TECRO	ng ) contact after Nov. 22 for Congressman Owens' visit
Forwarded message	
From: Ken Chong <	gmail.com>
Date: 2011/12/7	
Subject: China Airlines E-TKT Co	nfirmation for OWENS/WILLIAM LEWIS & JANE ELEANOR
To: craig.belden@mail.house.gov	, "Boughtin, Jon" < <u>Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov</u> >, Li-Chih Cheng
@tecro.us>	
CHINA AIRLINES LTD.	
LOS ANGELES BRANCH OFFIC	
200 N. CONTINENTAL BLVD.	
EL SEGUNDO, CA.90245.	
U.S.A.	
TEL 1-800-227-	
FAX 1-310-322-3888	
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PASSENGER NAME:	
1. OWENS/WILLIAM LEVVIS ET	
2. OWENS/JANE ELEANOR E	R11 2972475605552
RECORD LOCATOR: K6TDHY	Air Canada: MZRSQR
FLIGHT RESERVATION	

DATE FLIGHT AIRPORT FROM/TO TIME CLASS STATUS STOP

27DEC AC 797 YUL-DORVAL

0805 C CONFIRMED

27DEC LAX-LOS ANGELES

1115

27DEC CL 5 LAX-LOS ANGELES 1355 F CONFIRMED 0 NON STOP

28DEC TPE-TAIPEI 2050

31DEC CL 32 TPE-TAIPEL 2330 J CONFIRMED 0 NON STOP

31DEC YVR-VANCOUVER 1805

31DEC AC 182 YVR-VANCOUVER 2330 D CONFIRMED

IJAN YUL-DORVAL 0715

SEAT SELECTION: CI6F27DEC 1-1A 2-1K

CI32C31DEC 1-4J 2-4K

\* INTERLINE STATUS IS FOR REFERENCE ONLY \*

- \* PLEASE CHECK IN AT AIRPORT 2 HOURS BEFORE FLIGHT DEPARTURE \*
- \* FOR DELHI AIRPORT (ECONOMIC CLASS PASSENGER ONLY) PLEASE CHECK IN AT AIRPORT 3 HOURS BEFORE FLIGHT DEPARTURE \*
- FOR TICKET ISSUED ON/AFTER 15 APRIL 2008.THE MAX WEIGHT OF EACH CHECKED BAGGAGE CARRIED BY ECONOMY CLASS PASSENGERS ON TRANSPACIFIC ROUTES INCLUDG GUAM IS CHANGED FROM 32KGS TO 23KGS.

FOR DETAILS PLEASE CHECK LOCAL CHINA AIRLINES OFFICE \*

\* EACH CABIN BAGGAGE MAY NOT EXCEED 56X36X23CM IN SIZE AND 7KG IN WEIGHT, IF OVERWEIGHT OR OVERSIZED, IT WILL BE TRANSPORTED AS CHECKED BAGGAGE. EXCESS BAGGAGE CHARGE WILL BE COLLECTED IF THE TOTAL PIECES/WEIGHTS CHECKED EXCEED YOUR FREE CHECKED BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE, FREE CABIN BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE OF F/C/Y PASSENGERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FIRST CLASS: 2PIECES, OR ONE PIECE PLUS ONE GARMENT BAGGAGE (THICKNESS NOT OVER 20CM)

BUSINESS CLASS: ONE PIECE PLUS ONE GARMENT BAGGAGE

(THICKNESS NOT OVER 20CM) ECONOMY CLASS: ONE PIECE

THANK YOU FOR FLYING WITH CHINA AIRLINES AND WISH YOU A
PLEASANT TRIP

Ken Chong (M) (M)

CHINA AIRLINES 中華 例 至

Area Sales Manager WAS DC

CLKenChong@gmail.com

Tel: 202-422

This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by MailScanner, and is believed to be clean.

Li-Chih Cheng
Officer, Congressional Liaison Division
Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO)
4201 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016, USA
202.895.

202.244.3046 (F)

{C}

# **EXHIBIT 2**

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 as Amended

# OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### **MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW**

IN RE: Representative Bill Owens

REVIEW #(s): 12-8236

DATE: August 17, 2012 LOCATION: Burlington, Vermont

TIME: 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM (approximate)
PARTICIPANTS: Brian Svoboda, Counsel to the Witness

Emily Eisenberg, Counsel to the Witness

Kedric Payne Scott Gast

<u>SUMMARY</u>: Representative Bill Owens (the "witness") currently represents the 23rd Congressional District of New York. The OCE requested an interview with the witness and he consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The witness declined to sign a written acknowledgement of the warning.
- 2. The witness told the OCE that the idea of a trip to Taiwan was first raised in July 2011 during an introductory meeting with representatives from the Taiwan government. He said that he took the invitation to visit Taiwan as a courtesy offered to all new Members of Congress.
- 3. The witness does not recall any further discussion about a trip to Taiwan until sometime in the fall, when he had a conversation with fellow Rep. Richard Hanna about possibly traveling to Taiwan together.
- 4. The witness stated that he had heard from former Senator Al D'Amato's office, which the witness understood to be the lobbying firm Park Strategies, LLC, about possibly doing a trip with Rep. Hanna and also with Rep. Tom Reed.
- 5. The witness explained that the trip that he learned about from Senator D'Amato's office was related to the Marcy Project near his congressional district, which at the time was attempting to recruit the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation ("TSMC") to open a facility there.
- 6. The witness was not aware of conversations between his congressional staff and officials from Park Strategies regarding a potential Taiwan trip in August or September.
- 7. After reviewing an entry from his calendar, the witness said that he believes he had a telephone conversation with Senator D'Amato on October 6, 2011, in which Senator D'Amato asked him if he had any interest in going to Taiwan to meet with TSMC. The witness believes that Senator D'Amato's firm represented Madison County in New York, which would have benefitted from a TSMC facility located in the area. The witness' interest in the TSMC issue was that it could mean a lot of jobs for his constituents.

- 8. The witness was shown a November 1, 2011 email from a member of his congressional staff to Sean King, a lobbyist with Park Strategies, in which the staff member inquires about potential dates for the witness to travel to Taiwan. The witness said that the date of the email was consistent with his recollection of when the idea of a trip came up again.
- 9. At the time of this email, the witness understood that this was an invitation from the government of Taiwan. He did not inquire about who was paying for the trip.
- 10. The witness said that, at the time of this email, he was not familiar with the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act ("MECEA").
- 11. The witness said he did not have a sense of Park Strategies' role with respect to the proposed Taiwan trip, nor did he focus on what Park Strategies may or may not have been doing. He said that his focus was on the reasons for making the trip and what he would do during the trip. He thought that it was the government of Taiwan "driving the train."
- 12. The witness noted that he had returned from a trip to Israel in August, and the proposed Taiwan trip was developing in a similar way.
- 13. The witness was shown a November 3, 2011 email from his senior legislative assistant to him and to his chief of staff, in which the senior legislative assistant wrote: "D'amato's [sic] guys report that anytime Bill Owens is ready for Taiwan, Taiwan is ready for Bill Owens...." The witness understood that the reference to "D'amato's [sic] guys" was to Park Strategies.
- 14. The witness always intended that his wife would join him on the Taiwan trip, but he was not sure how well he communicated this to his staff.
- 15. The witness was shown a November 10, 2011 email from his senior legislative assistant entitled "Ethics Followup," reporting on a conversation with the Ethics Committee regarding payment of the witness' wife's travel expenses. The witness stated that anything they were doing with respect to the trip they were trying to run by the Ethics Committee.
- 16. The witness believes that the conversation with the Ethics Committee was prompted by his suggestion that a friend and client pay for his wife's travel expenses. He asked his staff to consult with the Ethics Committee to see if that was possible. There was also a question whether his wife could participate in various meetings or events during the trip, if the trip was sponsored by the Taiwan government.
- 17. The witness does not know what the Ethics Committee advised, but he stated that after this conversation, they decided that is was not a good idea for the friend to pay for his wife's travel, and they did not go forward with this idea.
- 18. The witness recalled that at some point, the Chinese Culture University "came into the picture," but he could not recall when between the November 10th conversation with the Ethics Committee and the date of the trip that this happened. The witness does not know how the Chinese Culture University came into the picture.
- 19. The witness does not believe he had any contact with the Chinese Culture University prior to the trip.

- 20. The witness was shown a November 22, 2011 email from his senior legislative assistant, reporting that the staff member had "[j]ust sat down with the folks from the Embassy to do a rough outline of the trip." The witness recalled reading this email, but said that he probably would not have paid a great deal of attention to it, except to see whether a meeting with TSMC was on the schedule.
- 21. The witness understood the role of the Embassy was "clearly working to establish the agenda" for his trip. He does not believe that at this point he had an idea of the payment arrangements for the trip. He said that his guess was that he assumed the government of Taiwan was paying.
- 22. The witness did not recall being involved in any conversations about finding a private sponsor for the trip, nor did he do anything to find such a private sponsor.
- 23. The witness said that when he received the invitation letter from the Chinese Culture University, his realized that the payment arrangements for the trip had changed.
- 24. The witness stated that he would have learned of the invitation from the University shortly after the invitation letter was received by his office. He believes he learned of the invitation from his senior legislative assistant.
- 25. The witness recalled briefly meeting Park Strategies lobbyist Sean King at his congressional office in Washington on or about December 5, 2011. Mr. King was sitting with his senior legislative assistant when he came out of his office and had a brief conversation. The witness recalled no specific conversations about his Taiwan trip with Mr. King.
- 26. The witness recalled a telephone conversation with Senator D'Amato on or about December 7, 2011, in which the Senator said that he hoped the witness would have a good trip to Taiwan.
- 27. After reviewing an email exchange with his senior legislative assistant two days after the December 7, 2011 call with Senator D'Amato, the witness recalled that he spoke with the Senator about meeting with the opposition political party during his trip to Taiwan. The witness said he thought such a meeting was a good idea.
- 28. The witness said he did not focus on who prepared his trip itinerary. Rather, he was focused on the substance of what they were doing.
- 29. The witness said that during the trip, he participated in a dinner which four University officials attended: the University president, chairman of the board, and two deans. One of the deans also attended a dinner hosted by the Taiwan Foreign Minister the next evening. At this dinner, the witness thanked the University for the trip. The witness also discussed with University officials the possibility of the school becoming a source for exchange students with U.S. schools.
- 30. The witness was shown a memorandum regarding the details of his trip, and the witness recalled receiving it before his trip. He said he did not focus on the instruction in the memo to keep his boarding passes and return them to Taiwan officials for accounting purposes. The witness said he did not keep his boarding passes or turn them in to Taiwan officials.
- 31. The witness stated that a representative from the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs met him at the airport and escorted him throughout the trip. The witness said that the representative mentioned on several occasions that Taiwan was thankful to the Chinese Culture University for

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 as Amended

hosting the trip. The representative also prompted the witness to thank the Chinese Culture University at the Foreign Ministry dinner.

- 32. The witness recalled a post-trip meeting with TECRO officials, which he believed was to ensure he had a good trip. He does not recall the names of the officials with whom he met.
- 33. The witness recalled a post-trip telephone conversation with Senator D'Amato, but could not recall a specific date for the call. He said that Senator D'Amato told him that he hoped TSMC decided to open a facility in Oneida County.
- 34. The witness said that the first time he learned that the Taiwan government paid for some or all of the cost of his trip and was later reimbursed by the Chinese Culture University was when officials from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States ("TECRO") came to his office after the trip and told this to members of his staff.
- 35. The witness recalled that the TECRO officials requested the meeting with his staff, but did not know why they sought the meeting. The meeting was requested after press reports about the trip were published.
- 36. The witness told the OCE that he received a call from a reporter approximately 24 hours prior to the *Pro Publica* report on his trip was published. He said he was "stunned" when he received the call, as he had no sense that they had done anything wrong with respect to the trip.
- 37. Within several hours of receiving the call, the witness decided to reimburse the sponsor for the cost of the trip. In his view, if there was any chance that they had done something wrong, he "needed to clean it up immediately."
- 38. On May 21, 2012, the witness mailed a personal check, made payable to the Chinese Culture University, in the amount of \$22,132.20, to the president of the Chinese Culture University. The witness believes that his staff contacted TECRO to obtain the amount to be reimbursed and the contact information for the entity to reimburse.
- 39. The first check sent by the witness was returned to him, as the bank would not cash the check because of an over-written number on the check. The witness sent a second check, in the same amount and to the same payee. That check has been cashed.
- 40. The witness said that his senior legislative assistant was responsible for completing and filing travel disclosure forms with the Committee on Ethics. The witness stated that the completed forms would have been sent to him and reviewed by him before being signed and filed.
- 41. The witness told the OCE that after questions about the trip were raised, he asked the Committee on Ethics to conduct a training session for his congressional staff. The witness stated that if he had known at any point that there was anything improper about the trip, he would not have gone.

This memorandum was prepared on August 22, 2012 after the interview was conducted on August 17, 2012. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the witness on August 17, 2012.

