head of VA Educ service. They are planning to man a booth - ie a tent to hand out GI Bill brochures and engage in one-on-one conversations with people. Expecting 150,000 in the audience. Another 7,500 in audience. Planning to send approx 20 people from VACO - a few will be from C&P - because of size of the crowd. Estimates 1/3 will be veterans or active duty military.
Case: 32967: outreach NASCAR VA Education service Note

Robert Richardson - confirmed VA Educ Service has broad outreach authority that includes paying cost of travel to perform the outreach.
Will Gunn asked if it would be appropriate for VA Education service to send people down to a NASCAR race. The race is being co-sponsored by Educ Serv and they are sponsoring driver #71 whose car will sport the GI Bill logo - the car trailer also has the website.
From: [H060]
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 5:06 PM
To: Orr, Martha (SES)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: An Ethics Questions from Mr. Baker

Martha,

I can get more clarifying information, if necessary.

Regards,
Martha
Mr. Baker,

We do not see any ethics issues here in your acceptance of free attendance at the track, or any other hospitality offered by NASCAR. Gifts only raise concerns where they are offered by a prohibited source or because of official position. VA is no longer in the race game, and this invitation has nothing to do with your official position based on the background information you have provided.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 10:19 AM
To: Baker, Roger (EX)
Cc: Orr, Martha (SES); Gingrich, John (SES)
Subject: RE: Attendance at NASCAR event in Richmond

Deputy Ethics Officer/Staff Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

Fax [Redacted]

From: Baker, Roger (EX)
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 8:06 AM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Orr, Martha (SES); Gingrich, John (SES)
Subject: Attendance at NASCAR event in Richmond

My son is graduating college this spring, and is conducting his job search. One employer who has been recruiting him is NASCAR. (His degree is in MotorSports Engineering, and they have hired numerous graduates from the college program he is in.) They have invited him to the race in Richmond this weekend as their guest to see what he would be doing if he accepts their job. My son has asked me to accompany him.

Other than passes to the race, we will be paying our own transportation, lodging, and meals.

The invitation clearly has nothing to do with me or my position. I doubt that NASCAR has any idea what I do for a living.

BUT, because I was the designated agency official for attendance at the NASCAR race that the VA sponsored in September, 2010, Martha and I both felt it would be best to ensure you were aware. I have had no contact with NASCAR since the 2010 event, and am certain that neither that event nor my
position in government have anything to do with NASCAR’s interest in employing my son. We can factually track their interest back to a recommendation to them by one of my son’s professors in his program.

Let me know if you need any further info, or if this raises any concerns.

Thanks!

Roger W. Baker
Assistant Secretary for
Information and Technology
Department of Veterans Affairs
From: Baker, Roger (EX)
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 10:39 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Orr, Martha (SES); Gingrich, John (SES)
Subject: RE: Attendance at NASCAR event in Richmond

Thanks! I saw it that way, but it is much more important that you do too. 😊

Roger W. Baker
Assistant Secretary for
Information and Technology
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 10:19 AM
To: Baker, Roger (EX)
Cc: Orr, Martha (SES); Gingrich, John (SES)
Subject: RE: Attendance at NASCAR event in Richmond

Mr. Baker,

We do not see any ethics issues here in your acceptance of free attendance at the track, or any other hospitality offered by NASCAR. Gifts only raise concerns where they are offered by a prohibited source or because of official position. VA is no longer in the race game, and this invitation has nothing to do with your official position based on the background information you have provided.

Deputy Ethics Official/Staff Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: Baker, Roger (EX)
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 8:06 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Orr, Martha (SES); Gingrich, John (SES)
Subject: Attendance at NASCAR event in Richmond

My son is graduating college this spring, and is conducting his job search. One employer who has been recruiting him is NASCAR. (His degree is in MotorSports Engineering, and they have hired numerous
graduates from the college program he is in.) They have invited him to the race in Richmond this weekend as their guest to see what he would be doing if he accepts their job. My son has asked me to accompany him.

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Let me know if you need any further info, or if this raises any concerns.

Thanks!

Roger W. Baker
Assistant Secretary for
Information and Technology
Department of Veterans Affairs
From: [b][6]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b][6] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b][6] Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b][6] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b][6]

Per our discussion if attendance at the race to inform Veterans about VRAP through meet and greet, passing out flyers, public service announcements and radio/TV time are appropriate outreach expenses (I believe that they are, but just want our appropriations lawyers to confirm) then

1) Paying for travel to get to the race is appropriate; and
2) Accepting VIP passes to the event so that we can conduct such outreach is an appropriate exercise of our gift acceptance authority.

[b][6]
Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs
[b][6]
Fax
[b][6]

From: [b][6] VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: [b][6] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b][6] Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b][6] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
1) VA is paying travel
2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise and link folks to VA’s VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership-and is that legit?

[b][6]
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Do you remember to whom in OGC you referred this matter.

Thanks for the follow up.
From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES) VBAVACO; (b)(6) VBAVACO; (b)(6) VBAVACO; (b)(6) VBAVACO; (b)(6) VBAVACO; (b)(6) VBAVACO; (b)(6) VBAVACO; (b)(6) VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per (b)(6) (b)(6)

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for (b)(6). (b)(6) are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday.
-----Original Message-----
From: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 11:20 PM
To: VBAVACO; Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Coy, Curtis (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Thanks much.
rmw

Robert M. Worley II
Director, Education Service
Veterans Benefits Administration
Dept of Veterans Affairs

-----Original Message-----
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:08 PM
To: VBAVACO; Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO; Coy, Curtis (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: Re: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Thank you

-----Original Message-----
From: VBAVACO
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Sent: Jul 25, 2012 4:02 PM

Per our discussion if attendance at the race to inform Veterans about VRAP through meet and greet, passing out flyers, public service announcements and
radio/TV time are appropriate outreach expenses (I believe that they are, but just want our appropriations lawyers to confirm) then

1) Paying for travel to get to the race is appropriate; and

2) Accepting VIP passes to the event so that we can conduct such outreach is an appropriate exercise of our gift acceptance authority.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: [REDACTED] VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: [REDACTED] VBAVACO
Cc: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick

1) VA is paying travel

2) 2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?

The second issue is the private entity has created a website yet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise and link folks to VA’s VRAP webpage---do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership-and is that legit?

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC;
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: Gurland, Jonathan I.
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted]
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

-----Original Message Truncated-----
feedback and clarify who VBA officials are to accept gift-

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6) VBAVACO; [b](6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

Per our discussion if attendance at the race to inform Veterans about VRAP through meet and greet, passing out flyers, public service announcements and radio/TV time are appropriate outreach expenses (I believe that they are, but just want our appropriations lawyers to confirm) then

1) Paying for travel to get to the race is appropriate; and
2) Accepting VIP passes to the event so that we can conduct such outreach is an appropriate exercise of our gift acceptance authority.

[b](6)

[b](6)
Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

Current Date: Dec 3, 2020
Date of Note: 07/26/2012
(21-00051-AR) 0016
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
1) VA is paying travel
2) 2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise and link folks to VA’s VRAP webpage---do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership-and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
Office of General Counsel
T, W, Th)
M, F)

From:
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM  
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Hardzog, Lisa  
Cc: [b](6)  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie, [b](6)

I note that VBA official is scheduled to travel to Indianapolis this Friday.

I have included the attachment which details the outreach activities.

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM  
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Hardzog, Lisa  
Cc: [b](6)  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697  
Importance: High

Debbie [b](6)

Thanks for the follow up.

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

So the issue is whether the travel, entry fees and advertising on the car are legitimate outreach expenses?

From: [bX](5)  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
VA is paying

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

[b](5): (b)(6)

Thanks for the follow up.

(b)(6)

[b](6)
Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

Fax [b](6)

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

[b](6)

[b](5)

From: [redacted] VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: [redacted] VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt and we are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday.
From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, August 06, 2012 9:03 AM
To: [b](6) (OGC)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

The GCLaws is 40738, and I answered this last week. See the e-mail exchange following Renee’s e-mail.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, August 06, 2012 8:47 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

Is this the same as Ethics GCL # 40838??

Thanks,

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:05 PM
To: [b](6) (OGC)
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

Are we aware of this? I frankly don’t know what he is talking about.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Gutcher, Jane
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](7):  

[b](6): 

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
1) VA is paying travel
2) 2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise
and link folks to VA’s VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: [b](6); [b](6); [b](6); [b](6); [b](6); [b](6); [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel
[b](6); [b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6); Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie
[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)

Current Date: Dec 3, 2020
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie,

Thanks for the follow up.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

Thanks for the follow up.
From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO; VBAVACO;
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt
and were aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday

[b](6)
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

Just checking status on OGC opinion regarding this NASCAR type event. Rob Worley is scheduled to attend in Curt Coy’s place this weekend. Their offices are proceeding forward in planning for this event.

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO VBAVACO; VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt

b(6) b(6)

b(6)
From: [b][b]%O(b)(6)OGC%b](b)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 4:14 PM
To: [b][b]%b]
Cc:
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

[b][b](b)(6)

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: [b][b]%b]
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: [b][b]%b][b] VBAACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b][b](b)(6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [b][b]%b]
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b][b]%b][b] VBAACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b][b](b)(6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs
Fax (b)(6)

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

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and link folks to VA's VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel
[b](6)
T, W, Th
M, F

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES);
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC;
Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie,
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie,

Thanks for the follow up.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

[b](5)

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

[b](5)

Thanks for the follow up.
From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: 
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: 
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: 
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: 
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; 
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt
and are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday
From: [b](6)  
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc:  
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion  
Importance: High

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

[b](6)  
Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official  
[b](6)  

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM  
To: [b](6) (OGC); Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)  
Cc: [b](6) VACO  
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion  
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.
Good afternoon, Mark,

Thank you in advance for your assistance!
I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in your July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036
This message and any files or attachments transmitted herewith contain CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and is (are) intended only for the named addressee(s). It may be protected by the attorney-client privilege, attorney-work product or other doctrines. If you received this email message in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or email and destroy or delete the original message without copying. Please do not publish, copy or circulate this message.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] VACO
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
- Office
- Cell
Steve Westerfeld and Alisson Rosen VBA and refer appropriations issue to Renee-

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES) [b](6)  Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6)  Hardzog, Lisa
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie [b](6)

[b](5)

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES) [b](6)  Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6)  [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie [b](6)

[b](5)

[b](6)

Thanks for the follow up.

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [b](6)  Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6)  [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

[b](5)

[b](6)

[b](6)

From: [b](5)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
VA is paying

Thanks for the follow up.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: 
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES); VBAVACO; [REDACTED]; VBAVACO;

Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt

inven and [REDACTED] are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday
From: [b][6]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:42 PM  
To: [b][6]  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC  
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697  
Importance: High

[b][6]

From: [b][6]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM  
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b][6]  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b][6]  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697  
Importance: High

Debbie.[b][6]

Thanks for the follow up.

[b][6]

From: [b][6]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM  
To: [b][6]  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b][6]  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b][6]

[b][5]

[b][6]

From: [b][6]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM  
To: [b][6]  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b][6]  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b][6]
VA is paying

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [REDACTED]/BAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

Thanks for the follow up.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)
Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs
Fax (b)(6)

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

From: [REDACTED]/BAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: [REDACTED]/BAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

(b)(5)
Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt and be aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday.
Case: 56227: Raceway gift discount to all VA employees

From: b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 11:28 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; (b)(6) Bradshaw, Doug (SES)
Subject: RE: Review

Gina, VA employees may accept this offer as long as the Richmond International Raceway is not a “prohibited source.” 5 C.F.R. § 2635, subpart B.

Unless an exception applies, Federal employees may not accept gifts (discounts are considered gifts) that are offered by a “prohibited source” or because of the employees’ official positions.

A “prohibited source” is any person seeking official action by an agency, doing business or seeking to do business with an agency, conducting activities regulated by an agency, or having interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of VA employees’ official duties. It is also an organization a majority of whose members are described in the preceding sentence.

Do you have any knowledge that the Raceway is a prohibited source? If it is a prohibited source, then VA employees cannot accept.

In this case, because the Raceway is offering the discount to all VA employees just because they are VA employees, it is offering a gift because of their official positions, which generally means that employees cannot accept.

However, there a number of exceptions that allow acceptance. In this case, assuming that the Raceway is not a prohibited source, 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(c)(2)(iii) allows VA employees to accept the discount because it is NOT offered by a prohibited source and “is not defined in a manner that specifically discriminates among Government employees on the basis of type of official responsibility or on a basis that favors those of a higher rank or rate of pay.” In other words, as long as the Raceway is not a prohibited source, employees can accept the discount because it is offered to all VA employees.

(b)(6)
Staff Attorney and Deputy Ethics Official
Ethics Specialty Team, Office of General Counsel (023)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Room 1116
Washington, D.C. 20420
Phone (b)(6)
Fax (b)(6)

From: Bradshaw, Doug (SES)
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 10:10 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; (b)(6) OGC
Subject: FW: Review

Chris: Understand Renee is out. Since the timeframe is short on what looks to me to be an ethics issue, could you please take a look and advise (b)(6)

Current Date: Dec 4, 2020
Date of Note: 04/15/2014
(21-00051-AR) 0042
Thanks
Doug

E. Douglas Bradshaw, Jr.
Assistant General Counsel (021)
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: Bradshaw, Doug (SES)
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 5:15 PM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: Fw: Review

Gina: forwarding your message to the group that handles government ethics issues.

Doug
Doug Bradshaw
Assistant General Counsel (021)
Department of Veterans Affairs

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

From: [b][6]
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 04:51 PM
To: Bradshaw, Doug (SES)
Subject: Review

Hi Doug,

Last weekend I was at an event and I met the President of the Richmond International Raceway...we got
talking about what I do and where I work and by the end of the evening he said he'd like to offer VA
employees a discount for tickets to the upcoming NASCAR Race (April 26th). There are no strings
attached, he just wanted to make the offer...

He sent me the below attachment, which is an example of how it would work. Basically they will set up
a special webpage and we will have a special access code. No money or tickets would exchange hands
here at the VA, it would all be done through their website.

So, I wanted to get legal approval before he sent me a link. Once we have the link, I suspect we can
share the info through the VA internal website and internal notices. I think its a really nice
gesture...what do you think? Any concerns from your end? (As a side, this is not an official PA request,
the offer just came through my personal contacts and I thought it was a great opportunity so I'm just
trying to sheppard it through the system

Thanks for your help!

Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420
Phone:

From:
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 04:37 PM
To:
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Review
Case: 96286: Adv - Wilmington - Outreach Issue Note

Review e-mail; open case; assign to attorney; add attachment; respond to client.
Staff Attorney and Deputy Ethics Official  
Office of General Counsel  
Ethics Specialty Team  

Please visit our Government Ethics website  
<https://vaww.ogc.vaco.portal.va.gov/law/ethics/SitePages/Home.aspx> for more information on ethics topics

Good morning. This case has been assigned to Attorney(b)(6) for review and response. Thank you.

Paralegal Specialist  
Office of General Counsel  
Ethics Specialty Team - NorthAtlantic & MidWest  
OGCNorthAtlanticEthics@va.gov <mailto:OGCNorthAtlanticEthics@va.gov>  
OGCMidWestEthics@va.gov <mailto:OGCMidWestEthics@va.gov>  
TOD: M-F 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT
Please visit <https://va.gov/21-00051-AR> for more information on ethics topics.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2017 3:11 PM
To: OGCNorthAtlanticEthics
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: FW: Ethics Question

Hello, I received an ethics question from our Public Affairs Officer below. Would this create a conflict?

[b](6)
Compliance & Business Integrity Officer
Integrated Ethics Officer
Wilmington VA Medical Center
1601 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington, DE 19805
PH: [b](6)
FAX:

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, June 01, 2017 2:49 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: Ethics Question

So this is a business Ethics question: We have a new Outreach Team who are requesting to use the medical center’s social media to promote where they are going to be on different dates. Speaking with them today, they would like to promote that they are going to be setting up VA benefits information tables while at events like a community concert, air show, wine tasting event, community fair .... The question is whether it is a conflict to use VA website to promote them being at a community event if it is a non-VA sponsored event. Another example would be VA Outreach team going to the Dover Racetrack for the NASCAR race on a certain date. To promote them being at the event, we have to also say what the event is ... does this create a conflict in that we are then endorsing a non-VA event.

[b](6)
Public Affairs Officer
Wilmington VA Medical Center
1601 Kirkwood Hwy., Wilmington, DE 19806
Good morning. This case has been assigned to Attorney for review and response. Thank you.

Paralegal Specialist
Office of General Counsel
Ethics Specialty Team – NorthAtlantic & MidWest
OGCNorthAtlanticEthics@va.gov
OGCMidWestEthics@va.gov
TOD: M-F 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT

Please visit https://vaww.ogc.vaco.portal.va.gov/law/ethics/SitePages/Topics.aspx for more information on ethics topics.

Hello, I received an ethics question from our Public Affairs Officer below. Would this create a conflict?

Compliance & Business Integrity Officer
Integrated Ethics Officer
Wilmington VA Medical Center
1601 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington, DE 19805
PH: 
FAX:

So this is a business Ethics question: We have a new Outreach Team who are requesting to use the medical center’s social media to promote where they are going to be on different dates. Speaking
with them today, they would like to promote that they are going to be setting up VA benefits information tables while at events like a community concert, air show, wine tasting event, community fair .... The question is whether it is a conflict to use VA website to promote them being at a community event if it is a non-VA sponsored event. Another example would be VA Outreach team going to the Dover Racetrack for the NASCAR race on a certain date. To promote them being at the event, we have to also say what the event is ... does this create a conflict in that we are then endorsing a non-VA event.

Public Affairs Officer
Wilmington VA Medical Center
1601 Kirkwood Hwy., Wilmington, DE 19806
Ethics cases re: NASCAR and other sporting events would have been considered under public outreach activities, not WAGS.

Put a call in to Rory Layne--will discuss.
From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 3:05 PM
To: Mark
Subject: RE: Grievance for T. Murphy

Mark

From: OGC
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 12:37 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: FW: Grievance for T. Murphy

Re: Grievance for T. Murphy

From: OGC
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 11:46 AM
To: OGC
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Grievance for T. Murphy

Grievance for T. Murphy
Can you respond please?

Good morning

Thank you and best regards,

[Redacted]
Staff Attorney, Personnel Law Group
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

[b](6)

[Redacted]

VA Core Values: Integrity Commitment Advocacy Respect Excellence
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From: [b](6)
Sent: Saturday, April 06, 2019 6:10 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)

Subject: RE: Grievance for T. Murphy

Thanks [b](6)
From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:06 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

[b](6)

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

[b](6)

[b](6)
Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official
[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: [b](6) Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resenting the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

[b](6)

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
[b](6) Office
[b](6) Cell

From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,

Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

[Redacted]
Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

Current Date: Dec 3, 2020
Date of Note: 07/24/2018
(21-00051-AR) 0056
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [b][u][i][b][i] and [b][i][b]

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in your July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>
Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

[Signature]

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
From: [b](6) OGC
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 11:12 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

I include below advice I provided in 2012 to VBA as to acceptance of free attendance at NASCAR venues for the purpose of conducting outreach. That case was EST GCLaws 40738.

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

I note that the Under Secretary and Deputy Under Secretary are the officials who would be approving the acceptance of the gifts offered in connection with this outreach, e.g. free VIP passes, radio and TV airtime.
Given that our appropriations lawyers view this event as an appropriate outreach expense, I am confirming my advice below-

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted]; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO;
     VBAVACO; [Redacted]
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs
Fax [Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted]; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO;
     VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
   1) VA is paying travel
   2) 2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk
      with media and promote the VRAP program
   3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise
and link folks to VA's VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa  
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM  
To: [b](6) McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](6) Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) 
Cc: [b](6)  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)  
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law  
VA Office of General Counsel

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM  
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES) [b](6)  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6)  
Hardzog, Lisa  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie [b](6)  

I note that VBA official is scheduled to travel to Indianapolis this Friday.

I have included the attachment which details the outreach activities.

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM  
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES) [b](6)  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Importance: High

Debbie,

Thanks for the follow up.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted]
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted]
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted]
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[Redacted]

Thanks for the follow up.
From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO; [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt

And are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday
90387

From: [blank] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:26 AM
To: [blank]
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Do you know who worked on this?

Thanks,

[blank]

Or, if I should call you to discuss, what's a good time?

From: [blank]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: [OGC]; Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: [ACO]
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes' OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
Office
Cell

From: [blank]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. [blank]
Cc: [blank]
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Current Date: Dec 3, 2020
Good afternoon, Mark,

Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: [Name]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [Name]
Cc: [Name]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information
Dear [redacted] and [redacted],

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in you July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM  
To: Murphy, Thomas  
Cc: [b](b)(6)  
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information  

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

[Redacted]  
Administrative Investigator  
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)  
[b](b)(6) - Office
From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Friday, August 03, 2018 2:38 PM
To: Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC) [REDACTED]
Subject: Mr. Murphy at NASCAR GCLaws 108955

Cathy,

...text...

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 6:31 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

This is very helpful, [REDACTED] Thank you!

Do you recall providing advice for [REDACTED] to attend any NASCAR events his wife for the same purpose?

I don't know the general market value (yet) for the Hot Passes but I am fairly confident they far exceed $20.

[REDACTED]
I include below advice I provided in 2012 to VBA as to acceptance of free attendance at NASCAR venues for the purpose of conducting outreach.

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official
From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Given that our appropriations lawyers view this event as an appropriate outreach expense, I am confirming my advice below-

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

Fax [b](6)

From: [b](6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Gutcher; [b](6) Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
1) VA is paying travel
2) 2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com where they will advertise and link folks to VA's VRAP webpage——do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC;
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie [Redacted]

I note that VBA official is scheduled to travel to Indianapolis this Friday.
I have included the attachment which details the outreach activities.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie [Redacted]

Thanks for the follow up.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Thanks for the follow up.

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: [b](6) BAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES); BAVACO; [b](6)
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt
are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday.

Would you like me and [b](6) to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,

[OGC]

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

[Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official]

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc: 
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion  
Importance: High

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM  
To: [OGC]; Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)  
Cc: [VACO]  
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion  
Importance: High
Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,
Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNE][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [Redacted] and [Redacted],

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in you July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.
Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

This message and any files or attachments transmitted herewith contain CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and is (are) intended only for the named addressee(s). It may be protected by the attorney-client privilege, attorney-work product or other doctrines. If you received this email message in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or email and destroy or delete the original message without copying. Please do not publish, copy or circulate this message.

From: Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM
To: Murphy, Thomas
Cc: Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata (VACO)
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
loyees? on behalf of spouses?

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 1:12 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc: [b](6)  
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

OK, I left a message for the racetrack rep and will let you know what I find out once he calls me back. Thanks for your quick reply!

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:02 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc: [b](6)  
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thank you for your continued follow up.

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:15 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc: [b](6)  
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Good morning,

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520 per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in 2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker’s acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?

If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

Thanks so much for your continued assistance with this.

From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 3:14 PM
To: (OGC)
Cc: (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official
From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Given that our appropriations lawyers view this event as an appropriate outreach expense, I am confirming my advice below:

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) VBAVACO [b](6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Per our discussion if attendance at the race to inform Veterans about VRAP through meet and greet, passing out flyers, public service announcements and radio/TV time are appropriate outreach expenses (I believe that they are, but just want our appropriations lawyers to confirm) then

1) Paying for travel to get to the race is appropriate; and
2) Accepting VIP passes to the event so that we can conduct such outreach is an appropriate exercise of our gift acceptance authority.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
From: Rosen, Alison, VBAVACO  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM  
To: Gurland, Jonathan I.; Westerfeld, Steve, VBAVACO  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Gutcher, Jane; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; Skeens, Leigh Ann, VBAVACO  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick

1) VA is paying travel
2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?

The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise and link folks to VA’s VRAP webpage---do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership-and is that legit?

Alison

From: Hardzog, Lisa  
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM  
To: Gurland, Jonathan I.; McCallum, Deborah (SES); Johnson, Lorrie  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Gutcher, Jane; Rosen, Alison, VBAVACO; Westerfeld, Steve, VBAVACO  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Jonathan:

Yes, we can use the outreach authority as a statutory “anchor” for the necessary expense test. The official’s travel is a necessary expense of fulfilling VA’s statutory duties to conduct outreach to Veterans to educate them about VRAP opportunities.

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)  
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law  
VA Office of General Counsel  
(T, W, Th)  
(M, F)
From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) VBAVACO; Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie,

[b](5)

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Gutcher, Jane; Rosen, Alison, VBAVACO; Westerfeld, Steve, VBAVACO; Gurland, Jonathan I.
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie, Lorrie,

[b](5)

Thanks for the follow up.