Scott Gast Investigative Counsel

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OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

# **EXHIBIT 3**

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 as Amended

# OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### **MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW**

IN RE: Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep. Bill Owens

REVIEW #(s): 12-8236

DATE: August 9, 2012 LOCATION: Perkins Coie

TIME: 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM (approximate)
PARTICIPANTS: Brian Svoboda, Counsel to the Witness

Jon Berkon, Counsel to the Witness

Scott Gast Kedric L. Payne

<u>SUMMARY</u>: The witness is a senior legislative assistant in the office of Representative Bill Owens. The OCE requested an interview with the witness and he consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The witness declined to sign a written acknowledgement of the warning.
- 2. The witness is currently a senior legislative assistant for Rep. Bill Owens and has held this position since approximately December 2009. He joined Rep. Owens' office in November 2009 as communications director before changing his position to senior legislative assistant. Prior to joining the office, he worked on Rep. Owens' campaign. He also served as a legislative assistant/deputy communications director for former Rep. Lincoln Davis and has worked with the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.
- 3. As senior legislative assistant, the witness is primarily responsible for legislative work associated with Rep. Owens' position on the House Armed Services Committee. He also works on transportation, environment, and energy issues. He reports to the Legislative Director, and through her, to Rep. Owens' chief of staff. In his current position, the witness has frequent, often daily, interaction with Rep. Owens.
- 4. The witness has worked with Park Strategies, LLC, who he knows is a New York-based lobbying firm, in the past, with Park Strategies employees Sean King, John Zagame, Chris D'Amato, and Kraig Siracuse.
- 5. The witness has worked directly with the Taiwan Educational and Cultural Representative Office ("TECRO"), including TECRO officials Frank Lee, Li-Cheh Cheng, Benson Huang, and a few others whose names he could not recall.
- 6. The witness stated that he has never worked with the Chinese Culture University, nor has he had contact with anyone employed by or representing the University. He added that he may have

- sent a thank you note to the University after Rep. Owens' trip to Taiwan, but he would have gotten the addressee's name and contact information from TECRO.
- 7. The witness stated that he had a "fair bit" of interaction with Rep. Owens when planning Rep. Owens' trip to Taiwan. He also had "some" interaction with Rep. Owens' chief of staff and a small amount of interaction with Rep. Owens' scheduler during the planning process.
- 8. The witness said that the idea for the Taiwan trip came from Park Strategies' lobbyist Sean King, likely at some point in August 2011. The witness could not recall how Mr. King relayed the idea to him (*i.e.*, via telephone, email, personal meeting).
- 9. According to the witness, during his initial discussions with Mr. King about a potential trip, the identity of a trip sponsor was not really discussed, but the witness assumed it would be TECRO or the Taiwan government, as he knew TECRO was Park Strategies' client.
- 10. According to the witness, after his conversations with Mr. King, he discussed a possible trip with Rep. Owens' chief of staff and with Rep. Owens himself in August 2011. While there was general interest in taking such a trip, there were no specific plans for a trip at that time.
- 11. The witness recalled that he began to focus on a Taiwan trip more concretely in mid- to late-September. He said that there was a possibility of traveling with Rep. Richard Hanna, and the witness had several conversations with his office about a potential trip. Possible dates for a trip were discussed within Rep. Owens' office.
- 12. At some point, possibly in mid-October 2011, the witness was told by Mr. King that officials from TECRO would be reaching out to him about the proposed Taiwan trip. The witness then received a call from either Frank Lee or Li-Cheh Cheng from TECRO, to discuss the trip. The witness recalled that at some point, TECRO officials came to Rep. Owens' office to discuss a trip agenda.
- 13. The witness was shown an email from him to Sean King, dated October 31, 2011, in which the witness asks Mr. King if the trip "would be covered under the Mutual Education and Cultural Exchange Act." The witness said that this email was likely prompted by a conversation he had with the House Ethics Committee regarding compliance with the travel rules.
- 14. Given Mr. King's positive response to his question, it was the witness' understanding that the trip would be conducted under the Mutual Education and Cultural Exchange Act ("MECEA").
- 15. The witness said that it was not his understanding that Park Strategies was putting together the agenda for the trip, but that Mr. King had "done this type of trip before."
- 16. The witness was shown an email from him to Rep. Owens and the chief of staff, dated November 3, 2011, in which he tells them that "D'amato's [sic] guys report that anytime Bill Owens is ready for Taiwan, Taiwan is ready for Bill Owens..." The witness recalled that the chief of staff asked him to call Mr. King regarding potential dates for a Taiwan trip, and that Mr. King told him that whatever the Congressman wanted to do would be fine.
- 17. The witness was shown an email from him to Rep. Owens and his chief of staff, dated November 10, 2011, and entitled "Ethics Followup." The witness believes that the chief of staff may have

- asked him to call the Ethics Committee to ask whether a friend of Rep. Owens could pay for Rep. Owens' spouse to join him on the Taiwan trip.
- 18. The witness believes that Rep. Owens came up with the idea of having his friend pay for his wife's expenses. The witness did not recall whether he was aware of restrictions on spouse travel under MECEA at the time of this email.
- 19. The witness was not sure if this was the first time that the question whether Mrs. Owens could participate in the trip had come up. He does not believe it was Rep. Owens' intent from the outset to have his wife join him, but he does not recall when the issue first arose.
- 20. The witness recalled that the Ethics Committee referred him to the State Department on the question whether Rep. Owens' wife could participate in travel by Rep. Owens under MECEA. The witness did not recall with whom he spoke at the State Department, but said that the Department informed him that it was up to the host nation paying for the travel. The witness said he asked Mr. King if he knew whether Taiwan, as the host country, had any policy regarding spouse participation in a MECEA trip.
- 21. The witness said that at some point there were discussions of whether or not the trip could be conducted under MECEA, and it was at this point that the idea of an outside sponsor came up. He could not recall when the idea of an outside sponsor first came up. The witness did not recall how the idea of an outside sponsor came up or who raised the issue. He said he had conversations with Mr. King and with TECRO about an outside sponsor.
- 22. The witness was shown an email exchange between him to Sean King, dated November 15, 2011, in which they discuss the witness speaking to Frank Lee, a TECRO official. According to the witness, at this time, he was frequently speaking with TECRO officials about the trip planning, as the trip was beginning to "firm up."
- 23. The witness was shown an email he wrote to Mr. King, dated November 21, 2011, in which the witness tells Mr. King that it "looks like we have our dates. The boss and his wife are looking to travel to Taiwan beginning on December 27<sup>th</sup>. I'll reach out to Mr. Frank Lee about the details but wanted to let you know." The witness said that TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng was his primary contact for trip planning, but that he also worked with Frank Lee, Ms. Cheng's boss.
- 24. The witness stated that Park Strategies had directed him to TECRO for planning Rep. Owens' Taiwan trip, but did not do so in an "exclusionary" way (*i.e.*, talk to them, not us, about the trip).
- 25. According to the witness, he kept Mr. King updated throughout the trip planning process. The witness stated that at no point did Mr. King or anyone at Park Strategies tell him that they could not be involved with planning the trip.
- 26. The witness was shown an email he wrote to Rep. Owens and the chief of staff, copied to the scheduler, dated November 22, 2011, in which he informs Rep. Owens that he "[j]ust sat down with the folks from the Embassy to do a rough outline of the trip...."

- 27. The witness said that he met with TECRO officials on November 22, 2011, to discuss potential flights and a trip itinerary. The witness does not believe that, at the time of this meeting, he knew who the private sponsor of the trip was.
- 28. The witness was shown an email from TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng to him, dated November 22, 2011, in which Ms. Cheng references their meeting earlier that day and states: "I need your kind help here in order to find a private sponsor in the coming days!"
- 29. The witness said that he understood Ms. Cheng to be asking for information regarding the travelers, including their full names and cities of departure. He said that he did not take her statement as a request for help in identifying a private sponsor for Rep. Owens' trip.
- 30. According to the witness, he believes that he learned that the Chinese Culture University was going to be the private sponsor of Rep. Owens' trip from TECRO officials during a meeting with those officials. The witness did not recall when he learned this, but after reviewing the letter of invitation from the University, dated November 29, 2011, the witness said that he may have found out sometime between November 22, 2011, the date of his meeting with Ms. Cheng, and November 29, 2011, the date of the invitation letter.
- 31. The witness told the OCE that he was under the impression that TECRO was "leading the charge" in finding a private sponsor for the trip.
- 32. The witness did not recall any discussions about the Chinese Culture University prior to receiving the invitation letter from the University.
- 33. When asked if he discussed potential private sponsors for Rep. Owens' trip with anyone at Park Strategies, the witness said that he had a discussion with Sean King as some point during the "transition" from a "MECEA trip" to a "private sponsor trip." The witness said he was confident that Mr. King was aware of this "transition." The witness said that he was under the impression that "this had been done before" -- that is, that a private sponsor had previously "stepped in" when the MECEA mechanism for a congressional trip didn't work.
- 34. The witness said that the itinerary for Rep. Owens' trip was prepared by officials at TECRO, with input from Rep. Owens' office. He received the itinerary from Li-Cheh Cheng.
- 35. The witness recalled meeting with Mr. King at Rep. Owens' Washington, DC office at some point and that Mr. King suggested meetings for Rep. Owens' itinerary. When told that the Park Strategies Foreign Agents Registration Act ("FARA") report indicated an in-person meeting between the witness and Mr. King on December 5, 2011, the witness said that may have been the date of the meeting he recalled having with Mr. King.
- 36. The witness was shown a December 5, 2011 email from Ken Chong, an employee of China Airlines, to him, copied to Li-Cheh Cheng, in which Mr. Chong informs the witness of the cost of the airline tickets, to be included in the Ethics Committee travel forms: "The price that we will send invoice to TECRO is approximately USD\$8655 + tax \$357.30 = USD\$9011.80...." The witness did not recall focusing on the reference to TECRO in Mr. Chong's email.

- 37. The witness stated that he does not know what Rep. Owens discussed with Former Senator and Park Strategies executive Al D'Amato during a telephone call on December 7, 2011 (disclosed on the Park Strategies' FARA report), as he did not participate in or staff this call.
- 38. The witness was shown an email exchange between Rep. Owens and him, dated December 9, 2011, in which the witness asks Rep. Owens if he is "ok sitting down with the opposition party in Taiwan while you're there...." Rep. Owens replies: "Damto [sic] asked me too [sic]." The witness said that this email did not refresh his recollection about the subject of the call between Rep. Owens and Senator D'Amato, but that he assumed, after reading this email, that this meeting was the subject of the telephone call.
- 39. The witness was asked about an email from him to Rep. Owens, copied to the chief of staff, also dated December 9, 2011, in which he tells Rep. Owens that "I'm supposed to talk to sean king [sic] Monday and we might be able to find a way to get invited, but damato's [sic] guys obviously can't ask.... Our hosts are going to find out either way."
- 40. The witness recalled that Mr. King had suggested a meeting with the Taiwanese opposition leader. He also recalled multiple calls with Mr. King to "check in" on the trip planning, but could not specifically recall the conversation with Mr. King referenced in the email.
- 41. The witness said that his reference to "our hosts" was a reference to TECRO. He added that by December 9, 2011, he would have understood that the Chinese Culture University would be the entity paying for the trip.
- 42. The witness was shown an email from him to Scott Matthews, a district office staff member for Rep. Owens, dated December 23, 2011, in which he asks Mr. Matthews to print out an attached document for Rep. Owens. The witness stated that the attached document was provided to him by TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng.
- 43. The witness was asked about the statement in the attached document to "[p]lease remember to **keep your boarding passes for** all domestic and international flights and return them to **TECRO**" (emphasis in original). According to the witness, he read the entire document but did not focus on this particular statement.
- 44. The witness was asked about an email from Sean King to him, dated December 28, 2011, sent with high priority, in which Mr. King asks if he would chat with the witness about "one aspect of the trip." The witness recalled that Mr. King had called to give him a heads up that a meeting between Rep. Owens and representatives of the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation ("TSMC") had been reported in the press.
- 45. The witness stated that he was responsible for preparing the Ethics Committee travel disclosure forms for Rep. Owens to sign.
- 46. The witness stated that the completed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form was provided to him by Ms. Cheng. He did not know who prepared the form, nor did he have any contact with the individual signing the form or anyone else at the Chinese Culture University.

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- 47. The witness received a draft itinerary from TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng, which he reformatted and added an entry for the "Meeting with Hsiao Bi-khim of the Democratic People's Party" the meeting requested by former Senator D'Amato before including the itinerary in the Ethics Committee submission.
- 48. After the witness prepared the travel forms, he gave them to the chief of staff. Sometime later, he received the signed travel forms back from the chief of staff.
- 49. The witness said that he met with TECRO officials Frank Lee and Li-Cheh Cheng approximately two months ago, shortly after news reports about Rep. Owens' trip were published, at the request of TECRO.
- 50. During this meeting, the TECRO officials told the witness that TECRO had paid for some of the trip expenses up front and was being reimbursed by the Chinese Culture University. It was not clear to the witness when the reimbursement was made. The TECRO officials apologized for the negative publicity arising from the trip.
- 51. The witness told the OCE that Rep. Owens sent two checks to the Chinese Culture University to reimburse the costs of the trip. There was some "number problem" with the first check, but the witness said he could not recall the specific error. Rep. Owens then wrote a second check, in the same amount, to the same payee.

This memorandum was prepared on August 13, 2012 after the interview was conducted on August 9, 2012. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the witness on August 9, 2012.