[b](8)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

[b](5)

[b](6)
From: [b](6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Gutcher, Jane
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

(b)(5)

Thanks for the follow up.

[b](6)

[b](6)
Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs
[b](6)
Fax [b](6)

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: FW: IOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

[b](6)

(b)(5)

From: [b](6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC  
Cc:  
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM  
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO  
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -  

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt  
are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday

From:  
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM  
To:  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion  

would you like me and to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,

From: (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM  
To:  
Cc:  
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion  
Importance: High

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.
Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: [Redacted] (OGC); Mitran, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: VACO
Subject: PW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,
Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear Ms. [REDACTED] and Ms. [REDACTED],

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

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Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

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Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>

This message and any files or attachments transmitted herewith contain CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and is (are) intended only for the named addressee(s). It may be protected by the attorney-client privilege, attorney-work product or other doctrines. If you received this email message in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or email and destroy or delete the original message without copying. Please do not publish, copy or circulate this message.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM
To: Murphy, Thomas
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?
Thank you,

[Redacted]

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
[Redacted]
Office
Cell
From: [b/(6)](OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:07 AM
To: [b/(6)]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thank you for the additional information.

[b/(6)]

[b/(6)]

[b/(6)]
Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

[b/(6)]

From: [b/(6)]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 7:08 PM
To: [b/(6)]
Cc: [b/(6)] Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

[b/(6)]

See my answers below. Hope this helps.

Thanks,

[b/(6)]

From: [b/(6)](OGC)
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:02 PM
To: [b/(6)]
Cc: [b/(6)] Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Thank you for your continued follow up.

Good morning,

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520/per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in 2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker’s acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?
If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

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From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 3:14 PM
To: (OGC)
Cc: (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
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VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
1) VA is paying travel
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The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise and link folks to VA's VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES)
Cc: Szyba, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel
(T, W, Th)
(M, F)

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES)
Cc: Szyba, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO; Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie,
From: [Name]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM  
To: [Name]  
Cc: [Name]  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697  
Importance: High

Debbie,

Thanks for the follow up.

From: [Name]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM  
To: [Name]  
Cc: [Name]  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [Name]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM  
To: [Name]  
Cc: [Name]  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [Name]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM  
To: [Name]  
Cc: [Name]  
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Thanks for the follow up.

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [Name Redacted]
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday
Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt.

are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: 
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

(b)(6) would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: 
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

(b)(6)

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

(b)(6)

Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: (b)(6); Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: VACO
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes' OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

Good afternoon, Mark,
the Ethics Team would provide their professional opinion so we do not conclude otherwise in our report.

Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNE][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear Mr. Murphy and Ms. [Redacted],

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in you July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be
pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>

This message and any files or attachments transmitted herewith contain CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and is (are) intended only for the named addressee(s). It may be protected by the attorney-client privilege, attorney-work product or other doctrines. If you received this email message in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or email and destroy or delete the original message without copying. Please do not publish, copy or circulate this message.

From:  
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM  
To: Murphy, Thomas  
Cc:  
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information  

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

Administrative Investigator  
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)  

Office  
Cell

Current Date: Dec 3, 2020  
Date of Note: 08/14/2018
Mark agrees.

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 11:49 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

I agree.

Mark

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:48 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:42 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955
An email will suffice. Thank you.

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:07 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

[b](6)

Thank you for the additional information.

[b](5)

[b](6)

[b](6)
Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 7:08 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

[b](6)

See my answers below. Hope this helps.

Thanks,

[b](5)

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:02 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Thank you for your continued follow up.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:15 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion

Good morning,

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520 per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in 2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to
conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker's acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?

If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

Thanks so much for your continued assistance with this.

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

From: OGC
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 3:14 PM
To: OGC
Cc: OGC
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

From: OGC
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2018 10:47 AM
To: OGC
Cc: Szyba, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Given that our appropriations lawyers view this event as an appropriate outreach expense, I am confirming my advice below:

Per our discussion if attendance at the race to inform Veterans about VRAP through meet and greet, passing out flyers, public service announcements and radio/TV time are appropriate outreach expenses (I believe that they are, but just want our appropriations lawyers to confirm) then:

1) Paying for travel to get to the race is appropriate; and
2) Accepting VIP passes to the event so that we can conduct such outreach is an appropriate exercise of our gift acceptance authority.
To: [deleted]  VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [deleted] Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [deleted] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
  1) VA is paying travel
  2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
  3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise and link folks to VA’s VRAP webpage---do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership-and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: [deleted] McCallum, Deborah (SES); [deleted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [deleted] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel
(1, W, Th)
(M, F)

From: [deleted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [deleted]
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [deleted] VBAVACO; Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie,
From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](b)(6) VBAVACO;
Cc: Sybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](b)(6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie [b](b)(6)

Thanks for the follow up.

[b](b)(6)

From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [b](b)(6) VBAVACO
Cc: Sybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](b)(6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](b)(6)

[b](b)(6)

From: [b](b)(6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [b](b)(6) VBAVACO
Cc: Sybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](b)(6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [b](b)(6) VBAVACO
Cc: Sybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](b)(6) VBAVACO

Date of Note: 08/14/2018
(21-00051-AR) 0107
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Thanks for the follow up.

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6)

Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt

are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday

From: [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

[redacted] would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,

From: [redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

[redacted]

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

[redacted]

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: Craven, Nicole
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: Tyler, Cynthia (OGC); Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: [Redacted]  
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,
Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

**From:** [b](6)

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM

**To:** [b](6)

**Cc:** [b](6)

**Subject:** [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [b](6),

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in you July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.
I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>
issue
suggested a few changes, non-substantive. Need to put short answer up front.
From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Given that our appropriations lawyers view this event as an appropriate outreach expense, I am confirming my advice below-

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC, Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Per our discussion if attendance at the race to inform Veterans about VRAP through meet and greet, passing out flyers, public service announcements and radio/TV time are appropriate outreach expenses (I believe that they are, but just want our appropriations lawyers to confirm) then

1) Paying for travel to get to the race is appropriate; and
2) Accepting VIP passes to the event so that we can conduct such outreach is an appropriate exercise of our gift acceptance authority.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

Discussion
revise Mark version

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 3:55 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) <mark.jaynes@va.gov>
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Mark,

[REDACTED]

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 2:58 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

[REDACTED]

Mark

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 1:20 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Mark.

[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Given that our appropriations lawyers view this event as an appropriate outreach expense, I am confirming my advice below:

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [Redacted] Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [Redacted] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Per our discussion if attendance at the race to inform Veterans about VRAP through meet and greet, passing out flyers, public service announcements and radio/TV time are appropriate outreach expenses (I believe that they are, but just want our appropriations lawyers to confirm) then

1) Paying for travel to get to the race is appropriate; and
2) Accepting VIP passes to the event so that we can conduct such outreach is an appropriate exercise of our gift acceptance authority.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

Discussion

[b](5)
From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 11:52 AM  
To: [Redacted]  
Cc: [Redacted]  
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thanks so much,

From: [Redacted] (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:48 AM  
To: [Redacted]  
Cc: [Redacted]  
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955
An email will suffice. Thank you.

Thank you for the additional information.
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

See my answers below. Hope this helps.

Thanks,

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:02 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thank you for your continued follow up.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:15 PM
Good morning,

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520/per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in 2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker’s acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?

If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

Thanks so much for your continued assistance with this.

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.
From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6) Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO [b](6) VBAVACO [b](6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)
Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney  
Ethics Specialty Team  
Office of the General Counsel  
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: VBAVACO  
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM  
To: VBAVACO  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO;  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick  
1) VA is paying travel  
2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program  
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?  
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com where they will advertise and link folks to VA's VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa  
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM  
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES);  
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC;  
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Hardzag, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO;
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thanks for the follow up.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [REDACTED] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC;
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
From: [b](6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6)
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

Thanks for the follow up.

[b](6)

[b](6)
Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

[b](6)
Fax [b](6)

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

[b](5)

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt
Terry and Rachel are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,

From: OGC
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High
I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: [b](b)(6) Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: [b](b)(6) CO
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
- Office
- Cell

From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. [b](b)(6)
Cc: [b](b)(6)
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,
Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

From: [b6]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [b6]
Cc: [b6]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [b6],

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event
and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in your July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>

This message and any files or attachments transmitted herewith contain CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and is (are) intended only for the named addressee(s). It may be protected by the attorney-client privilege, attorney-work product or other doctrines. If you received this email message in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or email and destroy or delete the original message without copying. Please do not publish, copy or circulate this message.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM
To: Murphy, Thomas
Cc: [Redacted] VACO
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:
1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

[Initial]

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:11 PM
To: Mitranro, Catherine (SES) (OGC) [REDACTED]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: NASCAR Passes GLaws 108955

Cathy,

Thank you.

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:00 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GLaws 108955

Mark

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 2:55 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GLaws 108955

Mark,

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 2:58 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GLaws 108955
Mark,

[Redacted]

Background
Prior Guidance

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: (b)(6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; (b)(6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: (b)(6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; (b)(6) Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; (b)(6) AVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

(b)(6)

Per our discussion if attendance at the race to inform Veterans about VRAP through meet and greet, passing out flyers, public service announcements and radio/TV time are appropriate outreach expenses (I believe that they are, but just want our appropriations lawyers to
confirm then

1) Paying for travel to get to the race is appropriate; and
2) Accepting VIP passes to the event so that we can conduct such outreach is an appropriate exercise of our gift acceptance authority.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

Fax

Discussion

Date of Note: 08/14/2018
(21-00051-AR) 0140
From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 11:52 AM
To: [b](b)(6)
Cc: [b](b)(6) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thanks so much. [b](b)(6)

From: [b](b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:48 AM
To: [b](b)(6)
Cc: [b](b)(6) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

[b](b)(6)

[b](b)(5)

[b](b)(6)

From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:42 AM
To: [b](b)(6)
Cc: [b](b)(6) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

An email will suffice. Thank you.

From: [b](b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:07 AM
To: [b](b)(6)
Cc: [b](b)(6)
Thank you for the additional information.

See my answers below. Hope this helps.

Thanks,

From: (b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:02 PM
To: (b)(6)
CC: (b)(6)

Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

(b)(6)
Thank you for your continued follow up.

From

Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:15 PM
To:
Cc:

Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion

Good morning,

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520/per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in 2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker’s acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?

If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

Thanks so much for your continued assistance with this.
From: [b](b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 3:14 PM
To: [b](b)(6)
Cc: [b](b)(6)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

[b](b)(6)

Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: [b](b)(6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](b)(6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Given that our appropriations lawyers view this event as an appropriate outreach expense, I am confirming my advice below:

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Per our discussion if attendance at the race to inform Veterans about VRAP through meet and greet, passing out flyers, public service announcements and radio/TV time are appropriate outreach expenses (I believe that they are, but just want our appropriations lawyers to confirm) then:

1) Paying for travel to get to the race is appropriate; and
2) Accepting VIP passes to the event so that we can conduct such outreach is an appropriate exercise of our gift acceptance authority.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

Fax

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
1) VA is paying travel
2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com where they will advertise and link folks to VA's VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: [b](6) McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](6) Rosen, Alison, VBA/ACO; [b](6) VBA/ACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) Rosen, Alison, VBA/ACO; [b](6) VBA/ACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel
[b](6) (T, W, Th)
[b](6) (M, F)

From: [b](6) 
Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](6) VBA/ACO; Hardzog, Lisa
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) VBA/ACO; Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie,
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [Redacted] VBAVACO;
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted] VBAVACO;
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie,

[b][5]

Thanks for the follow up.

[b][6]

From: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b][6]

[b][5]

[b][6]

From: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [Redacted] VBAVACO
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b][6]

[b][5]
Thanks for the follow up.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: [b](6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: [b](6) VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: [b](6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO; [b](6) VBAVACO; [b](6) VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt
Terry and Rachel are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday
From: [b](6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,
[b](6)

From [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

[b](6)
I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

[b](6)

[b](6)
Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: [b](6) (OGC); Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: [b](6) VACO
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon,
I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

From: 

Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM

To: Jaynes, Mark T. 

Cc: 

Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion

Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,

Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you
would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [Redacted]; Murphy, Thomas
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [Redacted],

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in your July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,
Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,
on 2012 guidance.

From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 5:53 PM
To: Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Cathy,

[Redacted]

From: Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 5:48 PM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

[Redacted] it doesn’t look like you were told about a Hot Pass option, if there even was one, back in 2012. It seems OAWP is suggesting that if there was a less costly way (via acceptance of a lower-priced entry option) available to meet the outreach mission, that is the only appropriate gift to receive. Do you agree with this premise? If so, and if you weren't told about a lower-priced option in 2012, wouldn’t reliance upon an old opinion where the relevant facts are possibly different be so unreasonable as to take it out of the realm of good faith?