Scott Gast Investigative Counsel

# **EXHIBIT 4**

# Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 03/01/2012 1:05:51 PM OMB NO 1124-0002; Expires February 28, 2014

U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, DC 20530

### **Supplemental Statement**

Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended

	For Six Month l	Period Ending 1/31	/2012 (Insert date)	<u>.                                    </u>		
•	٠. ٢	- REGISTRANI			*	
1. (a) Name of Registrant	•	(b) Registratio				•
_		,	1110.			
Park Strategies, LLC		5908				
(c) Business Address(es) of Registr 101 Park Avenue Suite 2506 New York, NY 10178	ant				S.	
2. Has there been a change in the infor  (a) If an individual:			tion with the	following?		<u></u>
<ul><li>(1) Residence address(es)</li><li>(2) Citizenship</li></ul>	Yes □	No □		•		
(3) Occupation	Yes □ Yes □	No □ No □				
•	163 📑			•		
<ul><li>(b) If an organization:</li><li>(1) Name</li></ul>	Yes □	No ⊠				
(2) Ownership or control	Yes □	No ⊠				
(3) Branch offices	Yes □	No ⊠		•		
(c) Explain fully all changes, if an	y, indicated in Item	s (a) and (b) above.				
	•					•
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•					
IF THE REGISTRA	NT IS AN INDIV	IDUAL, OMIT RE	ESPONSE T	O ITEMS 3, 4	AND 5(a).	
3. If you have previously filed Exhibit Yes $\square$ No $\boxtimes$	C <sup>1</sup> , state whether a	ny changes therein	have occurre	d during this 6	month reporting	g period.
If yes, have you filed an amendmen	t to the Exhibit C?	Yes ⊡	No □			
If no, please attach the required ame	endment.					

Formerly CRM-154

FORM NSD-2

<sup>1</sup> The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

(PAGE 2)

4. (a) Have any persons ceased	d acting as partners, officers, directo	rs or similar officials of the	registrant during this	6 month reporting period?
Yes 🗌	No ⊠			
If yes, furnish the follow	wing information:	,		
Name		Position	Date Con	nection Ended
	·			
			•	
				•
(b) Have any persons become Yes ⊠	ne partners, officers, directors or sin	nilar officials during this 6	month reporting period	?
If yes, furnish the follow	wing information:	•	•	•
Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
Joseph Rossi	N 41 5: AlV 42040	USA	Vice President	January 1, 2012
	North Syracuse, NY 13212			
•	•			
5. (a) Has any person named in Yes ☐	n Item 4(b) rendered services directl	y in furtherance of the inte	rests of any foreign prin	ncipal?
If yes, identify each suc	h person and describe the service re	ndered.		
			•	
	porting period, has the registrant hir the registrant directly in furtherance d or similar capacity? Yes			
Name	Residence Address	Citizenship	Position	Date Assumed
			•	
connection with the regi	individuals, who have filed a short fi istrant during this 6 month reporting		terminated their emplo	pyment or
If yes, furnish the follow	· ·	sition or Connection	<b>.</b>	
Name LaShaun Lesley	Consultant	Sition of Connection		te Terminated ust 26, 2011
Lashaun Lesiey	Consultant		Aug	u3( 20, 201 1
(d) Have any employees or principal during this 6 n	individuals, who have filed a short for the form the filed a short for the filed a short f	orm registration statement,	terminated their conne	ction with any foreign
If yes, furnish the follow	ving information:			
Name	Position or Connection	Foreign Princip	nal Dod	e Terminated
LaShaun Lesley	Consultant	1. TECRO; 2. Republic o		
Eug. aun Ecsiey	Consultant	Transitional Federal Go		, • •
		Somali Diplomatic Miss		•
		•		
6. Have short form registration	n statements been filed by all of the	persons named in Items 50	a) and 5(b) of the suppl	emental statement?
Yes $\Box$	No □		,(-)	
	who have not filed the required stat	ement.		•
N/A	•		÷	

(PAGE 3)

	II - FOREIGN PRINCIPA	L	
7. Has your connection with any foreign principal If yes, furnish the following information:	l ended during this 6 month repo	rting period? Yes ⊠	No 🗆
Foreign Principal Republic of Somalia Transitional Federal Gove Mission	ernment Somali Diplomatic	Date of Termination January 1, 2012	
8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal(s) If yes, furnish th following information:	) <sup>2</sup> during this 6 month reporting	period? Yes 🗆	No ⊠
Name and Address of Foreign Principal(s)		Date Acquired	
9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if a	any list foreign principal(s) <sup>2</sup> wh	om you continued to represent de	uring the 6 month
reporting period.  Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative of		on you continued to represent di	ang ac o monu

10. (a)	Have you filed exhibits for	or the newly acquir	red foreign princij	oal(s), if any, lis	ted in Item 8?	
	Exhibit A <sup>3</sup>	Yes 🗌	No 🗌			
	Exhibit B4	Yes 🗆	No 🗌			
	If no, please attach the rec	quired exhibit.				
(b)	Have there been any char	ges in the Exhibit	s A and B previou	isIy filed for any	foreign principal	whom you
	represented during this six	x month period?		Yes 🗷	No 🗆	
	If yes, have you filed an a	mendment to thes	e exhibits?	Yes 🗵	No □	

If no, please attach the required amendment.

The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a) (9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 208.)
 The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3 (Formerly CRM-157) sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.
 The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4 (Formerly CRM-155) sets fourth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

(PAGE 4)

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11.	During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes $\boxtimes$ No $\square$
	If yes, identify each foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:
	Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States     Republic of Somalia Transitional Federal Government Somali Diplomatic Mission
	We engaged in the activities identified in our answer to Question 12.
12.	During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity <sup>5</sup> as defined below?  Yes ⊠ No □
	If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.
	Our activities on behalf of the Somalia TFG consisted of outreach to congressional staff regarding Somalia famine relief efforts; U.S. policies and diplomacy toward Somalia; and possible hearings on Somalia's humanitarian situation.
	Please see the attached summary for the activities in which we engaged on TECRO's behalf labeled "Activity Summary for TECRO_Park_Feb '12.pdf."
	*Registrant's applicable contacts are described in the attached contact logs "Contacts, Park, Feb 12 pdf"
	regionally applicable contacts are described in the attached contact logs, contacts_, ant_, co 12:pair
13.	In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits your foreign principal(s)? Yes No
	If you have the Call of
٠.	ring this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity <sup>3</sup> as defined below?  Yes \Boxed No \Boxed  ring this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity <sup>3</sup> as defined below?  Yes \Boxed No \Boxed  residuntly each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant anged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, mes of speakers and subject matter.  Ir activities on behalf of the Somalia TFG consisted of outreach to congressional staff regarding Somalia famine relief orts; U.S. policies and diplomacy toward Somalia; and possible hearings on Somalia's humanitarian situation.  Rase see the attached summary for the activities in which we engaged on TECRO's behalf labeled "Activity Summary for CRO_Park_Feb '12.pdf."  addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits your
	representative office in the officed states.

<sup>5</sup> The term "political activity" means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign political of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

(PAGE 5)

### IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a)	RECEIPTS-MONIES  During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise?  Yes  No							
	If no, explain w	·hv						
	ii iio, expiaiii w	ny.						
,					*			
						•		
		•						
	If yes, set forth	below in the required detail an	d separately for ea	ch foreign principal	an account o	f such monies.6		
	Date	From Whom		Purpose		Amount		
	8/23/11	TECRO	Consulting f	ees & expenses		\$21,617.05		
	10/3/11	TECRO	Consulting f	ees & expenses		\$22,315.56		
	10/28/11	TECRO	Consulting f			\$20,000.00		
	11/29/11	TECRO		ees & expenses		\$21,793.11		
•	12/12/11	TECRO	Consulting f			\$20,000.00		
	12/27/11	TECRO	Consulting f		•	\$20,000.00		
			_					
						,		
			,					
					_	\$125,725.72		
				•	•	Total		
(b)		UNDRAISING CAMPAIGN			. 7	1 1 10 0		
	-	onth reporting period, have you	· -	=		noney on behalf of any		
	foreign principa	l named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of t	his statement?	Yes □	No ⊠			
	If yes, have you	filed an Exhibit D to your reg	istration?	Yes □	No 🗆			
	, ,	, ,			_			
	If yes, indicate	the date the Exhibit D was filed	d. Date					
		•						
(c)		HINGS OF VALUE onth reporting period, have yo	u received any thir	g of value <sup>9</sup> other tha	n money fro	m any foreign principal		
		7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or						
	Yes □		•		,			
	100	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		,				
	If yes, furnish th	ne following information:						
	Panaion Daineir	al Data I	Panaiwad	Thing of Vol		Durnasa		
	Foreign Principa	ai Date i	Received	Thing of Value		Purpose		

<sup>6,7</sup> A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, moneys, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fundraising

<sup>8</sup> An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fundraising campaign and transmitted for a foreign

principal.

9 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors,

(PAGE 6

15. (a)	(1) disbursed or 9 of this stat	nth reporting period expended monies in tement? Yes ⊠	No			ned in Items 7, 8,	or
	(2) transmitted i	monies to any such f	oreign principal?	Yes N	o 🗵		
	If no, explain in i	full detail why there	were no disbursements	made on behalf of any	foreign principal.		
		elow in the required ed, if any, to each fo	detail and separately fo reign principal.	r each foreign princip	al an account of su	ch monies, includ	ding
	Date Please see attachment labeled "ExpPark_Feb' 12.	То	Whom	Purpose		Amount	
	pdf."						•
	·						
:		·					٠.
		•					
	• .						
	. *						

Total

(PAGE 7)

	Yes 🗆	No ⊠		4	
If yes, furni	sh the following inf	ormation:			
Date	Recipien	nt Forei	gn Principal	Thing of Value	Purpose
	4.				
				,	
				•	÷
•					
			,		
			•		
	•				
During this other person	n, made any contribu	period, have you fro ations of money or	m your own funds other things of valu	and on your own behalf eit le <sup>11</sup> in connection with an e cus held to select candidate	lection to any political
	. —		•		•
If yes, furni	sh the following inf	ormation:			•
Date	Amount	or Thing of Value	Political (	Organization or Candidate	Location of Event
Please see attachment				· .	
labeled "Contribution	_				

<sup>10, 11</sup> Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks" and the like.

(PAGE 8)

### V-INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. (a) During this 6 month repo	rting period, did you prepare, d No □	isseminate or cause to be	e disseminated any informational material	s? <sup>12</sup>
If Yes, go to Item 17.	710			
· ·	m 16(a), do you disseminate an	w material in connection	with your registration?	
Yes □	No □	<b>y</b>	,	
If Yes, please forward the ma	terials disseminated during the	six month period to the	Registration Unit for review.	
17. Identify each such foreign pri	ncipal.			
Taipei Economic and Cultura	l Representative Office in the I	United States		٠
	- 1		•	
		•		
10 Dyning this 6 month populing	-aried has any Carling Piles.	al actablished a budget	or allocated a specified sum of money to	
	g period, has any foreign principaring or disseminating informa	•	Yes □ No ⊠	
• •	eign principal, specify amount,			
if yes, identify each such fore	aga principal, specify amount, a	and indicate for what per	iod of time.	
		•		
		,		
19. During this 6 month reporting materials include the use of a		reparing, disseminating	or causing the dissemination of information	onal
☐ Radio or TV broadcasts	•	Motion picture films	∠ Letters or telegrams	
☐ Advertising campaigns		-	lications  Lectures or speeches	
Other (specify)		•		
Electronic Communications				
⊠ Email		•		
Social media websites URL(s)	•			
☐ Other (specify)		/		
<ol><li>During this 6 month reporting the following groups:</li></ol>	g period, did you disseminate or	r cause to be disseminate	d informational materials among any of	
□ Public officials	☐ Newspape	ers	☐ Libraries	
□ Legislators	☐ Editors		☐ Educational institutions	
⊠ Government agencies	☐ Civic gro	ups or associations	☐ Nationality groups	
Other (specify)				
			•	_
21. What language was used in the	ne informational materials:			
⊠ English	☐ Other (	(specify)	·	
	tion Unit, U.S. Department of I		m of such informational materials Yes ⊠ No □	_
23. Did you label each item of su Yes ☐ No ☒	ch informational materials with	the statement required b	by Section 4(b) of the Act?	
books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures,	broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means	s or instrumentality of interstate	y kind, including that published by means of advertising or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational mater y which by itself would not require registration, need no	rials

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	TION	

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)		. (P	rint or type nam	e under each signature or	provide electro	nic signature
March 01, 2012			/s/ Christo	pher P. D'Amato		eSigned
			•			
			-			
	<del></del>					

<sup>13</sup> This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

#### Park Strategies, LLC

### Activity Summary for Foreign Principals

### Registration No. 5908

### 1. Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO)

Answering media questions on Taiwan arms sales

Drafting and circulating statements into the Congressional Record

Contacting federal officials regarding:

**General Taiwan matters** 

U.S. arms sales to Taiwan

September 20th, 2011 Taiwan Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission

Republic of China "Double Ten" National Day Reception

Member/staff visits to Taiwan

Park Strategies courtesy calls on congressional staff

Meetings with Taiwan Special Representative to the United States Ambassador Jason Yuan