On the other hand, if you don’t agree with the premise that the lower-priced entry option is required, then I suppose the good faith reliance might still be the test.

What do you think?

From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:11 PM
To: Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: FW: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Cathy,
Thank you.

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:00 PM  
To:  
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Mark

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 2:55 PM  
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Mark,

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 2:58 PM  
To:  
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Mark

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 1:20 PM  
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Cc:  
Subject: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Mark,
From: [b](5)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC [b](6) Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

[b](6)

[b](6)
Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

Discussion

From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 11:52 AM
To: [b](b)(6)
Cc: [b](b)(6) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thanks so much,
From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:48 AM
To: 
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

An email will suffice. Thank you.

From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:42 AM
To: 
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thank you for the additional information.
Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

From: [b](b)(6)
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 7:08 PM
To: [b](b)(6)
Cc: [b](b)(6)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

See my answers below. Hope this helps.

Thanks,
[b](b)(6)

From: [b](b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:02 PM
To: [b](b)(6)
Cc: [b](b)(6)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955
Thank you for your continued follow up.

Good morning,

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520/per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in 2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker’s acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?

If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

Thanks so much for your continued assistance with this.

From (OGC)
Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

From: [b](5)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [b](5)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6)
VBAVACO; VBAVACO

Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO

Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick

1) VA is paying travel
2) 2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?

The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise and link folks to VA’s VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership-and is that legit?
From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: [b](6) McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel
[b](6) T, W, Th
[b](6) M, F

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie, [b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) VBAVACO
[b](6) [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie, [b](6)
Thanks for the follow up.

From: [b](6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [b](6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [b](6) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Is VA paying for Rob and Terry’s travel to/attendance at the race or is NASCAR or some other entity picking up the tab.

Do you remember to whom in OGC you referred this matter.

Thanks for the follow up.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs
From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To:  
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt
We are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO; VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Jonathan, would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via
email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,

From: (b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: 
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

(b)(6)

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: (b)(6) GC; Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: (b)(6) VACO
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

(b)(6)
Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
(b)(6) - Office
(b)(6) - Cell

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.  
CC: Please
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion  
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,

Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

[Redacted]
Administrative Investigator  
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [hid6] Murphy, Thomas
Cc: [hid6]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [hid6]

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in your July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>
message in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or email and destroy or delete the original message without copying. Please do not publish, copy or circulate this message.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM
To: Murphy, Thomas
Cc: [Redacted] VACO
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

[Redacted]
Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

[Redacted] Office
[Redacted] Cell
From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 8:26 AM
To: Mitran, Catherine (SES) (OGC) <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Cathy,

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 5:53 PM
To: Mitran, Catherine (SES) (OGC) <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Cathy,

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 5:48 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

It doesn’t look like you were told about a Hot Pass option, if there even was one, back in 2012. It seems OAWP is suggesting that if there was a less costly way (via acceptance of a lower-priced entry option) available to meet the outreach mission, that is the only appropriate gift to receive. Do you agree with this premise? If so, and if you weren’t told about a lower-priced option in 2012, wouldn’t reliance upon an old opinion where the relevant facts are possibly different be so unreasonable as to take it out of the realm of good faith?

On the other hand, if you don’t agree with the premise that the lower-priced entry option is required, then I suppose the good faith reliance might still be the test.

What do you think?
From: (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:11 PM  
To: Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)  
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Subject: FW: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Cathy,

Thank you.

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:00 PM  
To:  
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Mark

From: (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 2:55 PM  
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Mark,

Two edits and one comment on the revised version you sent.

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 2:58 PM  
To:  
Subject: RE: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955
Mark

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 1:20 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: NASCAR Passes GCLaws 108955

Mark,

[Redacted]

Background

[Redacted]
Prior Guidance

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6), VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b](6), VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6), Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6), VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Discussion
From: [hidden]
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 11:52 AM
To: [hidden]
Cc: [hidden]; Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)

Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thanks so much.

From: [hidden] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:48 AM
To: [hidden]
Cc: [hidden]; Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)

Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

An email will suffice. Thank you.

From: [hidden] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:42 AM
To: [hidden]
Cc: [hidden]; Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)

Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

From: [hidden] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:07 AM
To: [hidden]
Cc: [hidden]; Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Thank you for the additional information.

See my answers below. Hope this helps.

Thanks,
Thank you for your continued follow up.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:15 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion

Good morning,

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520/per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in 2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker’s acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?

If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

Thanks so much for your continued assistance with this.
From: [b][6] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 3:14 PM
To: [b][6]
Cc: [b][6]
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

[b][6]:
Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: [b][6]
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: [b][6] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC: [b][6]
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b][5]:

[b][6]:

From: [b][6]
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
Case: 108955: OAWP Investigation of Tom Murphy @ NASCAR Note

To: [b][6] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b][6] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [b][6] VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b][6] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b][6] Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b][6] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs
Fax [b][6]

From: [b][6] VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: [b][6] VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b][6] Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b][6] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
1) VA is paying travel
2) 2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk
with media and promote the VRAP program.
3) SO the first question is is the above ok?
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com—where they will advertise and link folks to VA's VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel
T, W, Th
M, F

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie,

Thanks for the follow up.

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Thanks for the follow up.

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To:
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO; VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt
Terry and Rachel are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: 
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: 
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: [Redacted]; Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: [Redacted] ACO
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.
Thank you in advance for your guidance.

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
- Office
- Cell

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,

Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.
Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [Redacted] and Ms. [Redacted],

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in you July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,
This message and any files or attachments transmitted herewith contain CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION and is (are) intended only for the named addressee(s). It may be protected by the attorney-client privilege, attorney-work product or other doctrines. If you received this email message in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or email and destroy or delete the original message without copying. Please do not publish, copy or circulate this message.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM
To: Murphy, Thomas
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,
From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 9:14 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b](6) Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GC1aws 108955

[b](6)

[b](5)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 1:19 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GC1aws 108955

[b](6)

I just left you a voicemail. I may have to change what I said earlier about an email sufficing for an answer on this situation. Please call me when you have a moment so I can explain. Thanks!

[b](6)

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 10:48 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GC1aws 108955

[b](6)

[b](5)
From: [b](6)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:42 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6); Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

An email will suffice. Thank you.

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:07 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6); Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

[b](6)

Thank you for the additional information.

[b](5)

[b](6)

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 7:08 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6); Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

See my answers below. Hope this helps.

Thanks,

From: (OGC)
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:02 PM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thank you for your continued follow up.

From: (OGC)
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:15 PM
Good morning,

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520/per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in 2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker’s acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?

If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

Thanks so much for your continued assistance with this.
From: Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC VBAVACO Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO2 VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO

Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick
1) VA is paying travel
2) 2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?
The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com where they will advertise and link folks to VA's VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel
(M, F)
(T, W, Th)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Hardzog, Lisa
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie, [b](6)

[b](5)

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie, [b](6)

[b](5)

Thanks for the follow up.

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](6)

[b](5)
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Thanks for the follow up.

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO; VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt
Terry and Rachel are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday

From: Craven, Nicole
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM
To: Gurland, Jonathan I. (OGC) <Jonathan.Gurland@va.gov>
Cc: Pecorella, Sandy, VACO <sandy.pecorella@va.gov>
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Jonathan, would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,
Nikki

From: Gurland, Jonathan I. (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM
To: Craven, Nicole
Cc: Tyler, Cynthia (OGC)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Nikki,
I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

Good afternoon, Mark,
Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [Redacted]; Murphy, Thomas

Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [Redacted] and [Redacted]

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event
and Mr. Murphy's involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in your July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>

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From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM
To: Murphy, Thomas
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:
1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

[Redacted]

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
[Redacted] Office
[Redacted] Cell
ce same

From: (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 10:45 AM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

From: (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 10:31 AM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thanks. No, they did not attend the same race. Mr. Manker attended the Richmond race with his wife in Sept 2016, not the 2017 Phoenix race which Mr. Murphy attended with his wife. However, your guidance would remain the same.

Appreciate the quick response on this! I will forward to OAWP leadership.

From: (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 8:14 AM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955
I just left you a voicemail. I may have to change what I said earlier about an email sufficing for an answer on this situation. Please call me when you have a moment so I can explain. Thanks!
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

An email will suffice. Thank you.

From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:07 AM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thank you for the additional information.

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: (OGC)
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 7:08 PM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

See my answers below. Hope this helps:

Thanks,

From: (OGC)
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:02 PM
Thank you for your continued follow up.

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520/per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in
2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker's acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?

If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

Thanks so much for your continued assistance with this.

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

From: [b](6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 3:14 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC

Date of Note: 08/15/2018
(21-00051-AR) 0204
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)

Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b](6) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6) Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6) VBAVACO

Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

[b](5)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](5)

[b](6)

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[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](5)

[b](6)

Fax [b](6)
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick

1) VA is paying travel
2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?

The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise and link folks to VA’s VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

---

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: VBAVACO; McCallum, Deborah (SES)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa
Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel
(T, W, Th)
(M, F)

---

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Hardzog, Lisa
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Debbie

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:15 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO;
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO;
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
Importance: High

Debbie

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

Thanks for the follow up.

(b)(6)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:58 PM
To: [REDACTED]; VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

From: [REDACTED]; VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: [REDACTED]; VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:52 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Subject: FW: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

Thanks for the follow up.

(b)(6)
Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6)
Fax (b)(6)

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

(b)(5)
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -

Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday.

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,

From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: [REDACTED]; Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: [REDACTED]; VACO
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

[REDACTED]
Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,
Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [Redacted]
CC: [Redacted]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [Redacted],

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in you July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he...
can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>

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From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM
To: Murphy, Thomas
Cc: [Redacted] VACO
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
Office
Cell
From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 11:19 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b](6) Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC) [b](6)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

[b](6)

[b](5)

[b](6)

Senior Ethics Attorney/ Deputy Ethics Official
[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 11:06 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
[b](6)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

I’m including everyone in this discussion to minimize emails. As a follow up, the Hot Pass is like a Press Badge - it’s a credential that allows access to certain areas and no one off the street can purchase one. It’s provided by the track for individuals with unique purposes. I asked the Phoenix track rep how much a general entry ticket would be to get into the event and he said between $55 - $140, depending on the seats. Since this exceeds the $20 gift acceptance value, I would presume that means that the entry fee for the spouses should not have been accepted either.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 9:48 AM
To: [b](6)
[b](6)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thanks. The only question I have is whether acceptance of the Hot Passes for the spouses was
permissible. While it is clear that acceptance by the employee in this situation does not constitute a “gift” because the employee is presenting information on behalf of the Department, it is not clear whether the same is true for spouses, who were not conducting business on behalf of the Department.

Generally, the Standards of Ethical Conduct prohibit an employee from soliciting or accepting a gift given by a prohibited source or because of official position. 5 C.F.R. § 2635.202(a). For the purposes of this prohibition acceptance of gift includes one given with the employee’s knowledge and acquiescence to his or her spouse. 5 C.F.R. § 2635.203(f)(1). However, when an employee is assigned to participate as a speaker or panel participant or otherwise present information on behalf of the Department at an event, his or her acceptance of an offer of free attendance at the event on the day of his or her presentation is permissible when provided by the sponsor, as free attendance in that situation is excluded from the definition of “gift.” Id. § 2635.203(b)(8).

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 9:32 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

FYI

While Mr. Manker and Mr. Murphy did not attend the same race, the guidance would remain the same.

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 8:14 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6) (OGC) Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
[b](6) Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955
I just left you a voicemail. I may have to change what I said earlier about an email sufficing for an answer on this situation. Please call me when you have a moment so I can explain. Thanks!

An email will suffice. Thank you.
Thank you for the additional information.

See my answers below. Hope this helps.

Thanks,
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion GCLaws 108955

Thank you for your continued follow up.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 12:15 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion

Good morning,[Redacted]  

I had a conversation with a representative from the Phoenix racetrack who indicated that he could not necessarily give a market value to the Hot Pass (which provides access to the track and the drivers) but the VIP President’s Suite passes provided to Mr. Murphy and his wife had a market value of approximately $520/per person. Since Mr. Manker’s wife attended the Richmond NASCAR event in 2010, I was not able to find out the market value of the level of access she had. While you have stated below that you could see a basis for our approving the acceptance of the passes for Mr. Murphy to conduct outreach, can you please provide an official ethics opinion on him and Mr. Manker’s acceptance of similar gifts for their wives as a result of their public positions?
If you need anything additional from me to provide your opinion, let me know.