Taiwan military exercises

Taiwan private sector investment in New York State

Taiwan elections

" Introduction	Reg. No. 5908 (August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012)	TABLE OF CONTACT	MATTER NEOFECT
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6/23/2011 Cleryi Milits	בסמואפש מום בחופו כן אמון נס ס.א. אמן פעוץ טו אמר הווואץ בווונטון	. anolidalar	Somalia
10/4/2011 Joseph Lieberman	U.S. Senator	Telephone	Talwan travel
10/6/2011 Peter King	U.S. Representative	Telephone	Somalia
10/24/2011 Tom Reed	U.S. Representative	Letter	Taiwan travel
10/26/2011 John Barrasso	U.S. Senator	Personal conversation	Meeting with Taiwan Ambassador Jason Yuan
12/7/2011 Bill Owens	U.S. Representative	Telephone	Taiwan travel
	FARA Contact Log for Joel Glambra, Park Strategies, U.C.		
DATE PERSON CONTACTED TITLE		TYPE OF CONTACT	MATTER DISCUSSED
8/8/2011 Jonathan Wachtel	Reporter, Fox News	E-mail	United Nations's
			handling of the
			humanitarian crisis in
		:	Somalia
9/7/2011 John Zogby	Polister	E-mail	Somali Prime Winister
			Mohamed's influence
			in Somalia
9/21/2011 Chuck Eaton	Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative Brian Higgins	E-mail	"Double Ten" Taiwan National Day Statement into the Congressional Record
9/23/2011 Chuck Eaton	Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative Brian Higgins	E-mail	"Double Ten" Taiwan National Day Statement into the Congressional Record
9/28/2011 Chuck Eaton	Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative Brian Higgins	E-mail	"Double Ten" Taiwan National Day Statement into the Congressional Record
9/29/2011 Chuck Eaton	Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative Brian Higgins	E-mail .	"Double Ten" Taiwan National Day Statement into the Congressional Record
	FARA Contact Log for Sean King, Park Strategies, LLC		
Trace	Reg. No. 5908 (August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012)		
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8/8/2011 Jay Dutcher	Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative Tom Reed	i e i	Conference call re
			Talwan travel
8/9/2011 Rachel Lipsey	Legislative Assistant to U.S. Representative Paul Tonko	E-mail	Courtesy call re
	_		Taiwan
8/9/2011 Jon Boughtin	Senior Legislative Assistant to U.S. Representative Bill Owens	E-mail ·	Courtesy call re
			Taiwan
	Chief of Staff to U.S. Representative Tom Reed	Telephone	Taiwan travel
	Scheduler to U.S. Joseph Lieberman	E-meil	Talwan travel
8/12/2011. Casey Wendala	Scheduler to U.S. Representative Chris Smith	Personal conversation	Potential hearings on
			Somalia
8/12/2011 Rachel Lipsey	Legislative Assistant to U.S. Representative Paul Tonko	Personal conversation	Taiwan travel; Arms
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	Senior Legislative Assistant to U.S. Representative bill Owens	E-mail	laiwan trave
	Crief of Start to U.S. Representative bill Owens		Jalwan travel
6/24/2011 Jay Ducmer	Chief of staff to U.S. Representative I om Reed	E-mail	laman trave
	Senior Legislative Assistant to U.S. Representative bill Owens	Telephone	laiwan travel
8/25/2011 Cariton Jackson	Scheduler to U.S. Representative Tom Reed	E-mail	Taiwan travel

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talial A	L			\$35.44			5610.00
August							
September				٠			
November	<u>*</u>			\$21.15			
December				\$22.15			
January						•	
TOTAL	\$3,626.80	\$388.81	\$137,43	\$77.74	50.00 \$1,998.57	\$22.50	\$610.00
Air travel							
PERSON	DATE ORIGIN	DESTINATION	PURPOSE	VALUE		٠.	
Sean King	8/12/2011 LGA	<b>4</b> 00	Meeting with Rep. Tonko's staff re Talwan travel	\$414.70			
Sean King	8/13/2011 DCA	rgA	Travel home	\$414.70			
Sean King	8/13/2011 DCA	LGA	Baggage charge	\$25.00	•		
John Zagame	8/12/2011 BWI	ALS	Travel home	\$166.00			
Sean King	10/5/2011 LGA	DCA	Taiwan 'Double Ten' National Day Reception	\$417.70			
Sean King	10/5/2011 DCA	YET	Travel home	\$417.70			
Alfonse M. D'Amato	10/5/2011 LGA	DCA	Taiwan 'Double Ten' National Day Reception	\$417.70			
Alfonse M. D'Amato	10/5/2011[DCA	LGA	Travel frome	\$417.70			
Sean King	12/5/2011 LGA	DCA	Meetings with Reps. Owens's and Hannah's offices	\$420.70			
Sean King	12/5/2011 DCA	PCA	Return frome	\$420.70			
			T0TAL	\$3,532.60			
Train travel							
PERSON	DATE ORIGIN	DESTINATION	PURPOSE	VALUE			
John Zagame	8/11/2011 New York Penn Station		Meeting with Rep. Tonko's staff re Taiwan travel	\$70.20			
John Zagame	8/12/2011 Washington Union Station	Jon BWI	Travel home via 8WI	\$6.00			
			TOTAL				
Taris							
PERSON	DATE ORIGIN	DESTINATION	PURPOSE	VALUE			
Sean King	/2011	1	Travel to alroort	\$44.95			
Sean King	8/12/2011 DCA	1	Travel to accommodation	\$20.00			
Sean King	8/13/2011 2475 Virginia Ave. NW	DCa	Travel home	\$20.00			
Sean King		1442 Roth Road: Seaford, NY	Travel to parents' home from airport	\$130.50			
Sean King	10/5/2011 Mariott Uniondale	LGA	Travel to airport	\$70.00			
Sean King		601 Pennsylvanua Avenue, NW	Taxidowntown	\$15.00			
Sean King	10/5/2011 LGA		Taxihome	\$37.31			
Sean King	12/5/2011 1442 Roth Road; Seaford, NY		Travel to airport	\$80.00			
Sean King	12/5/2011 DCA	503 Capitol Court, NE	Meetings with Reps. Owens's and Hannah's offices	\$16.00			
			TOTAL	\$388.81			
DIMING							
PERSON	DATE ESTABLISHMENT	LOCATION	PURPOSE	VALUE			
			Lunch w/Zagame to plan 8/12 D.C. trip; Reps. Owene Alanca Hairen Afre and DRAFT Infanto Can				
Sean King	8/11/2011 (Voction Chicken	319 Fifth Ave: New York, NY	Gilliprand	72 675			
John Zagame	8/11/2011 Tabard Restaurant	1739 N Street, NW	Dirner	\$137.43			
			TOTAL	ட			
LOOGING							
PERSON	DATE ESTABLISHMENT	LOCATION	PURPOSE	VALUE			
John Zagame	8/11/2011 Embassy Row Hotel	2015 Massachusetts Ave, NW	Meeting with Rep. Tonko's staff re Taiwan travel	\$111.53			
			TOTAL	\$111.53	•		
PARKING	_						
PERSON	DATE ESTABLISHMENT	HOCATION	Sycodia	N. A. A. I.			
I COOK	1	ILLANION	PURPOSE	VALUE			

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tsn8net	1 \$351.70	\$1,213.61		\$66.48	\$254.72		
September	L	\$1,165.85		\$58.81	\$622.65		
October	7 \$361.24	\$1,137.82		\$51.33	\$1,121.60		
November		\$1,130.57		-	\$196.77	,	
December	L	\$1,168.84		\$53.70	\$493.38		
January	L	\$1,146.71		\$52.71	\$323.87		
	\$2,167.45	\$6,963.40		\$3.755	\$3,012,99		
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August	\$370.00	\$1,213.61		\$66.48	\$219.89	\$274.28	
September	£369.64	\$1,165.85		\$58.81	\$490,36	\$272.49	
October		\$1,137.82		\$51.33	\$256.98	\$367.17	
November	50.272.05	\$1,130.57		\$54.86	\$192.30	\$275.54	
December	r \$368.80	\$1,168.84			\$192.09	\$272.80	
hannary	y \$369.22	\$1,146.71		\$52.71	\$190.26	\$174.53	
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### FARA Supplemental Filing

### Alfonse M. D'Amato's contributions

## August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

Paul Tonko/Paul Tonko for Congress	\$1,000	9/9/11
Scott Brown/Scott Brown for U.S. Senate Committee	\$2,500	9/13/11
John Barrasso/Friends of John Barrasso	\$1,000	9/19/11
Joe Barton/Congressman Joe Barton Committee	\$1,000	10/5/11
Richard Lugar/Friends of Dick Lugar	\$1,000	10/19/11
John Mica/Mica for Congress	\$1,000	11/8/11
Daniel Bongino/Bongino for Senate	\$500	11/9/11
Tom Reed/Tom Reed for Congress	\$1,000	12/12/11
John Ciotti/Citizens for Ciotti	\$1,000	9/14/11
Howard Kopel/Howard Kopel for Legislature	\$300	9/15/11
Chris Browne/Friends of Christian Browne	\$1,000	9/20/11
Nassau County Republican Committee	\$1,000	10/13/11
Jerry Murphy/Committee to Elect Jerry Murphy	\$10,000	10/14/11
Chris Browne/ Friends of Christian Browne	\$1,000	10/19/11
The Victory Campaign Fund	\$1,000	10/26/11
Daniel Bongino/Bongino for Senate	\$500	<b>11/9/</b> 11
George Maziarz/Maziarz State Senate	\$1,000	11/10/11
ReNew New York PAC	\$10,000	11/15/11
Lee Zeldin/Zeldin for Senate	\$1,000	12/5/11
Nassau County Republican Committee	\$125	1/13/12
ReNew America PAC	\$5,000	1/13/12
John DeFrancisco/Citizens for DeFrancisco	\$1,000	1/25/12

ReNew New York PAC contributions

Jack Martins/Friends of Jack Martins	\$1,100	8/1/11	
Linda Rosenthal/Linda Rosenthal for Assembly	\$750	12/12/11	
Mike Gianaris/Friends of Mike Gianaris	\$500	12/12/11	
Kathleen Rice/Friends of Kathleen Rice	\$10,000	1/11/12	
Steve Bellone/Bellone 2011	\$5,000	1/11/12	
ReNew America PAC contributions			
Robert Menendez/Menendez for Senate	\$1,000	9/17/11	

## Armand D'Amato's contributions

August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

## **Federal PAC:**

Renew America \$5000 1/21/12

## **STATE**

Locust Valley Republican Committee	\$125	8/27/2011
Ciotti, John/Citizens for Ciotti	\$125	9/6/2011
Cento, Rick/Committee to Elect Rick Cento	\$1,000	9/13/2011
Republican National Committee	\$1,000	10/1/2011
Jerry Murphy/Committee to Elect Jerry Murphy	\$2,500	10/10/2011
Nassau County Republican Committee	\$500	10/16/2011
Murphy, Jerry/Committee to Elect Jerry Murphy	\$2,500	10/20/2011
The Victory Campaign Fund	\$500	10/26/2011
Lesko, Mark/Committee to Elect Mark Lesko	\$500	11/2/2011
Zeldin, Lee/Zeldin for Senate	\$500	12/5/2011

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Nassau County Republican Committee \$125 1/21/12

Ted Cruz for Senate/Ted Cruz \$ 1000 12/5/11

# FARA Supplemental Filing Christopher D'Amato's contributions

August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

Crowley for Congress/ Joseph Crowley \$1000 9/26/11
Friends of Dick Lugar/ Richard Lugar \$ 1000 10/24/11
Tom Reed for Congress/ Tom Reed \$1000 12/20/11

## Christopher D'Amato's contributions

# August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

8/25/2011	\$ 1,000.00	David Weprin for Congress	David Weprin
8/25/2011	\$ 500.00	Sean Ryan for Assembly	Sean Ryan
9/15/2011	\$ 500.00	Good Neighbors for Democrats	•
9/30/2011	\$ 1,000.00	Committee to Elect Jerry Murphy	Jerry Murphy
10/3/2011	\$ 125.00	Committee to Elect Robert Anderson	Robert Anderson
10/3/2011	\$ 125.00	Committee to Elect Glenn Choolokian	Glenn Choolokian
10/12/2011	\$ 1,000.00	Erie County Republican Committee	
10/17/2011	\$ 250.00	Committee to Elect Joe Mascia	Joseph Mascia
11/02/2011	\$ 1,000.00	NYS Democratic Committee	ø
11/02/2011	\$ 3,719.29	Erie County Republican Committee	
12/19/2011	\$ 100.00	Friends of Justice Sedita	Frank A. Sedita Jr.
1/23/2012	\$ 1,000.00	Friends of Brian Kolb	Brian Kolb

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## FARA Supplemental Filing

Sean King's contributions

August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

Jerry Murphy/Committee to Elect Jerry Murphy

\$125

10/11/11

### Melvin Miller's contributions

August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

Rangel for Congress

Charles Rangel

\$1000

8/3/11

David Weprin for Congress

David Weprin

\$500

8/14/11

Kathy Hochul for Congress

Kathy Hochul

\$500

9/26/11

11/4/11 -- Friends of Mark Weprin/Mark Weprin 11/4/11 \$250

11/19/11 - Stringer 2013/ Scott M. Stringer \$1000

Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee

11/21/11

\$300

David Poleto's contributions

August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

9/23 Peter Molinaro/Friends of Peter Molinaro \$500 10/5/2011 Town of Sullivan Republican Committee \$250 10/17/2011 Jerry Murphy/Committee to Elect Jerry Murphy \$500

Dana Sanneman's contributions

August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

Rockville Centre, New York Committeemen's Club

\$80 10/18/11

### Gregory Serio's contributions

August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

Aug 3: Friends of Denise Sheehan \$ 75.00

Aug 20: Republican Assembly Campaign Cmte \$ 250.00

Oct. 11: Cmte to Elect Tom Jasciewicz \$ 200.00

Oct 28: Committee to Elect Jerry Murphy \$ 750.00

Nov 1: Friends of Justin Wilcox \$500.00

Dec 5: Friends for Election of Dean Skelos \$1,000.00

Dec 28: Friends of Sen. Jack Martins \$ 500.00

## Kraig Siracuse's contributions

August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012 reporting period

August 4, 2011
The Congressman Bill Young Campaign Committee

\$250.00

September 19, 2011

The Friends of Scott Brown

\$1,000

September 20, 2011

Friends of Barrasso

\$500

September 21, 2011

Richard Hanna For Congress

\$500

October 18, 2011

Common Values PAC

\$100

October 20, 2011

Committee to Elect Jerry Murphy

\$500

November 15, 2011 Buerkle for Congress \$500

November 16, 2011 Tom Reed for Congress \$240

December 12, 2011 Kelly PAC \$1,000

December 12, 2011
Tom Reed for Congress
\$1,000

\*No other Park Strategies staff made political contributions for the reporting period, August 1st, 2011-Janaury 31st, 2012.

#### CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 as Amended

# OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### **MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW**

IN RE: Chief of Staff to Rep. Bill Owens

REVIEW #(s): 12-8236

DATE: August 9, 2012 LOCATION: Perkins Coie

TIME: 4:20 PM to 5:30 PM (approximate)
PARTICIPANTS: Brian Svoboda, Counsel to the Witness

Jon Berkon, Counsel to the Witness

Kedric Payne Scott Gast

<u>SUMMARY</u>: The witness is the Chief of Staff to Representative Bill Owens. The OCE requested an interview with the witness and he consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The witness declined to sign a written acknowledgement of the warning.
- 2. The witness currently serves as the Chief of Staff to Rep. Bill Owens and has held this position since December 2009. Prior to that, he was the campaign manager for Rep. Owens' campaign for Congress during a November 2009 special election. The witness has worked on several political campaigns, but had not worked on Capitol Hill prior to his position with Rep. Owens.
- 3. As Chief of Staff, the witness ensures that Rep. Owens' Washington, DC and district offices operate properly. He reports directly to Rep. Owens and has a significant amount of interaction with him.
- 4. The witness knows Park Strategies, LLC as a lobbying firm run by former New York Senator Alfonse D'Amato. He has attended meetings with Park Strategies and its clients. He has also attended a fundraising event for Rep. Owens organized by Park Strategies.
- 5. The witness has interacted with officials from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States ("TECRO"), meeting with TECRO official Li-Cheh Cheng and her boss one time. They came to the office shortly after press reports about Rep. Owens' trip were published. The witness also briefly interacted with a person named "Ronnie" at TECRO.
- 6. The witness has never interacted with anyone from the Chinese Culture University.
- 7. According to the witness, Rep. Owens' senior legislative assistant was the point person for planning Rep. Owens' trip to Taiwan.

#### CONFIDENTIAL

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- 8. The witness said that he believes the idea for the trip first came during a meeting Rep. Owens had with TECRO officials in July or August 2011. The witness was not a part of this meeting, but would have heard of the invitation after the meeting from the staff member who attended. He does not recall any post-meeting discussions about the trip.
- 9. The witness told the OCE that there is no formal process in the office for scheduling or planning such trips. He was aware that there was an open invitation to visit Taiwan, but no action was taken to plan such a trip until the fall.
- 10. When the idea of a Taiwan trip came back up in the fall, the witness recalled discussing various "hypotheticals," including who would travel, when they would travel, and similar questions. The witness recalled that one of the initial time frames considered was during Thanksgiving recess.
- 11. The witness was asked about contacts between him and Sean King of Park Strategies in August 2011, disclosed on Park Strategies Foreign Agents Registration Act ("FARA") report. He recalled receiving emails from someone at Park Strategies about the Taiwan trip, but he would not have responded. Rather, the senior legislative assistant would have handled them. The witness also had a vague recollection of a voicemail message from someone at Park Strategies but could not recall what the message was.
- 12. The witness said that, at some point, he was aware that Park Strategies represented TECRO, but he could not recall when he knew this.
- 13. The witness said that, at some point, he became aware that another Member of Congress was also considering a trip to Taiwan. He knew that this was a "TECRO trip," but could not recall how he knew this.
- 14. The witness said that, while he did not really consider it, he thinks it was a logical conclusion to think that Rep. Owens' trip was a "TECRO trip." He added that, while they did not initially focus on who was paying for the trip, given Rep. Owens' meeting with TECRO officials during the summer, "presumably" the invitation to visit Taiwan had come from TECRO.
- 15. The witness does not recall when Rep. Owens made the decision to travel to Taiwan, but he believes it would have been in mid-October, around the time of an October 20, 2011 email from Sean King of Park Strategies to the witness and the senior legislative assistant, in which Mr. King discusses a possible trip by Rep. Owens.
- 16. The witness said he does not recall conversations about who was sponsoring the trip at this stage of the planning process.
- 17. When asked if the trip was originally planned under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act ("MECEA"), the witness said it was certainly possible that there were internal discussions about the proper mechanism to do the trip. He did not remember specifically whether, at the time, the trip was going to be conducted under MECEA.
- 18. The witness did not recall when he learned that Rep. Owens wished to bring his wife with him to Taiwan, but he said that it would have been logical to discuss this as part of the "hypotheticals" that were internally discussed when considering the trip.

#### CONFIDENTIAL

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- 19. The witness was shown a November 3, 2011 email from the senior legislative assistant to Rep. Owens and the witness, reporting that "D'Amato's guys report that anytime Bill Owens is ready for Taiwan, Taiwan is ready for Bill Owens...." The witness said that he does not recall what he thought at the time he received the email, but he would have taken the reference to "D'Amato's guys" as referring to Park Strategies.
- 20. The witness was shown a November 10, 2011 email from the senior legislative assistant to Rep. Owens and the witness, reporting on a conversation with the Committee on Ethics about the Taiwan trip. The witness said that he remembers Rep. Owens asking whether his wife could attend, based on the fact that she had been allowed to attend his previous trip to Israel. He said it was possible that the conversation with the Ethics Committee related to the question of whether his wife could travel with him to Taiwan.
- 21. The witness said that he first heard of the Chinese Culture University right before the trip when the travel disclosure forms were prepared for filing with the Committee on Ethics.
- 22. The witness could not recall when he learned that the Chinese Culture University would be serving as the private sponsor of Rep. Owens trip as the witness put it, "when the switch had been flipped, so to speak."
- 23. The witness said he would have seen the invitation letter from the University, dated November 29, 2011, shortly after the office had received it.
- 24. The witness reiterated that he had no contact with the University either before or after receiving the invitation letter, nor does he recall any discussions about the University around the time of receiving the invitation letter.
- 25. The witness said the Rep. Owens' senior legislative assistant would have been the staff member responsible for preparing the travel disclosure forms. He said that Rep. Owens would have reviewed the forms before they were filed.

This memorandum was prepared on August 22, 2012 after the interview was conducted on August 9, 2012. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the witness on August 9, 2012.

Scott Gast Investigative Counsel

From:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Tuesday, November 01, 2011 2:26 PM

To:

'Sean King'

Subject:

RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

Funny you should ask! Literally just got word from the boss that he's interested in going either Ian 4-7 or Ian 11-14. believe his preference is for the former, but I have relayed the election angle and really either would work. Likewise, he would welcome Mr. Hanna coming along, for sure.

Two things I wanted to ask. First, is staff welcome on the trip, and if so how many? Second, can you send me a (rough, I know) agenda for what would take place on his trip over there? Just something I can share with the boss to let him know what it is he would be doing with his time over there. Really I'd like to be able to show him likely flight options, give him a sense of how long he'd be there and what meetings might take place.

Thanks Sean! Talk soon, -jon

From: Sean King

@parkstrategies.com]

Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2011 1:36 PM

**To:** Boughtin, Jon Cc: JOHN ZAGAME

Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Jon, are you looking at any particular time when Rep. Owens might visit Taiwan? I know Rep. Hanna's fairly open to a trip as well. As a reminder, the election's January 14<sup>th</sup> and would be a great time to be there. Thanks, Jon.

From: Boughtin, Jon [mailto:Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Monday, October 31, 2011 9:48 AM

To: Sean King

Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

Sure makes life easier! Thanks Sean

**Sent:** Monday, October 31, 2011 9:45 AM

To: Boughtin, Jon

Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

YES, it would be. Thanks, Jon.

Sean King | Park Strategies | www.parkstrategies.com

101 Park Avenue | New York, NY 10178 | USA

🖀 +1 (212) 883- 🖴 🖺 +1 (212) 883-5643 | 🖂 🗪 🛈 parkstrategies.com

Suite 211, 2F, #97, Dunhua S. Rd., Sec. 2 | Taipei | Taiwan, R.O.C.

🍱 +886 (2) 7711- 🚟 遇 +886 (2) 7711-7288

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From: Boughtin, Jon [Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov]

ient: Monday, October 31, 2011 09:43

fo: Sean King

Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

Hey Sean, trying to get our ducks in a row on this. Just making sure, this trip would be covered under the Mutual Education and Cultural Exchange Act (MECA), right?

From: Sean King [ @parkstrategies.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2011 12:05 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon

Cc: 'jzagameny@msn.com'; Katz, Bradley

Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Dear Jon,

Thanks for your note. I've heard around the House won't be in session after the holidays until January 17<sup>th</sup>, but let's talk more as we learn more.

As you know, Park Strategies, LLC, Senator D'Amato and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

Best wishes,

Sean King

From: Boughtin, Jon [mailto:Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 3:38 PM

To: Sean King

Cc: 'estate @msn.com'; Katz, Bradley

Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

Sean, I apologize for just now getting back with you. We're constrained from scheduling Q1 events until we get the Congressional schedule for next year, but I know the boss is still interested in the trip if we can make it work. I'm happy to stay in touch with you though as we get some insights on what that's going to look like, and hopefully we can make this happen sooner rather than later. Thanks for being patient, we'll plan to talk soon. Best,

-Jon

Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2011 6:08 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon

Cc: @msn.com'; Katz, Bradley

Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Dear Brad and Jon,

Congressman Tom Reed (R-NY) just returned yesterday from Taiwan, and I wanted to share with you his itinerary (please see attached). This gives Mr. Owens a rough idea of what he might expect if he goes. It can be adjusted as per his needs and wishes to incorporate whatever other stops, or meetings, he might want to make. You might also want to speak with Mr. Reed's Chief of Staff, Jay Dutcher, who accompanied him on the trip, just to get his take on the experience.

Jon, I remember you mentioning the first half of January as a possible time when Mr. Owens might consider visiting Taiwan. As discussed, Taiwan's legislative and presidential elections will be held on Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> and Taiwan officials have no problem at all with Members visiting at that time. In fact, they think it'd be one of the more interesting times for them to be there.

We look forward to discussing this possible trip with you further. As you know, Park Strategies, LLC, Senator D'Amato and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

Best wishes,

Sean King | Park Strategies | www.parkstrategies.com

101 Park Avenue | New York, NY 10178 | USA

**3** +886 (2) 7711- 4 +886 (2) 7711-7288

From: Boughtin, Jon [mailto:Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov]

Sent: Monday, October 03, 2011 9:18 AM

To: Sean King

@msn.com' Cc: Subject: RE: Taiwan-F16 Letter

Hey John, checking back in. Any info you can provide on TSMC vis a vis the Governor's announcement last week? I wanna make sure Bill's briefed before the event this week if at all possible. Thanks as always,

-Jon

rrom:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Thursday, November 10, 2011 2:49 PM

To: Cc: Owens, William Katz, Bradley

Subject:

Ethics Followup

Just got off the phone w/ ethics. As to question 1., can a 20 year friend and business associate offer to pay for Jane to come out of his own pocket: The attorney thought it was possible, but the answer is complicated because you are there in your capacity as a Member on a MECA trip and not on your own time, so we need written approval from the Committee. Per her instructions, I am preparing a letter we will show to you that details the nature of your relationship with Sam, the nature of the trip and the nature of the gift. If you can supply me with Sam's full name that's probably all I need to get you a draft.

As for question 2, she did not believe off the top of her head that Jane could shadow you but this has more to do with the nature of MECA trips than it does House Ethics. She is going to contact their in-house MECA expert to get the statute from him, and I told her we'd need to see language confirming yes or no. As she explained it, the State Dept. has separate MECA agreements with every country, and so they would need to look at the language detailing our agreement with Taiwan to find out. They're working on this now and I'll have language either today or Monday.

Either way, I'll begin drafting the letter and we can discuss when we've got all our ducks in a row.

#### Jon Boughtin

enior Legislative Assistant Office of Rep. Bill Owens

rom:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Monday, November 28, 2011 8:54 AM

To:

'Li-Chih Cheng'

Subject:

RE: Li-Chih from Taiwan

Li-Chih, I apologize for the delay but we are just now getting back to the office from the holiday. The travelers are William Lewis Owens and his wife, Jane Owens. They intend to travel from Burlington, VT – Los Angeles, - Taipei – Los Angeles - Burlington, VT if that is a possibility still. The dates we are currently looking at are to leave Burlington on the 27<sup>th</sup>, returning on 31<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you again for your timely assistance. Look forward to working with you! -Jon

@gmail.com

@gmail.com On Behalf Of Li-Chih Cheng

Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 6:36 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon

Subject: Li-Chih from Taiwan

Hi Jon,

It was very nice meeting you this afternoon in your office. I look forward to working with you on Congressman's visit to Taiwan in the end of the year!

le heard that the House might adjourned on Dec. 15 or 16, if so, we will need to provide documents to Ethic Committee early next week in order to get approval. I need your kind help here in order to find a private sponsor in the coming days! Below are information I will need your help--

- 1. Please provide me with traveller's full names
- 2. Cities of departure--destination-- return: for ex. Washington D.C.--Taipei--Washington D.C.
- 3. Travel dates: December 27, 2011-January 1, 2012? (We would recommend providing longer period and we can cut short later)

So far above three are the most needed information I would need for tomorrow, but I am sure you will hear a lot from me in the coming weeks--vice versa!