Thanks so much for your continued assistance with this.

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 3:14 PM
To: (OGC)
Cc: (OGC)
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

From: (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:47 AM
To: VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC;
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697
From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:43 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 4:03 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6); Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6)
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Deputy Ethics Official/Senior Ethics Attorney
Ethics Specialty Team
Office of the General Counsel
Department of Veterans Affairs

From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:03 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; [b](6); Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; [b](6)
VBAVACO

Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Let me back up because my last answer was too quick

1) VA is paying travel
2) 2) someone other than VA got Mr. Worley credentialed -VIP- so he can work the track and talk with media and promote the VRAP program
3) SO the first question is-is the above ok?

The second issue is the private entity has created a website vet-u-cation.com-where they will advertise and link folks to VA's VRAP webpage—do we have an issue with this? Is it considered some kind of implied support or partnership—and is that legit?

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:56 AM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO
Cc: Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel

Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Lisa

Lisa Hardzog (024K)
Senior Attorney, PSG IV, Appropriations/Fiscal Law
VA Office of General Counsel

From: Hardzog, Lisa
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 3:25 PM
To: McCallum, Deborah (SES); Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; VBAVACO; Hardzog, Lisa
Cc: VBAVACO

Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

Debbie.
From: {b(61) VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:56 PM
To: {b(61) VBAVACO
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; {b(61) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday-GCLaws 32697

VA is paying
Thanks for the follow up.

From: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 2:08 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:46 AM
To: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC
Cc: VBAVACO
Subject: FW: HOT: OGC opinion/guidance on VBA NASCAR type event this Saturday

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Worley, Robert (SES), VBAVACO; VBAVACO VBAVACO
Subject: FW: Per Terry Lyles -
Attached is the original scheduled prepared for Curt. Terry and Rachel are aware Curt was only going to attend Saturday.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 2:44 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

Would you like me and Sandy to set up a call with you, or can you tell us your opinion via email regarding the information previously provided?

Thanks,
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 1:06 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

I will be your Ethics Team point of contact.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 4:23 PM
To: [Redacted] (OGC); Mitrano, Catherine (SES) (OGC)
Cc: [Redacted] (VACO)
Subject: FW: Request for Ethics Opinion

Date of Note: 08/15/2018 (21-00051-AR) 0224
Importance: High

Good afternoon,

I received Mr. Jaynes’ OOO for this week so I am resending the below to both of you for assistance.

Thank you in advance for your guidance.

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2018 3:09 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. <[Redacted]>
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Request for Ethics Opinion
Importance: High

Good afternoon, Mark,
Please let me know if you can assist or if there is someone else we should reach out to. Also, if you would prefer to set up a call, please let me know a day and time this week that works for you.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

---

From: [hidden]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:57 PM
To: [hidden]
CC: [hidden]
Subject: [WARNING: ATTACHMENT UNSCANNED][EXTERNAL] RE: Follow-Up Request for Information

Dear [hidden],

I have attached documents relating to the NASCAR event in Phoenix we discussed and a VBA Watch Officer Activity Brief which comes out daily and which sets out a notice of a NASCAR event to occur in Richmond, VA, which is more indication on how important the NASCAR relationship is to reaching out to veterans. As you will see the NASCAR Phoenix attachments discuss the event and its successes and shows Mr. Murphy in a photo with others at the very important outreach event. If you have any additional questions relating to that Phoenix event and Mr. Murphy’s involvement there, please let us know.

You also requested the name of anyone who when to a NASCAR event while Mr. Murphy was Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary. Please be advised that during that time, Mr. Jamie Manker attended at least one such NASCAR event.

At our interview you inquired about the email exchange Mr. Murphy mentioned showing the relationship between Ms. Cloud and Ms. Garrick of the Whistleblowers of America. While you did not specifically request it in your July 12th email, we have attached it here.

You also requested a copy of the BAS contract. Mr. Murphy does not have it but believes he can obtain it. As soon as he does, we will provide it to you. If you have already obtained it, I would appreciate your letting me know.

I trust this responds to your July 12th requests. If you need or want other material, we will be
pleased to provide it. Thank you for keeping us informed as your investigation progresses.

Best regards,

Bonner Kiernan Trebach & Crociata  
1233 20th Street, NW, 8th Floor 
Washington, DC 20036

www.bonnerkiernan.com <http://www.bonnerkiernan.com/>

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From:  
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2018 12:33 PM  
To: Murphy, Thomas  
Cc: [redacted] VACO  
Subject: Follow-Up Request for Information

Mr. Murphy,

Thank you again for your time today. As a follow up to your interview, we would like to request the following documents/information:

1. A copy of the BAS contract and detailed agenda for your Phoenix NASCAR visit.
2. You indicated that there are 3 NASCAR events per year. Since you stated you only went to the Phoenix event, who went to the other NASCAR events during the time you were the Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary?

Thank you,

[redacted]  
Administrative Investigator  
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)
search on GCLaws as to ethics adv given to [b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:25 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: RE: NASCAR

OK thanks. I have reached out to [b](6) about the dates for the other 3 races he attended. He told us his son attended one with him as a military member, got in for free (because the track provides that free access to vets) but “went his own way” while [b](6) did his thing as the VBA rep.

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 4:17 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: RE: NASCAR

[b](6)

[b](5): [b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

[b](6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:04 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: NASCAR

Good afternoon, [b](6)

As part of our VBA investigation, we interviewed [b](6) today who brought up your name as someone who provided him with frequent ethics advice, most notably about attendance at the NASCAR events. He stated that he would reach out to you often about situations for which he wanted OGC’s insight. Can you tell me whether that is accurate and whether he did reach out to you and/or OGC about attendance at the NASCAR outreach events (any of them - he apparently attended 4, including one this past weekend in Richmond)?

Thanks,
[b](6)
Thank you. You are good to go as to acceptance of the two types of passes you described below which are required to conduct VBA official activities such as outreach at the race.

I doubt very seriously they would be Presidential Suite passes, which I presume is for owners. The areas we attend are usually large with numerous hundreds of people which usually includes everyone I have mentioned. Your there for a bit to do meet and greets or a certain event with Veterans and/or drivers that they have asked you to show up for.

Thanks,
Thanks.

From: VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:19 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Thanks, As I mentioned there are typically two types of credentials needed to attend all the required events that we are asked to attend in representing VA. The one Hot Pass which gets you to the infield for required events/meet and greets for Troops at the Track with military Veterans and other dignitary’s/officials and the other which is the ticket/pass to get to the other VIP areas where other events/meet and greets occur with other State/Local officials and usually DoD/Military personnel. Those are the only credentials I’m historically aware of which is to give you access to the events or places we are usually scheduled and required to attend. Like the example I gave earlier, it’s like going to a football stadium you need a ticket to enter areas of the stadium and a special pass to get onto the field. Those passes are very controlled and you must submit name and info prior with valid Government ID for pickup. I’m unaware of anything changing or being added from the historical partnership and outreach event with NASCAR. I hope this helps.

Thanks,

Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities, such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials
accepting a free “hot pass” which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President’s suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.

Please provide a description of what type of pass the venue is providing.

Thanks.

As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

From my understanding this will be like past events with VA staff there from across the Administrations to include the mobile vet center assisting in Veteran and family member outreach. They have also always encouraged family participation as well since they promote as a family event in recognizing Veterans and their families who many will bring along but I have no plans in bringing anyone with me at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks,

From: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 4:24 PM
To: [b][6]
Cc: [b][6]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and survivors attend.

You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandecker, at [name redacted]. The VAMC Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously John on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/
[Name redacted]
Director
Roanoke Regional Office

From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM
To: [Name redacted]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good morning,

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District NLT September 6, 2018. Thank you.

[Name redacted]
Management Analyst
VBA North Atlantic District

From: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM
To: [b][l][e][a][n][k][l][e][t][e][x][t][b][l][e][a][n][k][l][e][t][e][x][b]
Cc: [b][t][e][x][b][t][e][x]

Subject: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

August 30, 2018

Good afternoon North Atlantic District,

The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22. They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to OFO/BAS POC, [b][t][e][x][b][t][e][x][b]

Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 12:58 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

I still have not heard anything from [REDACTED].

Do you recall him asking you about his son attending a NASCAR event with him? He told us during his testimony that his son is a member of the military and got in for free. I haven’t found anything to substantiate that. The only info I can find is members of the military get a 30% discount on regular admission tickets. While I will cite the discrepancy in our report, I want to know whether he reached out to you for ethics advice about his son going with him.

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 4:34 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

Thanks.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:25 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

OK thanks. I have reached out to [REDACTED] about the dates for the other 3 races he attended. He told us his son attended one with him as a military member, got in for free (because the track provides that free access to vets) but “went his own way” while [REDACTED] did his thing as the VBA rep.
Subject: RE: NASCAR

From: (b)(6)  
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:04 PM  
To: (b)(6)  
Cc: (b)(6)  
Subject: NASCAR

Good afternoon (b)(6)  

As part of our VBA investigation, we interviewed (b)(6) today who brought up your name as someone who provided him with frequent ethics advice, most notably about attendance at the NASCAR events. He stated that he would reach out to you often about situations for which he wanted OGC’s insight. Can you tell me whether that is accurate and whether he did reach out to you and/or OGC about attendance at the NASCAR outreach events (any of them - he apparently attended 4, including one this past weekend in Richmond)?

Thanks,  

(b)(6)  

Administrative Investigator  
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)  
Office Cell  

From: (b)(6)  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:56 PM  
To: (b)(6)  
Cc: (b)(6)  
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419  

(b)(6)
Thank you. You are good to go as to acceptance of the two types of passes you described below which are required to conduct VBA official activities such as outreach at the race.

I doubt very seriously they would be Presidential Suite passes, which I presume is for owners. The areas we attend are usually large with numerous hundreds of people which usually includes everyone I have mentioned. Your there for a bit to do meet and greets or a certain event with Veterans and/or drivers that they have asked you to show up for.

Thanks,

Thanks.

Date of Note: 09/26/2018
(21-00051-AR) 0236
Thanks As I mentioned there are typically two types of credentials needed to attend all the required events that we are asked to attend in representing VA. The one Hot Pass which gets you to the infield for required events/meet and greets for Troops at the Track with military Veterans and other dignitary’s/officials and the other which is the ticket/pass to get to the other VIP areas where other events/meet and greets occur with other State/Local officials and usually DoD/Military personnel. Those are the only credentials I’m historically aware of which is to give you access to the events or places we are usually scheduled and required to attend. Like the example I gave earlier, it’s like going to a football stadium you need a ticket to enter areas of the stadium and a special pass to get onto the field. Those passes are very controlled and you must submit name and info with valid Government ID for pickup. I’m unaware of anything changing or being added from the historical partnership and outreach event with NASCAR. I hope this helps.

Thanks,

Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities, such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials accepting a free “hot pass” which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President’s suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.

Please provide a description of what type of pass the venue is providing.

Thanks.

From: VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 9:26 AM
To: [b][6]

Date of Note: 09/26/2018 (21-00051-AR) 0237
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

From my understanding this will be like past events with VA staff there from across the Administration to include the mobile vet center assisting in Veteran and family member outreach. They have also always encouraged family participation as well since they promote as a family event in recognizing Veterans and their families who many will bring along but I have no plans in bringing anyone with me at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks,

From: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 4:24 PM
To:
Cc:

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and survivors attend.

You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandecker, at The VAMC
Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/
Robert T. Reynolds
Director
Roanoke Regional Office

From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good morning,

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District NLT September 6, 2018. Thank you.

Management Analyst
VBA North Atlantic District

From: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]

Subject: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

August 30, 2018

Good afternoon North Atlantic District,
The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22. They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to OFO/BAS POC, [redacted]

Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 10:09 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: RE: NASCAR

[b](5)

[b](6)
From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 9:46 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: RE: NASCAR

OK thanks!

[b](6)
From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 8:44 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: RE: NASCAR

Thanks for the reminder. I will try to get to this this afternoon.

[b](6)
From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 9:42 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: RE: NASCAR

Hi [b](6), checking in on this as I’m hoping to get our report done this week. Appreciate any additional info you can provide.

Thanks,
From: [b(6)]
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 11:58 AM
To: [b(6)]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

I still have not heard anything from Rob.

Do ever recall him asking you about his son attending a NASCAR event with him? He told us during his testimony that his son is a member of the military and got in for free. I haven’t found anything to substantiate that. The only info I can find is members of the military get a 30% discount on regular admission tickets. While I will cite the discrepancy in our report, I want to know whether he reached out to you for ethics advice about his son going with him.

From: [b(6)]
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 4:34 PM
To: [b(6)]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

Thanks.

From: [b(6)]
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:25 PM
To: [b(6)]
Cc: [b(6)]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

OK thanks. I have reached out to [b(6)] about the dates for the other 3 races he attended. He told us his son attended one with him as a military member, got in for free (because the track provides that free access to vets) but “went his own way” while [b(6)] did his thing as the VBA rep.
From: [b](OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:56 PM
To: [b](OFC)
Cc: [b](OGC)
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Current Date: Dec 3, 2020

(b)  

Good afternoon, [b](OGC),

As part of our VBA investigation, we interviewed [b](OFC) today who brought up your name as someone who provided him with frequent ethics advice, most notably about attendance at the NASCAR events. He stated that he would reach out to you often about situations for which he wanted OGC’s insight. Can you tell me whether that is accurate and whether he did reach out to you and/or OGC about attendance at the NASCAR outreach events (any of them - he apparently attended 4, including one this past weekend in Richmond)?

Thanks,

[OGC]

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

Cell

Office

From: [b](OGC)
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:04 PM
To: [b](OFC)
Cc: [b](OGC)
Subject: NASCAR

Good afternoon, [b](OFC),

As part of our VBA investigation, we interviewed [b](OFC) today who brought up your name as someone who provided him with frequent ethics advice, most notably about attendance at the NASCAR events. He stated that he would reach out to you often about situations for which he wanted OGC’s insight. Can you tell me whether that is accurate and whether he did reach out to you and/or OGC about attendance at the NASCAR outreach events (any of them - he apparently attended 4, including one this past weekend in Richmond)?

Thanks,

[OGC]
Thank you. You are good to go as to acceptance of the two types of passes you described below which are required to conduct VBA official activities such as outreach at the race.

From: VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:49 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b](6)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

I doubt very seriously they would be Presidential Suite passes, which I presume is for owners. The areas we attend are usually large with numerous hundreds of people which usually includes everyone I have mentioned. Your there for a bit to do meet and greets or a certain event with Veterans and/or drivers that they have asked you to show up for.

Thanks,

From: OGC
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:32 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b](6)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Thanks.

From: VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:19 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b](6)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR
Thanks Jonathan. As I mentioned there are typically two types of credentials needed to attend all the required events that we are asked to attend in representing VA. The one Hot Pass which gets you to the infield for required events/meet and greets for Troops at the Track with military Veterans and other dignitary’s of officials and the other which is the ticket/pass to get to the other VIP areas where other events/meet and greets occur with other State/Local officials and usually DoD/Military personnel. Those are the only credentials I’m historically aware of which is to give you access to the events or places we are usually scheduled and required to attend. Like the example I gave earlier, it’s like going to a football stadium you need a ticket to enter areas of the stadium and a special pass to get onto the field. Those passes are very controlled and you must submit name and info prior with valid Government ID for pickup. I’m unaware of anything changing or being added from the historical partnership and outreach event with NASCAR. I hope this helps.

Thanks,
Rob

From: OGC
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 12:50 PM
To: OGC
Cc: OGC
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities, such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials accepting a free “hot pass” which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President’s suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.

Please provide a description of what type of pass the venue is providing.

Thanks.
As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

From my understanding this will be like past events with VA staff there from across the Administrations to include the mobile vet center assisting in Veteran and family member outreach. They have also always encouraged family participation as well since they promote as a family event in recognizing Veterans and their families who many will bring along but I have no plans in bringing anyone with me at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks,

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and survivors attend.
You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandereker, at (804) 675-5500. The VAMC Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously John on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/
Robert T. Reynolds
Director
Roanoke Regional Office

From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good morning,

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District **NLT September 6, 2018.** Thank you.

[Redacted]
Management Analyst
VBA North Atlantic District
(215) 381-3110
[Christopher.Gaughan@va.gov](mailto:Christopher.Gaughan@va.gov)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

August 30, 2018
Good afternoon North Atlantic District,

The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22. They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to <<mailto:otd@va.gov>>.

Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
From: (OGC)  
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 10:19 AM  
To:  
Subject: RE: NASCAR

OK, and I assume nothing about his son's attendance?

From: (OGC)  
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 10:18 AM  
To:  
Subject: RE: NASCAR

OK thanks!

From: (OGC)  
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 8:44 AM  
To:  
Subject: RE: NASCAR
Subject: RE: NASCAR

Thanks for the reminder. I will try to get to this this afternoon.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, October 03, 2018 9:42 AM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

Hi [Redacted] checking in on this as I’m hoping to get our report done this week. Appreciate any additional info you can provide.

Thanks,

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 11:58 AM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, September 26, 2018 12:39 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

[Redacted] I still have not heard anything from Rob.

Do ever recall him asking you about his son attending a NASCAR event with him? He told us during his testimony that his son is a member of the military and got in for free. I haven’t found anything to substantiate that. The only info I can find is members of the military get a 30% discount on regular admission tickets. While I will cite the discrepancy in our report, I want to know whether he reached out to you for ethics advice about his son going with him.

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 4:34 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

Thanks.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:25 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

OK thanks. I have reached out to Rob about the dates for the other 3 races he attended. He told us his son attended one with him as a military member, got in for free (because the track provides that free access to vets) but “went his own way” while Rob did his thing as the VBA rep.

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 4:17 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: NASCAR

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:04 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: NASCAR

Good afternoon.

As part of our VBA investigation, we interviewed Rob Reynolds today who brought up your name as someone who provided him with frequent ethics advice, most notably about attendance at the NASCAR events. He stated that he would reach out to you often about situations for which he wanted OGC’s insight. Can you tell me whether that is accurate and whether he did reach out to you and/or OGC about attendance at the NASCAR outreach events (any of them - he apparently attended 4, including one this past weekend in Richmond)?
Thanks,

Administrative Investigator
VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection (OAWP)

From: (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:56 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Thank you. You are good to go as to acceptance of the two types of passes you described below which are required to conduct VBA official activities such as outreach at the race.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:49 PM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

I doubt very seriously they would be Presidential Suite passes, which I presume is for owners. The areas we attend are usually large with numerous hundreds of people which usually includes everyone I have mentioned. Your there for a bit to do meet and greets or a certain event with Veterans and/or drivers that they have asked you to show up for.

Thanks,
Rob

From: (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419
Rob,

Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:19 PM
To: [b][6]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) <[b][6]>
[b][6]
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Thanks. As I mentioned there are typically two types of credentials needed to attend all the required events that we are asked to attend in representing VA. The one Hot Pass which gets you to the infield for required events/meet and greets for Troops at the Track with military Veterans and other dignitary's/officials and the other which is the ticket/pass to get to the other VIP areas where other events/meet and greets occur with other State/Local officials and usually DoD/Military personnel. Those are the only credentials I'm historically aware of which is to give you access to the events or places we are usually scheduled and required to attend. Like the example I gave earlier, it's like going to a football stadium you need a ticket to enter areas of the stadium and a special pass to get onto the field. Those passes are very controlled and you must submit name and info prior with valid Government ID for pickup. I'm unaware of anything changing or being added from the historical partnership and outreach event with NASCAR. I hope this helps.

Thanks,
Rob

From: [b][6] (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 12:50 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA [b][6]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b][6]
[b][6]
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Rob,

Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities,
such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials accepting a free “hot pass” which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President’s suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.

Please provide a description of what type of pass the venue is providing.

Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 9:26 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

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Thanks,
Rob

From: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 4:24 PM
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic - [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and survivors attend.

You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandecker, at (610) 644-7000. The VAMC Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously John on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/
Robert T. Reynolds
Director
Roanoke Regional Office

From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM
To: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR
Cc: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good morning.

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District NLT September 6, 2018. Thank you.

Management Analyst
VBA North Atlantic District
From: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO  
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM  
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic [REDACTED]  
Cc: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO [REDACTED]  

Subject: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

August 30, 2018

Good afternoon North Atlantic District,

The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22.
They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to OFO/BAS POC, [REDACTED]

Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
Qs and discussion with Mark.

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2019 5:50 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: FW: Ethics opinion on Gift

Mark

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2019 5:47 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Ethics opinion on Gift

Mark

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2019 3:02 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) (OGC)
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Ethics opinion on Gift
Importance: High

Good afternoon Mr. Jaynes and
Thank you and best regards,

[Redacted]

Staff Attorney, Personnel Law Group
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

[Redacted]

VA Core Values: Integrity Commitment Advocacy Respect Excellence
VA Core Characteristics: Trustworthy | Accessible | Quality | Innovative | Agile | Integrated

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I exclusion

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2019 9:55 AM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: FW: Ethics opinion on Gift

Mark,

[b](5)

[5 C.F.R. § 2635.203](b)Gift includes any gratuity, favor, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, or other item having monetary value. It includes services as well as gifts
https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=...
of training, transportation, local travel, lodgings and meals, whether provided in-kind, by purchase of a ticket, payment in advance, or reimbursement after the expense has been incurred. The term excludes the following:

(8) Free attendance <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=6c5aa522da304e0f2bd51dcada9737fb&term_occurs=1&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> of an event provided by the sponsor of the event to:

(i) An employee <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=b3464e805fbe7dd2347838286439bc3a&term_occurs=5&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> who is assigned to present information on behalf of the agency <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=56962eb691ace4f360f4acbc7c516d42&term_occurs=2&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> at the event on any day <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=0751d18c77c7e94b6794df64d45&term_occurs=1&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> when the employee <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=b3464e805fbe7dd2347838286439bc3a&term_occurs=6&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> is presenting;

(ii) An employee <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=b3464e805fbe7dd2347838286439bc3a&term_occurs=7&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> whose presence on any day <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=0751d18c77c7e94b6794df64d45&term_occurs=2&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> of the event is deemed to be essential by the agency <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=56962eb691ace4f360f4acbc7c516d42&term_occurs=3&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> to the event <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=b3464e805fbe7dd2347838286439bc3a&term_occurs=9&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203>’s participation in the event, provided that the employee <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=b3464e805fbe7dd2347838286439bc3a&term_occurs=8&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> is accompanying the presenting employee <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=b3464e805fbe7dd2347838286439bc3a&term_occurs=10&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203>; and

(iii) The spouse or one other guest of the presenting employee <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=b3464e805fbe7dd2347838286439bc3a&term_occurs=11&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> on any day <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=0751d18c77c7e94b6794df64d45&term_occurs=3&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> when the employee <https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=b3464e805fbe7dd2347838286439bc3a&term_occurs=12&term_src=Title:5;Chapter:XVI;Subchapter:B;Part:2635;Subpart:B:2635.203> is presenting, provided that others in attendance will generally be accompanied by a spouse or other guest.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2019 6:50 AM
To: [b](6) Jaynes, Mark T.
(b)(6)
(b)(6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: RE: Ethics opinion on Gift

Mr. Jaynes,
Good morning.

V/R

[b](6)
Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection
810 Vermont Ave, NW
Washington, DC
20420
[b](6)

Confidentiality Note: This e-mail is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected from disclosure. Dissemination, distribution or copying of this e-mail or the information herein by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail, and destroy the original message and all copies.

From: [b](6) OGC
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2019 5:58 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b](6)
[b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: RE: Ethics opinion on Gift

Hi Mark,

If you have those answers, please feel free to jump in.

Attorney
Personnel Law Group | Office of General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Tel: Cell:

This e-mail (including any attachments) may contain information that is private, confidential, or protected by attorney-client or other privilege. If you received this e-mail in error, you are notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the information contained herein (including any reliance thereon) is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy the e-mail and any attachments.

From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2019 2:52 PM
To: 
Cc: 
Subject: RE: Ethics opinion on Gift

Mark

From: OGC
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2019 3:02 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Cc: 
Subject: Ethics opinion on Gift
Importance: High

Good afternoon Mr. Jaynes and \(\text{(b)(6)}\)

\(\text{(b)(5)}\)

Thank you and best regards,

\(\text{(b)(5)}\) Esq.
Staff Attorney, Personnel Law Group
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

\(\text{(b)(5)}\)

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From: (b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2019 1:48 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) (b)(6)
Subject: FW: question

FYI

From: (b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 2:08 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA (b)(6)
Subject: RE: question
Rob,

Per our discussion, your taking your son to the Richmond NASCAR event in 2016, so he could participate in an Air Force function, where his attendance was part of his Air Force duties does not raise any ethical issues.