Best. Li-Chih

Li-Chih Cheng

Officer, Congressional Liaison Division

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO)

4201 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016, USA

202.895.

(C)

2.244.3046 (F)

From:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Tuesday, November 15, 2011 12:33 PM

To: Subject: 'Sean King' RE: Frank Lee

Gotcha. I actually spoke with Benson yesterday but I'll direct my followup q's to Frank.

----Original Message----

From: Sean King [ @parkstrategies.com]

Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 10:53 AM

To: Boughtin, Jon Subject: Frank Lee

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Jon,

Benson Wang's boss, Frank Lee, ask that you call HIM. Benson may be out, etc. Frank can be reached at (202) 895-

As you know, Park Strategies, LLC, Senator D'Amato and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

Thanks, Sean King

crom:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Monday, November 21, 2011 9:42 AM

To: Subject: 'Sean King' Update

Sorry for the back and forth Sean but looks like we have our dates. The boss and his wife are looking to travel to Taiwan beginning on December 27<sup>th</sup>. I'll reach out to Mr. Frank Lee about the details but wanted to let you know. Thanks!

### Jon Boughtin

Senior Legislative Assistant Office of Rep. Bill Owens

rrom:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Tuesday, November 22, 2011 5:08 PM

To:

@mail.house.gov'

Subject:

Re: Taiwan

Ok, don't let it happen again

From: Owens, William

Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 05:07 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon Subject: Re: Taiwan

Accident Sorry

From: Boughtin, Jon

Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 05:04 PM

To: Owens, William Subject: Re: Taiwan

Just got a call from you that dropped. Figured it was an accident, you all set?

.om: Owens, William

Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 03:50 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon Subject: Re: Taiwan

Nice

From: Boughtin, Jon

Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 03:48 PM

**To:** Owens, William; Brad Katz < @gmail.com>

Cc: Belden, Craiq Subject: Taiwan

Just sat down with the folks from the Embassy to do a rough outline of the trip. What they sketched out would have you leaving from Burlington for Los Angeles on the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup>. You would then fly from Los Angeles to Taipei, which would get you there at essentially 8pm on Wednesday night their time. Thursday-Saturday Taipei time would be for your itinerary, and you would fly back Sunday morning Taipei time, getting you back to New York Sunday evening, Dec. 31st, as if by magic.

Because of the Jan 14 elections in Taiwan, they believe it is going to be difficult to get you in a meeting with their President/Premier or the Taiwanese Speaker, but they're going to try. Either way, they've offered time with the ministers of economic affairs (to discuss trade / econ. Development in NY), Defense, and finance. They're also looking at having you take a train down to one of their major ports for a Homeland Security type briefing on how they protect ainst hazardous materials, chemicals, etc. More to come.

Let me know if you have any initial questions. We should have the ethics forms early next week for you to review, and a more formal itinerary as well.

rom:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Monday, November 28, 2011 10:29 AM

To: Cc: 'Sean King' JOHN ZAGAME

Subject:

RE: Update

Right, likely the 27th to the 31st.

----Original Message----

Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 10:29 AM

To: Boughtin, Jon Cc: JOHN ZAGAME Subject: RE: Update

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Thanks, Jon. So, you're still looking at those last few days in December?

----Original Message----

From: Boughtin, Jon [mailto:Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov]

ent: Monday, November 28, 2011 10:18 AM

ار: Sean King

Subject: RE: Update

So far so good! I think the Embassy has what they need from us so far, but I'll let you know when I know more.

----Original Message----

From: Sean King [ Oparkstrategies.com]

Sent: Monday, November 28, 2011 6:43 AM

To: Boughtin, Jon Subject: Re: Update

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Jon,

How's the trip planning going? I'm back in our New York office today. Call me if you need us, thanks.

As you know, Park Strategies, LLC, Senator D'Amato and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

Jest wishes, Sean King

---- Original Message -----

From: Boughtin, Jon < Jon. Boughtin@mail.house.gov>

1

01-000069

To: Sean King

Sent: Mon Nov 21 09:42:27 2011

ubject: Update

Sorry for the back and forth Sean but looks like we have our dates. The boss and his wife are looking to travel to Taiwan beginning on December 27th. I'll reach out to Mr. Frank Lee about the details but wanted to let you know. Thanks!

Jon Boughtin

Senior Legislative Assistant

Office of Rep. Bill Owens

From:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Tuesday, December 06, 2011 10:04 AM

To:

'Ken Chong'

Subject:

RE: Itinerary from China Airlines Ltd.-domestic

Thanks. Just to be sure, is this for one ticket or for both tickets?

From: Ken Chong [ @gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 5:18 PM

**To:** Boughtin, Jon **Cc:** Li-Chih Cheng

Subject: Re: Itinerary from China Airlines Ltd.-domestic

Jon,

The price that we will send invoice to TECRO is apporximately

USD\$8655 + tax \$357.30 = USD\$9011.80.

When we issue the tickets the price may differ a bit due to the exchange rate with CAD.

Because congressman & his wife are departing from Canada, so the airfare must be based on CAD and the exchange rate with USD on the ticket issuing day.

Ken

On Mon, Dec 5, 2011 at 4:49 PM, Boughtin, Jon < Jon. Boughtin@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Thanks Ken. Can you also send me the pricing so I can add it to our ethics form please?

From: Ken Chong [ @gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2011 4:39 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon

Subject: Re: Itinerary from China Airlines Ltd.--domestic

Dear Jon,

Below is the air itinerary for Congressman Owens & wife to Taiwan trip.

Please get me their Air Canada and Delta Airlines (partnered with China Airlines) frequent flyer numbers to earn miles.

Also an E-TKT confirmation will be emailed to you a week before the departure date.

Let me know if you have quetion.

From:

@tecro.us

Sent:

Tuesday, December 06, 2011 7:58 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon

Subject:

Re: Private Sponsor Travel Form

Ok Jon! Thanks and let me know if problems occur. For your information, I sent a cable back to Taipei yesterday, and my colleagues should start putting up this program already. Usually it will take them sometime to confirm all the meeting times and meeting officials, and I will surely let you know about the set program as soon as they cable back.

It seems that Ken has booked domestic and international flights and have sent those info to you, and he should be emailing you the E-TKTs either next week or the next one. If you don't hear from him for too long, please shoot us an email.

As for a briefing time on Taiwan, I'm still waiting for Frank's next week schedule.

Have a good night,

Li-Chih

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Boughtin, Jon" < Jon. Boughtin@mail.house.gov>

Date: Tue, 6 Dec 2011 12:44:32 -0500

To: @tecro.us' < @tecro.us>

Subject: RE: Private Sponsor Travel Form

Hm, that may work after all. I'd just assume get it in and make corrections later anyhow so we're in the system ahead of the 14 day requirement, so this is probably fine as it is. Thanks Li-Chih, I'll let you know!

From: @tecro.us @tecro.us

Sent: Tuesday, December 06, 2011 12:33 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon

Subject: Re: Private Sponsor Travel Form

Hey Jon,

I remember on the form we typed New York City (Washington DC or cities close to the District). Would you ask Ethics Committee if this is ok? If they say no, I will send another form to Taipei immediately to have them re-sign the form. It will take about two days to get this done.

Let me know! I appreciate your help!

Yours, Li-Chih

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Boughtin, Jon" <Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov>

Date: Tue, 6 Dec 2011 10:11:58 -0500

To: @tecro.us' @tecro.us>

**Subject:** Private Sponsor Travel Form

01-000644

Hey Li-Chih, it just occurred to me looking at these forms that we'll need an updated form to reflect that the Congressman is departing from Montreal instead of New York City. Sorry for the trouble, but when you can get that my way I will be ready to submit everything to ethics. Thank you!

#### Jon Boughtin

Senior Legislative Assistant Office of Rep. Bill Owens

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#### Boughtin, Jon

From:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Wednesday, December 14, 2011 4:12 PM

To:

'Li-Chih Cheng'

Subject:

RE: Documents prepared for Taiwan

Hi Li-Chih, nice seeing you again today. I'll go ahead and get this done. Two quick questions: First, which type of visa are they applying for? Is it a visitor visa or a courtesy visa?

Second, are the passport photos entirely necessary and/or would a photocopy of their passport work as well? Unless they have extras sitting at home, it could take me some time to get original passport photos and my concern is I would miss the window. Let me know and we'll move forward. Thanks!

From:

@gmail.com

@gmail.com] On Behalf Of Li-Chih Cheng

Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2011 9:45 AM

To: Boughtin, Jon

Subject: Documents prepared for Taiwan

Hey Jon,

Please provide me with:

- 1. Valid passports
- 2. Visa Application Forms (attached in this email again, please kindly fill it out)
- 3. Two passport sized photos

I am leaving for Taiwan on 22nd, Thursday, so it would be great to have these done before Tuesday or Wednesday. Also I am preparing the potential meeting for President Ma and Congressman, I will let you know if I need anything from you. Currently we have not heard back from Taipei on the official programs, I think they are trying to figure out President's, Ministers' schedules. I will keep you posted.

Your friend from Taiwan, Li-Chih

#### Boughtin, Jon

From:

@tecro.us

Sent:

Tuesday, December 20, 2011 11:15 AM

To: Subject: Boughtin, Jon Re: Schedule

I can't think of any reasons that should prevent Congressman from discussing TSMC piece with American Chamber of Commerce.

Please let Congressman know that they should prepare a smaller overnight travel bag for Kaohsiung. They can leave their bigger luggages in Taipei's hotel.

Also the host of this trip is Chinese Culture University—just a kind reminder.

Thanks,

Li-Chih

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Boughtin, Jon" < Jon. Boughtin@mail.house.gov>

**Date:** Tue, 20 Dec 2011 11:04:09 -0500 **To:** 'Li-Chih Cheng' @tecro.us>

Subject: RE: Schedule

Li-Chih, this is great. Thank you for sending so quickly. It's unfortunate that the TSMC piece will not work, but in your estimation would TSMC's partnership with the State of New York be an appropriate topic of conversation for the Congressman's meeting with the Chamber of Commerce? I think it's something he would like to discuss with them unless there is a reason not to.

@gmail.com] On Behalf Of Li-Chih Cheng

I'll send this on to the Ethics Committee today and get you back a letter asap! Thanks, -Jon

From: @gmail.com

Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2011 10:57 AM

To: Boughtin, Jon Subject: Re: Schedule

### Hi Jon.

I attached the file in this email, but in case you have problem open it, I also pasted it as below. Please let me know if you have any questions. Unfortunately, TSMC senior level staff are on vacation because it is the end of the year, therefore my colleague in Taipei is unable to set up a meeting at TSMC. We apologize for that.

Sincerely,

Li-Chih

### 美國聯邦眾議員歐比爾

### 訪華行程草案

Tentative Itinerary of the visit by Hon. William Lewis "Bill" Owens

and Mrs. Owens

to the Republic of China (Taiwan)

December 28 - 31, 2011

### 中華民國一百年十二月二十八日(星期三)

### Wednesday, December 28, 2011

20:50	搭乘中華航空第005號班機抵華
	Arrive at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport via China Airlines CI-005
	本案承辦人Case Officer:高秘書國亮 Mr. Colin KAO
	公務手機Cell Phone: + ***********************************
夜宿	台北晶華酒店
A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR	台北市中山北路二段41號
RON	Grand Formosa Regent Taipei
	41 Chung Shan North Road, Sec. 2, Taipei, Taiwan
	Tel: +886-2-2523-
	Fax: +886-2-2523-2828

中華民國一百年十二月二十九日(星期四)

### Thursday, December 29, 2011

09:30	晉見馬總統(待通知未訂)
	Reserved for President Ma
10:30	拜會國防部楊副部長念祖
. L. ( All ( ) and a management of the control of t	Call on Hon. Dr. Nian-zu YANG, Vice Minister, Ministry of National Defense (MND)
12:00	拜會經濟部黃次長重球(待確定) TBD
**************************************	Call on Hon. Dr. Hwang, Jung-Chiou (TBD)
	Vice Minister, Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA)
14:15	拜會立法院外交委員會帥委員化民
A PARTICIPATION OF THE PARTICI	Call on Hon. SHUAI, Hua-Ming, Legislator, Member of Foreign Affairs and National Defense Committee, Legislative Yuan
15:30	美國在台協會台北辦事處簡報
V. I.	Briefing by the American Institute in Taiwan / Taipei Office(AIT/T)
	聯絡人Contact: Diane Johnston 02-2162-
16:30	拜會台北市美國商會
	Call at American Chamber of Commerce in Taipei
18:00	文化大學張董事長鏡湖及吳校長萬益晚宴
	Dinner hosted by Dr. Chin Hu CHANG, Board Chairman of Chinese Culture University and Dr. WU, Wann Yih, President of of Chinese Culture University
20:54	搭高鐵第255號次班車往左營
	Depart for Zuoying, Kaohsiung via Taiwan High Speed Rail No. 255

22:30	抵左營
	Arrive at Zuoying, Kaohsiung
夜宿	國賓飯店
	地址:高雄市民生二路202號
RON	Ambassador Hotel Kaohsiung
14 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77 77	Phone: +886-7-211-
	Fax: +886-7-201-0348
	ADD: 202 Min Sheng 2nd RD., Kaohsiung, Taiwan, R.O.C.