As to your attendance at this venue I have attached below my earlier guidance.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 11:27 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: question

Can you please confirm that me taking my son to the Richmond NASCAR event in 2016, so he could participate in his military function for the Air Force which they have acknowledged he was there with them is not considered an ethical violation.

Thanks,
Rob

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:56 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA [b](6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b](6)
[b](6)
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Rob,

Thank you. You are good to go as to acceptance of the two types of passes you described below which are required to conduct VBA official activities such as outreach at the race.
From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:49 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [Redacted]

Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

I doubt very seriously they would be Presidential Suite passes, which I presume is for owners. The areas we attend are usually large with numerous hundreds of people which usually includes everyone I have mentioned. Your there for a bit to do meet and greets or a certain event with Veterans and/or drivers that they have asked you to show up for.

Thanks,
Rob

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA [Redacted]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [Redacted]

Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Rob,

Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:19 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Rob,

Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities, such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials accepting a free “hot pass” which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President’s suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.

Thanks,
Rob
Thanks.

Jonathan

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 9:26 AM
To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Dear Rob,

As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

From my understanding this will be like past events with VA staff there from across the Administrations to include the mobile vet center assisting in Veteran and family member outreach. They have also always encouraged family participation as well since they promote as a family event in recognizing Veterans and their families who many will bring along but I have no plans in bringing anyone with me at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks,

Rob
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and survivors attend.

You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandecker, at [redacted]. The VAMC Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously with John on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/  
Robert T. Reynolds  
Director  
Roanoke Regional Office

From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic  
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM  
To: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR  
Cc: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Good morning,

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District NLT September 6, 2018. Thank you.

From: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO  
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM  
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic  
Cc: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO

August 30, 2018  

Good afternoon North Atlantic District,

The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North
Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22. They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to OFO/BAS POC.

Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
§2635.206 Proper disposition of prohibited gifts.

(a) Unless a gift is accepted by an agency acting under specific statutory authority, an employee who has received a gift that cannot be accepted under this subpart must dispose of the gift in accordance with the procedures set forth in this section. The employee must promptly complete the authorized disposition of the gift. The obligation to dispose of a gift that cannot be accepted under this subpart is independent of an agency’s decision regarding corrective or disciplinary action under §2635.106.

1. Gifts of tangible items. The employee must promptly return any tangible item to the donor or pay the donor its market value; or, in the case of a tangible item with a market value of $100 or less, the employee may destroy the item. An employee who cannot ascertain the actual market value of an item may estimate its market value by reference to the retail cost of similar items of like quality.

Example 1 to paragraph (a)(1): A Department of Commerce employee received a $25 T-shirt from a prohibited source after providing training at a conference. Because the gift would not be permissible under an exception to this subpart, the employee must either return or destroy the T-shirt or promptly reimburse the donor $25. Destruction may be carried out by physical destruction or by permanently discarding the T-shirt by placing it in the trash.

Example 2 to paragraph (a)(1): To avoid public embarrassment to the seminar sponsor, an employee of the National Park Service did not decline a barometer worth $200 given at the conclusion of his speech on Federal lands policy. To comply with this section, the employee must either promptly return the barometer or pay the donor the market value of the gift. Alternatively, the National Park Service may choose to accept the gift if permitted under specific statutory gift acceptance authority. The employee may not destroy this gift, as the market value is in excess of $100.

2. Gifts of perishable items. When it is not practical to return a tangible item in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section because the item is perishable, the employee may, at the discretion of the employee’s supervisor or the agency designee, give the item to an appropriate charity, share the item within the recipient’s office, or destroy the item.

Example 1 to paragraph (a)(2): With approval by the recipient’s supervisor, a floral arrangement sent by a disability claimant to a helpful employee of the Social Security Administration may be placed in the office’s reception area.

3. Gifts of intangibles. The employee must promptly reimburse the donor the market value for any entertainment, favor, service, benefit or other intangible. Subsequent reciprocation by the
employee does not constitute reimbursement.

Example 1 to paragraph (a)(3): A Department of Defense employee wishes to attend a charitable event to which he has been offered a $300 ticket by a prohibited source. Although his attendance is not in the interest of the agency under §2635.204(g), he may attend if he reimburses the donor the $300 face value of the ticket.

(4) Gifts from foreign governments or international organizations. The employee must dispose of gifts from foreign governments or international organizations in accordance with 41 CFR part 102-42.

(b) An agency may authorize disposition or return of gifts at Government expense. Employees may use penalty mail to forward reimbursements required or permitted by this section.

(c) An employee who, on his or her own initiative, promptly complies with the requirements of this section will not be deemed to have improperly accepted an unsolicited gift. An employee who promptly consults his or her agency ethics official to determine whether acceptance of an unsolicited gift is proper and who, upon the advice of the ethics official, returns the gift or otherwise disposes of the gift in accordance with this section, will be considered to have complied with the requirements of this section on the employee's own initiative.

(d) Employees are encouraged to record any actions they have taken to properly dispose of gifts that cannot be accepted under this subpart, such as by sending an electronic mail message to the appropriate agency ethics official or the employee's supervisor.

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 12:42 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [Redacted]
Subject: RE: question

Hi,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Attorney
Personnel Law Group | Office of General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Tel: [Redacted]
Cell: [Redacted]

This e-mail (including any attachments) may contain information that is private, confidential, or protected by attorney-client or other privilege. If you received this e-mail in error, you are notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the information contained herein (including any reliance thereon) is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy the e-mail and any attachments.

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2019 11:07 AM

Current Date: Dec 3, 2020  
To: [redacted]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [redacted]
Subject: RE: question

From: [redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2019 1:48 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [redacted]
Subject: FW: question

FYI

From: [redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 2:08 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA [redacted]
Subject: RE: question

Rob,

Per our discussion, your taking your son to the Richmond NASCAR event in 2016, so he could participate in an Air Force function, where his attendance was part of his Air Force duties does not raise any ethical issues.

As to your attendance at this venue I have attached below my earlier guidance.

Senior Ethics Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 11:27 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: question
Can you please confirm that me taking my son to the Richmond NASCAR event in 2016, so he could participate in his military function for the Air Force which they have acknowledged he was there with them is not considered an ethical violation.

Thanks,
Rob

From: (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:56 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)<
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Rob,

Thank you. You are good to go as to acceptance of the two types of passes you described below which are required to conduct VBA official activities such as outreach at the race.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:49 PM
To: 
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

I doubt very seriously they would be Presidential Suite passes, which I presume is for owners. The areas we attend are usually large with numerous hundreds of people which usually includes everyone I have mentioned. Your there for a bit to do meet and greets or a certain event with Veterans and/or drivers that they have asked you to show up for.

Thanks,
Rob

From: (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA

Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:19 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)

Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Thanks As I mentioned there are typically two types of credentials needed to attend all the required events that we are asked to attend in representing VA. The one Hot Pass which gets you to the infield for required events/meet and greets for Troops at the Track with military Veterans and other dignitary’s/officials and the other which is the ticket/pass to get to the other VIP areas where other events/meet and greets occur with other State/Local officials and usually DoD/Military personnel. Those are the only credentials I’m historically aware of which is to give you access to the events or places we are usually scheduled and required to attend. Like the example I gave earlier, it’s like going to a football stadium you need a ticket to enter areas of the stadium and a special pass to get onto the field. Those passes are very controlled and you must submit name and info prior with valid Government ID for pickup. I’m unaware of anything changing or being added from the historical partnership and outreach event with NASCAR. I hope this helps.

Thanks,
Rob
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 12:50 PM  
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA  
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Rob,

Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities, such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials accepting a free “hot pass” which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President’s suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.

Please provide a description of what type of pass the venue is providing.

Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 9:26 AM  
To:  
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

From my understanding this will be like past events with VA staff there from across the Administrations to include the mobile vet center assisting in Veteran and family member outreach. They have also
always encouraged family participation as well since they promote as a family event in recognizing Veterans and their families who many will bring along but I have no plans in bringing anyone with me at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks,
Rob

From: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 4:24 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and
survivors attend.

You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandecker, at [redacted]. The VAMC Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously John on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/
Robert T. Reynolds
Director
Roanoke Regional Office

---

From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM
To: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR
Cc: [redacted]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good morning,

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District NLT September 6, 2018. Thank you.

Management Analyst
VBA North Atlantic District

From: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Cc: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO

Date of Note: 03/12/2019
(21-00051-AR) 0280
Subject: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

August 30, 2018

Good afternoon North Atlantic District,

The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22. They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to OFO/BAS POC.

Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
§2635.206  Proper disposition of prohibited gifts.

(a) Unless a gift is accepted by an agency acting under specific statutory authority, an employee who has received a gift that cannot be accepted under this subpart must dispose of the gift in accordance with the procedures set forth in this section. The employee must promptly complete the authorized disposition of the gift. The obligation to dispose of a gift that cannot be accepted under this subpart is independent of an agency’s decision regarding corrective or disciplinary action under §2635.106.

(1) Gifts of tangible items. The employee must promptly return any tangible item to the donor or pay the donor its market value; or, in the case of a tangible item with a market value of $100 or less, the employee may destroy the item. An employee who cannot ascertain the actual market value of an item may estimate its market value by reference to the retail cost of similar items of like quality.

Example 1 to paragraph (a)(1): A Department of Commerce employee received a $25 T-shirt from a prohibited source after providing training at a conference. Because the gift would not be permissible under an exception to this subpart, the employee must either return or destroy the T-shirt or promptly reimburse the donor $25. Destruction may be carried out by physical destruction or by permanently discarding the T-shirt by placing it in the trash.

Example 2 to paragraph (a)(1): To avoid public embarrassment to the seminar sponsor, an employee of the National Park Service did not decline a barometer worth $200 given at the conclusion of his speech on Federal lands policy. To comply with this section, the employee must either promptly return the barometer or pay the donor the market value of the gift. Alternatively, the National Park Service may choose to accept the gift if permitted under specific statutory gift acceptance authority. The employee may not destroy this gift, as the market value is in excess of $100.

(2) Gifts of perishable items. When it is not practical to return a tangible item in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section because the item is perishable, the employee may, at the discretion of the employee’s supervisor or the agency designee, give the item to an appropriate charity, share the item within the recipient’s office, or destroy the item.

Example 1 to paragraph (a)(2): With approval by the recipient’s supervisor, a floral arrangement sent by a disability claimant to a helpful employee of the Social Security Administration may be placed in the office’s reception area.

(3) Gifts of intangibles. The employee must promptly reimburse the donor the market value for any entertainment, favor, service, benefit or other intangible. Subsequent reciprocation by the
employee does not constitute reimbursement.

Example 1 to paragraph (a)(3): A Department of Defense employee wishes to attend a charitable event to which he has been offered a $300 ticket by a prohibited source. Although his attendance is not in the interest of the agency under §2635.204(g), he may attend if he reimburses the donor the $300 face value of the ticket.

(4) Gifts from foreign governments or international organizations. The employee must dispose of gifts from foreign governments or international organizations in accordance with 41 CFR part 102-42.

(b) An agency may authorize disposition or return of gifts at Government expense. Employees may use penalty mail to forward reimbursements required or permitted by this section.

(c) An employee who, on his or her own initiative, promptly complies with the requirements of this section will not be deemed to have improperly accepted an unsolicited gift. An employee who promptly consults his or her agency ethics official to determine whether acceptance of an unsolicited gift is proper and who, upon the advice of the ethics official, returns the gift or otherwise disposes of the gift in accordance with this section, will be considered to have complied with the requirements of this section on the employee’s own initiative.

(d) Employees are encouraged to record any actions they have taken to properly dispose of gifts that cannot be accepted under this subpart, such as by sending an electronic mail message to the appropriate agency ethics official or the employee’s supervisor.

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 12:42 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: question

Hi [Redacted],

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

This e-mail (including any attachments) may contain information that is private, confidential, or protected by attorney-client or other privilege. If you received this e-mail in error, you are notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the information contained herein (including any reliance thereon) is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy the e-mail and any attachments.

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2019 11:07 AM
FYI

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 2:08 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA (b)(6)
Subject: RE: question

Rob,

Per our discussion, your taking your son to the Richmond NASCAR event in 2016, so he could participate in an Air Force function, where his attendance was part of his Air Force duties does not raise any ethical issues.

As to your attendance at this venue I have attached below my earlier guidance.

Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2019 11:27 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: question
Can you please confirm that me taking my son to the Richmond NASCAR event in 2016, so he could participate in his military function for the Air Force which they have acknowledged he was there with them is not considered an ethical violation.