### 中華民國一百年十二月三十日(星期五)

### Friday, December 30, 2011

09:30	參訪左營海軍基地
	Visit Zuoying Navy Base
11:00	參訪高雄關稅局「貨櫃安全計劃」及「大港計劃」執行情形
	Call at Kaohsiung Customs Office for CSI /Mega-Port Project
13:30	搭高鐵第158號次班車往台北
7	Depart for Taipei via Taiwan High Speed Rail No. 158
15:06	抵台北
	Arrive in Taipei
18:00	拜會外交部楊部長進添
Las diseases some rindels so	Call on H.E. Timothy YANG, Foreign Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

19:00	外交部楊部長晚宴	Actual and second designation of the last
	Dinner hosted by Foreign Minister YANG	the same of the same of

### 中華民國一百年十二月三十一日(星期六)

### Saturday, December 31, 2011

10:00	參訪國立故宮博物院
	Visit National Palace Museum
15:00	參觀中正紀念堂
	Visit Chiang Kai-Shek Memorial Hall
16:00	參觀台北101
	Tour Taipei 101 Financial Center
19:00	晚餐
	Dinner at leisure
23:00	搭中華航空第032號班機離華
*	Depart Taipei via CI-032

On Mon, Dec 19, 2011 at 5:32 PM, Boughtin, Jon < Jon.Boughtin@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Great! Thanks again Li-Chih

From: @tecro.us [ @tecro.us]

Sent: Monday, December 19, 2011 5:32 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon Subject: Re: Schedule

01-000698

Hey Jon,

Thanks for the email and please forgive my late response. I did call MOFA Taiwan last night and tell them to send me the schedules. My colleague said everything is set up, but my bosses are reviewing the whole itinerary-they value Congressman's visit very highly. I will call Taipei tonight again and see if they can expedite.

I will let my colleagues know about Congressman's possible meetings on Saturday too.

Talk to you soon, Li-Chih

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Boughtin, Jon" < Jon. Boughtin@mail.house.gov>

Date: Mon, 19 Dec 2011 12:12:16 -0500

To:  $\underline{\widehat{a}}_{\text{tecro.us}} < \underline{\widehat{a}}_{\text{tecro.us}} >$ 

Subject: Schedule

Hi Li-Chih, hope you had a nice weekend. I just got off the phone with the ethics committee and they are almost done with our file, except that they need a complete itinerary with times for what the Congressman is doing, including times for when meetings might occur. Do you think that's something we can get them by tomorrow? That's really when they need it to complete their work.

If it helps at all, I believe the Congressman is going to try and fit 2 meetings into that final day separate from the schedule you all put together for him, so I would think the earlier he can leave his hotel for the Port event, the better.

Thanks as always! We'll talk soon. -Jon

Jon Boughtin

Senior Legislative Assistant

Office of Rep. Bill Owens

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Li-Chih Cheng

Officer, Congressional Liaison Division

Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO)

4201 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016, USA

202.895. (O)

(C)

202.244.3046 (F)

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#### CONFIDENTIAL

Subject to the Nondisclosure Provisions of H. Res. 895 as Amended

### OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### **MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW**

IN RE: Witness with Knowledge of Representative Owens' Air Travel

REVIEW #(s): 12-8236

DATE: August 15, 2012 LOCATION: By Telephone

TIME: 3:00 PM (approximate)

PARTICIPANTS: Omar Ashmawy

Scott Gast

<u>SUMMARY</u>: The witness is a person with knowledge of Representative Bill Owens' and his wife's air travel arrangements for a trip to Taiwan in December 2011/January 2012. The OCE requested an interview with the witness and he consented to an interview. The witness made the following statements in response to our questioning:

- 1. The witness was given an 18 U.S.C. § 1001 warning and consented to an interview. The witness declined to sign a written acknowledgement of the warning, but was advised that the law applied to the interview notwithstanding the decision not to sign.
- 2. The witness stated that the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs paid for Representative Owens' and his wife's air travel on China Airlines for the trip to Taiwan.

This memorandum was prepared on August 22, 2012 after the interview was conducted on August 15, 2012. I certify that this memorandum contains all pertinent matter discussed with the witness on August 15, 2012.

Scott Gast Investigative Counsel

From: Gast, Scott </O=U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE

GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SCOTT.GAST>

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2012 10:37 AM

To: Ashmawy, Omar <Omar.Ashmawy@mail.house.gov>; Payne, Kedric

<Kedric.Payne@mail.house.gov>; Payne, Kedric <Kedric.Payne@mail.house.gov>; Wright,

Nate <Nate.Wright@mail.house.gov>

**Subject:** FW: Bill Request

**From:** @fihregent.com @fihregent.com

Sent: Monday, July 16, 2012 10:36 AM

To: Gast, Scott

Subject: RE: Bill Request

Dear Mr Gast,

I just remembered some conversation they asked while made the booking last year. Ministry of Foreign Affairs talked about the Chinese Culture University while made the reservation and I guess you might wish to know this information. They advised us to charge the official special rate which we provide to Ministry of Foreign Affairs first and I do not know how did they finalize the payment later. They advised me through the phone calls and there is no certain data to review. I am not sure who should I contact from them on this matter but I suggest you can contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the further information.

Thank you.

Karen

Karen Chu朱婉榕 Senior Sales Manager資深業務經理

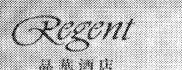
Regent Taipei

No. 3, Lane 39, Section 2, Chung Shan N. Rd., Taipei 104, Taiwan ROC

Tel +886 2 2522 Fax +886 2 2543 1643 Cel +

Email @fihregent.com

Sitewww.regenttaipei.com www.regenthotels.com



#### 据:MA 全球 · 光规 印 · ·

fy社会學的基份的文字Conde Nast Traveller 第該 2011著名等選「Top Hotel Asia SEH統任的社),沒 2012「Gold List 性學級經濟的資金的。

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From: "Gast, Scott" < Scott. Gast@mail.house.gov>

To: @fihregent.com" < @fihregent.com>

Date: 2012/07/13下午 11:03 Subject: RE: Bill Request

Karen,

Thank you for your email. Could you provide us with the data you reviewed, or the names of any individuals with whom you spoke, that led you to provide this additional information?

Thank you,

Scott Gast, Investigative Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
425 3rd Street SW, Suite 1110
Washington, DC 20024
(202) 226-

From: @fihregent.com [ @fihregent.com]

Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 7:44 AM

To: Gast, Scott

Subject: RE: Bill Request

Dear Mr Gast,

After checking my data, kindly correct that Mr Owens invited by Chinese Culture University but not the Ministry of Foreign Affair. However, regarding to Mr Owens is a significant guest and Chinese Culture University requests Ministry of Foreign Affair to help taking care of him while stayed in Taipei. Ministry of Foreign Affair settle the payment with us first but I think that Chinese Culture University settle with Ministry of Foreign Affair later.

Sorry the incorrect information in the previous email. Thank you for your time and attention.

With warmest regards,

Karen

Karen Chu朱婉榕 Senior Sales Manager資深業務經理

Regent Taipei

No. 3, Lane 39, Section 2, Chung Shan N. Rd., Taipei 104, Taiwan ROC

Tel +886 2 2522 Fax +886 2 2543 1643 Cel +

Email @fihregent.com

Sitewww.regenttaipei.com www.regenthotels.com

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From: "Gast, Scott" < Scott. Gast@mail.house.gov>

To: Offihregent.com" < Offihregent.com

Date: 2012/07/12下午 10:15 Subject: RE: Bill Request

Karen,

Thank you very much for your assistance with this matter. We will let you know if we need any additional information.

Scott Gast, Investigative Counsel
Office of Congressional Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
425 3rd Street SW, Suite 1110
Washington, DC 20024
(202) 226

From: @fihregent.com [ @fihregent.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 6:01 AM

To: Gast, Scott

Cc: @fihregent.com Subject: Re: Bill Request

Dear Mr Gast,

Greetings from Regent Taipei.

I would like to introduce myself as the sales contact of Ministry of Foreign Affairs which invited Mr Owens to visit Taipei last December.

Based on your advising, Mr Owen's room payment settled by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The rest charges settled by himself as attached file for your reference. Kindly advised us if there is any further information we may provide or assist. Thank you very much.

With warmest regards,

Karen

Karen Chu朱婉榕 Senior Sales Manager資深業務經理

Regent Taipei

No. 3, Lane 39, Section 2, Chung Shan N. Rd., Taipei 104, Taiwan ROC

Tel +886 2 2522 Fax +886 2 2543 1643 Cel +

Email @fihregent.com

Sitewww.regenttaipei.com www.regenthotels.com

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Save a tree. Don't print this e-mail unless it's really necessary.

From: "Gast, Scott" < Scott.Gast@mail.house.gov >

To: @fihregent.com" < @fihregent.com>

Date: 07/12/2012 09:24 Subject: Bill Request

Per our telephone conversation today, I am a requesting a copy of the hotel bill, including information as to how the bill was paid, for the following guest:

U.S. Representative Bill Owens Check-in on December 28, 2011 Check-out on December 31, 2011

Thanks you for your assistance

Scott Gast
Office of Congressional Ethics
United States House of Representatives
425 Third Street, SW
Washigton, DC 20024
(202) 226-

#### Boughtin, Jon

From:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Friday, December 23, 2011 11:47 AM

To:

Matthews, Scott

Subject: Attachments:

20111223115735345.pdf

One more thing to print for the Honorable. Thanks Scott!

----Original Message----

From: Boughtin, Jon

Sent: Friday, December 23, 2011 11:58 AM

To: Boughtin, Jon

Subject:

This E-mail was sent from "RNPB58873" (8065).

Scan Date: 12.23.2011 11:57:35 (-0500) Queries to: NY23scanner@mail.house.gov

### Memo

# The visit of Rep. and Mrs. Bill Owens to the Republic of China (Taiwan) (December 28 to 31, 2011)

Welcome aboard! Please read this memo carefully and keep it at hand for reference.

- A. Preparation for the trip
- 1. Air Passage:
  - a. Outbound: Fly from Los Angeles to Taipei through:

CI 005, 13:55, Tuesday December 27; Arrive in Taipei at 20:50, Wednesday, December 28

Inbound: Fly from Taipei to Vancouver through:

CI 032, 23:30, Saturday, December 31; Arrive in Vancouver at 18:05, Saturday, December 31

Note for domestic: AC 797 from YUL-DORVAL to LAX at 08:05, Tuesday December 27, arrive 11:15 the same day. Returning by AC 182 from Vancouver to YUL-DORVAL at 23:30 Saturday December 31, arrive 07:15 Sunday January 1, 2012

- b. When getting your ticket, please check and see if the flight schedule and your name are correct.
- c. When checking in at the AC business class counter at YUL on December 27, which is the starting point of an international flight, please tell the clerk to check in your luggage all the way to the final destination, Taipei, so that you don't have to collect them in LAX and recheck them. When returning to Canada, even though your bags will be checked all the way through YUL, you still need to pull out your checked-in luggage and clear with customs and immigration in Vancouver.
- d. Please <u>put a name tag on each piece of your luggage</u>, and write down the hotel's name, address and telephone number (hotel info is provided below). It will be easier for you to pick up at Taiwan's Taoyuan International Airport and convenient for hotel bellboys to identify and deliver them to your room.
- e. After arriving at the Tom Bradley International Terminal in LA airport, you could check in at China Airlines' business class counter for the CI 005 flight to Taipei. Then proceed to China Airlines' VIP lounge and take some rest before boarding. In the lounge, remember to check with the staff of China Airlines whether your checked-in bags are already on board.
- f. Please remember to <u>keep your boarding passes for</u> all domestic and international flights and return them to <u>TECRO</u>. We need to have those passes for accounting purpose and truly appreciate your cooperation.

g. The size and weight of your bag: You can check two bags armo charses no larger than 62 may went in size; and each mese should be a midel 50 lives 3kg); also you can have one bag carry-on 44% in a 14cm.
Talbs 2kg, and one personal items

#### 2. Dress:

- a. You are requested to dress business attire for most of the meetings during the trip. It is suggested to <u>pack up at least one business</u> <u>suit/dress</u>.
- b. Except for formal occasions, business casual is fine.
- c. It is suggested that you prepare a pair of comfortable walking shoes for the evening activities and the out-of-town tour.
- d. You may bring your swimming suit since the hotel has the facility.
- e. You will need a lot of name cards for meetings in Taiwan. It's also a custom to exchange business cards while you meet new friends in Taiwan.

#### B. General information about Taiwan

#### 1. Weather:

In December, the temperature is around 58°F~68°F in Taipei (north), and slightly hotter in Kaohsiung (south).

- 2. Shopping, eating, and tipping:
  - a. <u>Major American credit cards are accepted</u> in almost every store in Taiwan. However, you may still need to bring some cash to exchange for the local currency for shopping. <u>800 U.S. dollars or less should be enough</u>.
  - b. The unit of Taiwan's currency is the New Taiwan Dollar (NT\$). The exchange rate now is about <u>US\$1=NT\$30</u>. U.S. dollars may be exchanged at the hotel with your passport. You can also withdraw Taiwan's currency from local ATMs with your credit cards while some transaction fee will be charged.
- 3. Will your blackberries, cell phones and emails still work in Taiwan? It depends on the service provider and your package. You are advised to check with your service provider about their overseas service.
- 4. Electricity: It's the same in the U.S. 110V.
- 5. Churches: Only some churches provide English services on Sundays.
- 6. Time difference:

All parts of Taiwan are in one time zone, which is <u>13 hours ahead of Eastern Time</u> in the US.

### 6. Language:

The official language in the Republic of China (Taiwan) is Mandarin

<u>Chinese</u>. In addition, there are two dialects widely used in Taiwan, namely <u>Taiwanese</u> (or <u>Fukienese</u>) and <u>Hakka</u>. The following are some useful expressions in Mandarin Chinese.

English

Mandarin

Thank you!

Sie (as in "sierra") Sie!

How are you?

Ni (as in "nither") How (same as "how") Ma (as in

model")?

Excuse me.

Twei (as in "twain") Bu (as in "pool") Chi (as in

"cheese").

How much is it?

Tuo Shao (as in "shout) Chien?

Good morning.

Tsao (or Zao) An

Good bye!

Tsai (or Zai) Jien

### C. Accommodation, transportation, and Meals

- 1. Your host will cover the expenses for hotel, transportation, and meals during your trip in Taiwan except the following:
  - a. The transportation fee of your personal activities.
  - b. Alcoholic beverage and drinks.
  - c. International phone calls (The hotel will charge a very expensive rate as service fee even if you make international calls from your room telephone with pre-paid cards. It is thus suggested that you make such phone calls with pay phone downstairs in hotel lobby).
  - d. telegrams,
  - e. facsimile,
  - f. internet,
  - g. pay per view movies,
  - h. personal services such as massage, sauna and hairdo,
  - i. group activities (except dinners) in the leisure hours, etc.
- 2. The sponsor will cover reasonable laundry fee for you during the trip. (e.g.: one suit during the whole trip, one shirt or other necessary items each day; other than that, you may have to pay for yourself).
- 3. <u>Tips</u>:
  - a. The gratuity of dining or other services in Taiwan is automatically included in the bills.
  - b. However, it's also customary for you to tip housekeeping, room service, or other services you get from the hotel, and you are responsible for taking care of it. For example, if you put tips on the bill for room service, the hotel will ask you to pay the tips when you check out.
  - c. It is suggested that the group as a whole tip the <u>bus drivers (including out of town visits)</u> when they have completed their services in a satisfactory manner.
- 4. The hotel reserved for the group in Taipei is <u>The Regent Taipei</u> (one of the best five-star hotels in Taipei)

Tel: 011-886-2-2523- (if dialed from U.S.)

Fax: 011-886-2-2523-2828 (if dialed from U.S.)

Address: 41 Chung Shan North Road, Section 2, Taipei Taiwan, ROC

Website: <a href="http://www.grandformosa.com.tw/EN/">http://www.grandformosa.com.tw/EN/</a>

5. Emergency Contact

Please also provide me your emergency contact information at least including the contact person's name and phone number.

Just in case anything happens during the last minute which prevents you from taking the trip, please let me know ASAP by calling the numbers below or email me at <u>attention</u> <u>atterro.us</u>

below or email me at <u>@tecro.u</u> Li-Chih Cheng (Cell)

(Office) (202) 895-

Enjoy the trip!

**To:** Gast, Scott < Scott. Gast@mail.house.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Request for Information **Attach:** for Omar Ashmawy.doc

Mr. Omar Ashmawy Staff Director and Chief Counsel Office of Congressional Ethics House of Representatives

Dear. Mr. Ashmawy,

Thank you for your letter dated June 7, 2012 requesting for information about the participation of Chinese Culture University in Representative Bill Owens' visit to Taiwan in December last year.

Chinese Culture University, a private university founded in 1962 here in Taipei, has focused on the education programs with the combination of the essence of Chinese tradition like literature, history, and philosophy and the merits of modern western civilization such as science and democracy. We have also dedicated to the international exchange to broaden the vision of our faculty and students and promote the bilateral exchanges with other countries. A certain amount of our university budget is set aside as a fund to be used to sponsor foreign friends to visit Taiwan annually.

The United States is one of the major receiving countries in the world for Taiwanese students, including many students who graduated from our university. Also there have been strong ties between our two countries. In this connection, we do regularly sponsor important leaders from the United States to visit Taiwan such as Representative and Mrs. Owens' trip last year, which we believe is in accordance with U.S. House ethics rules related to private sponsorship.

In view of Mr. Owens' important status as a member of U.S. Congress and the lack of staff of this university stationed in the United States, the program for Representative Owens' visit to Taiwan was coordinated through the kind assistance of Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. We had a wonderful meeting with Representative and Mrs. Owens at our university here. We are also glad to share with you that the whole visit was quite successful.

Yours Best

Chiungli Kuo Director of PR Office Chinese Culture University

From: Gast, Scott

**Sent:** Friday, June 08, 2012 12:14 AM

Ostaff.pccu.edu.tw; @staff.pccu.edu.tw

Subject: Request for Information

#### **CONFIDENTIAL**

Attached please find a Request for Information from the Office of Congressional Ethics ("OCE").

Please complete the attached Acknowledgement of Receipt and return it to the OCE by fax or email.

If you have any questions regarding the attached, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Scott Gast, Investigative Counsel Office of Congressional Ethics U.S. House of Representatives 425 3rd Street SW, Suite 1110 Washington, DC 20024 (202) 226Mr. Omar Ashmawy Staff Director and Chief Counsel Office of Congressional Ethics House of Representatives

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Yours Best

Chiungli Kuo, Director of PR Office, Chinese Culture University

From: 郭瓊俐 < @staff.pccu.edu.tw>
Sent: Monday, July 2, 2012 10:26 PM

To: Gast, Scott < Scott. Gast@mail.house.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Request for Information

#### Dear Scott Gast:

The letter I sent on June 30 is the only response I am giving regarding your contact. I will not provide anything else nor reply your mail again.

Yours Best

Chiungli Kuo

From: Gast, Scott

**Sent:** Monday, July 02, 2012 11:09 PM

To: <u>郭瓊俐</u>

Subject: RE: Request for Information

Thank you for your response to the Request for Information sent to the University on June 7, 2012. As you know, the OCE has requested that you provide us with all files, records, notes, or other documents in your possession relating to Representative Bill Owens' trip to Taiwan in December 2011-January 2012. Please let me know your time frame for providing us with the requested documents.

Thank you again for your assistance.

Scott Gast, Investigative Counsel Office of Congressional Ethics U.S. House of Representatives 425 3rd Street SW, Suite 1110 Washington, DC 20024 (202) 226-

From: 郭瓊俐 [ @staff.pccu.edu.tw]
Sent: Saturday, June 30, 2012 3:55 AM

**To:** Gast, Scott

**Subject:** Re: Request for Information

Mr. Omar Ashmawy Staff Director and Chief Counsel Office of Congressional Ethics House of Representatives

Dear. Mr. Ashmawy,

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Yours Best

Chiungli Kuo Director of PR Office Chinese Culture University

From: Gast, Scott

**Sent:** Friday, June 08, 2012 12:14 AM

**To:** @staff.pccu.edu.tw; @staff.pccu.edu.tw

Subject: Request for Information

#### **CONFIDENTIAL**

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If you have any questions regarding the attached, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Scott Gast, Investigative Counsel Office of Congressional Ethics U.S. House of Representatives 425 3rd Street SW, Suite 1110 Washington, DC 20024 (202) 226-

# William L. Owens Plattsburgh, New York 12901

May 21, 2012

Mr. Wannyih Wu President Chinese Culture University 55, Hwa Kang Road Yangmingshan Taipei, Taiwan, 11114, R.O.C.

#### Dear President Wu:

I want to thank you for the opportunity to visit Taiwan and the Chinese Culture University at the end of last year. Whether in meetings with local industry, government ministries, major ports or the Chamber of Commerce, the trip provided an opportunity to further my understanding of the economic development opportunities that rely on the continued cooperation between our two nations.

I understand from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office that my costs incurred for this trip were \$22,132.20. As you may be aware, certain questions have arisen about the trip and, out of an abundance of caution, I have decided to repay the cost of the trip. Please understand that we are very grateful for your hospitality, and this is not a negative reflection upon your institution. Please see that the funding is returned, and feel free to reach me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Bill Owens

Member of Congress

WILLIAM L. OWENS
JANE E OWENS

PLATTSBURGH, NY 12901

PAY TO Charles (u//nul University) \$ 23, 18 2 20

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### Katz, Bradley

Subject: Location:

Phone call with D'amato re: Taiwan Bill will call (917) 692-5453

Start: End:

Thu 10/6/2011 10:30 AM Thu 10/6/2011 11:00 AM

Recurrence:

(none)

Organizer:

Owens, William

#### Boughtin, Jon

From:

@gmail.com

Sent:

Thursday, November 03, 2011 6:34 PM

To: Subject: Boughtin, Jon Re: Taiwan

Ok

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Boughtin, Jon" < Jon. Boughtin@mail.house.gov>

Date: Thu, 3 Nov 2011 18:33:23 -0400

To: @gmail.com'<@gmail.com'> @gmail.com'> Katz, Bradley<Bradley.Katz@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Taiwan

D'amato's guys report that anytime Bill Owens is ready for Taiwan, Taiwan is ready for Bill Owens, so the week between Christmas and New Year's works as well.

#### Jon Boughtin

Senior Legislative Assistant Office of Rep. Bill Owens

#### DECLARATION OF CHRISTOPHER D'AMATO

Christopher D'Amato, under penalty of perjury, hereby states as follows:

- I am employed by Park Strategies, LLC as the Executive Vice President and Managing Director. I also serve as the chief compliance officer to Park Strategies, LLC.
- 2. The facts set forth in this declaration are based on my personal knowledge of the events surrounding the December 27, 2011 through January 1, 2012 trip by Representative Bill Owens to Taiwan.
- 3. When Park Strategies, LLC began discussions with Representative Owens concerning a trip to Taiwan, it was our understanding that he would be travelling unaccompanied by his family.
- 4. After learning, on November 21, 2011, that Representative Owens was going to bring his wife on the trip to Taiwan, Park Strategies, LLC had no further involvement in creating or setting the itinerary prepared by the Chinese Culture University.
- Park Strategies, LLC had no input on the itinerary for Representative Owens's trip that
   was created by the Chinese Culture University.
- 6. Park Strategies, LLC does not now, nor has it ever represented the Chinese Culture University.
- 7. Park Strategies, LLC was not aware that the Chinese Culture University was the private sponsor of Representative Owens' Taiwan trip until it was contacted by Mr. Elliott of ProPublica.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of New York and the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

6/18/2012 Date

#### Boughtin, Jon

From:

Boughtin, Jon

Sent:

Friday, December 09, 2011 5:37 PM

To:

@mail.house.gov'

Cc: Subject:

Katz, Bradley Re: Taiwan

Hm. Alright, I'm supposed to talk to sean king monday and we might be able to find a way to get invited, but damato's guys obviously can't ask. We'll see if we can get creative but if not, I don't think there's any harm in us asking, either. Our hosts are going to find out either way.

From: Owens, William

Sent: Friday, December 09, 2011 05:27 PM

To: Boughtin, Jon Subject: Re: Taiwan

Damto asked me too

Have opposition person ask for it

From: Boughtin, Jon

**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2011 04:48 PM

To: Owens, William Subject: Taiwan

Had a miscommunication with Brad and I thought you'd already signed off on this. Are you ok sitting down with the opposition party in Taiwan while you're there, and do you have an opinion on whether or not we share that information with our hosts? I've got calls into the state department's Taiwan desk but we haven't made the ask yet. Lemme know when you can.

#### Jon Boughtin

Senior Legislative Assistant Office of Rep. Bill Owens

#### Valerie Levin

From:

Sean King

Sent:

Tuesday, December 20, 2011 10:50 AM

To: Co: Boughtin, Jon John Zagame

Subject:

Itinerary

This material is distributed by Park Strategies, LLC on behalf of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Jon,

Assuming he won't be trapped in D.C. next week because of votes, can you please share with us a copy of Congressman Owens's Taiwan itinerary? We'd like to explore possibilities of introducing him to Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (TSMC) Senior Vice President and General Counsel Dr. Richard Thurston while he's there. Please see Dr. Thurston's bio and 2001 hiring announcement below.

And by copy of this e-mail, I'm requesting that my colleague, John Zagame, send you the very latest on TSMC and the Marcy site.

As you know, Park Strategies, LLC, Senator D'Amato and I are registered with the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, as agents on behalf of our client, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) in the United States.

Thanks, John.

Merry Christmas, Sean King

Dr. Richard Thurston Senior Vice President and General Counsel

http://www.tsmc.com/tsmcdotcom/PRListingNewsArchivesAction.do?action=detail&newsid=1058&language=E

#### **Education:**

J.D. Rutgers School of Law, State University of New Jersey, USA Ph. D., History, University of Virginia, USA Experience:

Vice President and General Counsel, TSMC Partner, Haynes Boone, LLP Vice President Corporate Staff, Assistant General Counsel, Texas Instruments Incorporated Dr. Richard Thurston is Senior Vice President and General Counsel of TSMC and is responsible for legal and intellectual property management. Dr. Thurston is famous for his global experience in commercial, technology and international law.

Prior to joining TSMC, Dr. Thurston was a Partner at Kelt Capital Partners, LP, and a member of Haynes and Boone. His practice covered general corporate matters, technology-related transactions, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and divestitures, venture capital investments, foreign trade and investment, and the global protection of intellectual property rights.

Before Dr. Thurston joined Haynes and Boone, he served as the Regional Counsel, Asia Pacific and Vice President, Corporate Staff, and Assistant General Counsel for 12 years at Texas Instruments, where he was responsible for legal and M&A activities throughout the Asia Pacific region.

Dr. Thurston graduated Cum Laude with a B.A. degree in History from Alma College, and an M.A. degree and a Ph.D. degree in East Asian Studies from University of Virginia. He received a J.D. degree from Rutgers School of Law. Dr. Thurston also studied R.O.C. Law at Soochow University