Thanks,
Rob

From: [Redacted]  (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:56 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA  [Redacted]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  [Redacted]
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Rob,

Thank you. You are good to go as to acceptance of the two types of passes you described below which are required to conduct VBA official activities such as outreach at the race.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:49 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  [Redacted]
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

I doubt very seriously they would be Presidential Suite passes, which I presume is for owners. The areas we attend are usually large with numerous hundreds of people which usually includes everyone I have mentioned. Your there for a bit to do meet and greets or a certain event with Veterans and/or drivers that they have asked you to show up for.

Thanks,
Rob

From: [Redacted]  (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA  [Redacted]
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Rob,

Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:19 PM
To:

Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)

Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Thank As I mentioned there are typically two types of credentials needed to attend all the required events that we are asked to attend in representing VA. The one Hot Pass which gets you to the infield for required events/meet and greets for Troops at the Track with military Veterans and other dignitary's/officials and the other which is the ticket/pass to get to the other VIP areas where other events/meet and greets occur with other State/Local officials and usually DoD/Military personnel. Those are the only credentials I'm historically aware of which is to give you access to the events or places we are usually scheduled and required to attend. Like the example I gave earlier, it's like going to a football stadium you need a ticket to enter areas of the stadium and a special pass to get onto the field. Those passes are very controlled and you must submit name and info prior with valid Government ID for pickup. I'm unaware of anything changing or being added from the historical partnership and outreach event with NASCAR. I hope this helps.

Thanks,
Rob

From: OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 12:50 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA <b>(6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) <b>(6)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Rob,

Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities, such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials accepting a free “hot pass” which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President’s suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.

Please provide a description of what type of pass the venue is providing.

Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 9:26 AM
To: <b>(6)
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

From my understanding this will be like past events with VA staff there from across the Administrations to include the mobile vet center assisting in Veteran and family member outreach. They have also
always encouraged family participation as well since they promote as a family event in recognizing Veterans and their families who many will bring along but I have no plans in bringing anyone with me at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks,  
Rob

From: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR  
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 4:24 PM  
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic [n/a]  

Subject: FW: UFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and
survivors attend.

You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandecker, at [REDACTED]. The VAMC Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously John on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/
Robert T. Reynolds
Director
Roanoke Regional Office

From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM
To: VAVBAROA/RO/DI [REDACTED]
Cc: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good morning,

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District [REDACTED]. Thank you.

Management Analyst
VBA North Atlantic District

From: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic [REDACTED]
Cc: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO [REDACTED]
August 30, 2018

Good afternoon North Atlantic District,

The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22.
They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to OFO/BAS POC, [redacted]

Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
From: (OGC)
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 11:46 AM
To: [Name]
Cc: [Name] (OGC)
Subject: RE: Grievance for T. Murphy

Can you respond please?

From: (OGC)
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 11:34 AM
To: [Name]
Subject: FW: Grievance for T. Murphy
Importance: High

Good morning

[Redacted]
Thank you and best regards,

Staff Attorney, Personnel Law Group
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

VA Core Values: Integrity, Commitment, Advocacy, Respect, Excellence
VA Core Characteristics: Trustworthy, Accessible, Quality, Innovative, Agile, Integrated

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From: (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, April 06, 2019 6:10 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Grievance for T. Murphy

I understand there are similar cases ... can I see those outcomes and the precedence established. Also, can you provide me the past 5 years worth of data on how many ethics requests have been made for WAGs ... the legal advice provided, as well as a history of discipline when violations have occurred. Especially interested in advice given regarding VA contracted NASCAR events. Thanks team. Am traveling this coming week but up on comms so I can make my recommendation to SECVA soonest. Thanks.
From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 3:50 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Grievance for T. Murphy

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 3:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Grievance for T. Murphy

Mark

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 12:37 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Grievance for T. Murphy
What say you?

From [b] [b][OGC][/b]  
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 11:46 AM  
To: [b]  
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)  
Subject: RE: Grievance for T. Murphy

Can you respond please?

From [b] [b][OGC][/b]  
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 11:34 AM  
To: [b]  
Subject: FW: Grievance for T. Murphy  
Importance: High

Good morning Ms. Tyler,
Thank you and best regards,

Esq.
Staff Attorney, Personnel Law Group
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

VA Core Values: Integrity Commitment Advocacy Respect Excellence
VA Core Characteristics: Trustworthy | Accessible | Quality | Innovative | Agile | Integrated

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From: [(b)(6)]
Sent: Saturday, April 06, 2019 6:10 PM
To: [(b)(6)]
Cc: [(b)(6)]

Subject: RE: Grievance for T. Murphy

Thank understand there are similar cases ...can I see those outcomes and the precedence established. Also, can you provide me the past 5 years worth of data ir i how many ethics requests have been made for WAGs ...the legal advice provided, as well and a history of discipline when violations have occurred. Especially interested in advice given regarding VA contracted NASCAR events. Thanks team. Am traveling this coming week but up on comms so I can make my recomme
ing.
From: (OGC)  
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:48 PM  
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA  
Cc:  
Subject: Congressman Brat’ September 28th Town Hall

Rob,

From:  
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2018 10:22 AM  
To: Kelly, Mark  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: Invitation from Congressman Brat to Mr. Brandecker

Good morning Mark

My apologies I was out of the office on Friday.

VA notes that the Congressman is up for re-election and that the event is scheduled for September 28th, less than six weeks before that election. Given similar requests, the Department and legal counsel has previously found a strong presumption that any event hosted or sponsored by a congressional candidate so close to the election is an activity directed toward the success of the candidate and, thus, is for partisan political purposes. There is a clear perception that this event and the request for the Director’s involvement in it are for the primary purpose of promoting partisan aims.

Should you choose to hold the event after the elections the Medical Center Director can determine their availability without any concerns of Hatch Act or political partisanship coming into play.

Respectfully,

From: Kelly, Mark  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 1:38 PM  
To:  

Date of Note: 09/24/2018
(21-00051-AR) 0296
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Invitation from Congressman Brat to Mr. Brandecker

I believe you are the correct point of contact for this inquiry. If not, maybe you could point me in the right direction.

We have invited officials from the Richmond, VA to join us for an official event on September 28th with Rep. Brat and House Veterans Committee Chairman Roe.

We were told they could not participate because of the Hatch Act (see attached response). This is not a campaign event, so to the best of my knowledge the Hatch Act does not apply to this event.

Can you please clarify for us? Thanks.

Mark

Mark Kelly
Chief of Staff
Congressman Dave Brat (VA-07)

1628 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

From: Igou, Janice
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 11:36 AM
To: Kelly, Mark; Kyle, Lisa
Subject: FW: Invitation from Congressman Brat to Mr. Brandecker

Here's the response

From: Igou, Janice
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 11:34 AM
To: Igou, Janice
Subject: RE: Invitation from Congressman Brat to Mr. Brandecker

Hi Janice,
Yes I do understand and I hate to miss the opportunity. However, this is a decision at the Central Office level. We are anxious to get the information out through whatever methods available to us. I'm attaching two documents which are good references for information concerning the HealthNet Contrace Close Out and how VA Office of Community Care will proceed with appointing care in the community.
Please feel free to forward me any questions and/or concerns which may come up in your Town Hall.

Thank you.

From: Igou, Janice  
Sent: Monday, September 10, 2018 9:31 AM  
To:  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Invitation from Congressman Brat to Mr. Brandecker

Hi [b](61) I hope it’s clear that this is not a campaign event. I work on the official .gov side. The objective is to inform veterans of recent legislation and facilitate understanding and communication. I’m sure many veterans will have comments or questions related to McGuire and to that end we were most hopeful Mr. Brandecker would be available to participate.

Thank you.

Janice G. Igou  
District Representative  
OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN DAVE BRAT  
4201 Dominion Boulevard, Suite 110  
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060  
FAX

Sign up for the Congressman’s newsletter here <http://brat.house.gov/contact/newsletter>!

From:  
Sent: Friday, September 7, 2018 2:15 PM  
To: Igou, Janice  
Subject: RE: Invitation from Congressman Brat to Mr. Brandecker

I apologize for keeping you hanging, but I was just informed that Darlene Edwards, our Public Affairs Officer, had received advice from our Office of General Counsel that we would not be able to participate due to timing of the election season and the Hatch Act.

I was not aware that Central Office had given this directive, or I certainly would have let you know sooner. Mr. Brandecker has written a letter to Congressman Brat stating our inability to participate at this time. I will forward that when signed. In the meantime, I really just wanted to give you a heads up and apologize for this overdue notification.
I know our Community Care staff was anxious to present information on the “new and improved” CHOICE guidelines, and am sure they will make themselves available at the appropriate time.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Patient Service Representative/ Congressional Liaison

From: Igou, Janice
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2018 12:54 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Invitation from Congressman Brat to Mr. Brandy}

Mr. Brandy, on behalf of Congressman Brat, please join us for a Veteran’s Town Hall with Chairman Phil Roe, House of Representatives Committee on Veteran’s Affairs on September 28, 2018 from 3:30 - 5 pm in the Henrico County Administration Board Conference Room, 4301 E. Parham Road, Henrico, VA 23273.

The format for this event will be much the same as the one Congressman Wittman hosted in Fredericksburg recently.

We would be honored to have you represent Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center.

Best regards,
Janice G. Igou
District Representative
OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN DAVE BRAT
4201 Dominion Boulevard, Suite 110
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060

FAX

Sign up for the Congressman’s newsletter here <http://brat.house.gov/contact/newsletter>!
From: [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 11:58 AM
To: Igou, Janice [b](6)
Subject: FW: question on behalf of Congressman Brat

Good morning, please send the invitation to our congressional team, [b](6)
Watson and they will be happy to coordinate.

[b](6) Public Affairs Officer
Richmond VA Medical Center

[b](6)

From: Igou, Janice [b](6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 11:35 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] question on behalf of Congressman Brat

Hi [b](6) Congressman Brat is hosting a veterans town hall and Chairman Roe has agreed to come
and present. Congressman Brat also wants to invite Mr. Brandecker. What is the best email to get the
invitation to him?

Thank you,

Janice G. Igou
District Representative
OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN DAVE BRAT
[b](6)
4201 Dominion Boulevard, Suite 110
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060
[b](6) FAX

Sign up for the Congressman’s newsletter here <http://brat.house.gov/contact/newsletter>!
invited to this event.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA  
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:25 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Subject: RE: Hatch Act concern

Here is what I received and raised a flag.

Mr. Reynolds,

On behalf of Congressman Brat, please join us for our Veterans Town Hall on September 28th, 2018, from 3:30 - 5 pm. Chairman Roe will attend and speak on behalf of the HOR Veterans Affairs Committee. We are finalizing venue but it will be in the 7th Congressional District, likely in Henrico or Chesterfield. The format will be to have the Chairman present information and then give the audience an opportunity to ask questions/provide comment. We hope you are available and can take part in this important event.

Best Regards,

[b](6)  
District Representative  
OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN DAVE BRAT  
[b](6)  
4201 Dominion Boulevard, Suite 110  
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060  
[b](6)  
[b](6) FAX

Sign up for the Congressman’s newsletter here <http://brat.house.gov/contact/newsletter>!

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 4:57 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA [b](6)
Subject: RE: Hatch Act concern

Rob,

[b](5)

[b](6)
From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 4:33 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Hatch Act concern

I hope you had a good weekend, I didn’t get one with doing the NASCAR event for the agency but we reached almost 800 veterans and family members. I have been invited by a Congressman to attend a town hall event in a non-VA facility to address VA Compensation and Appeals. The Congressman has also invited HVAC, Congressman Roe. I have concerns this time of year especially knowing he may live stream the town hall via Facebook to reach more constituents. All town hall topics should be Veteran oriented. I have no intention of addressing any political issues and would keep remarks to Veterans Benefits. Would like your thoughts on this please, would I be better off having someone else attend on my behalf. As always thanks for your time and assistance.

Thanks again,
Rob
Rob,

Thank you. You are good to go as to acceptance of the two types of passes you described below which are required to conduct VBA official activities such as outreach at the race.

I doubt very seriously they would be Presidential Suite passes, which I presume is for owners. The areas we attend are usually large with numerous hundreds of people which usually includes everyone I have mentioned. Your there for a bit to do meet and greets or a certain event with Veterans and/or drivers that they have asked you to show up for.

Thanks,
Rob

Current Date: Dec 3, 2020
To: (b)(6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Thanks (b)(6) As I mentioned there are typically two types of credentials needed to attend all the required events that we are asked to attend in representing VA. The one Hot Pass which gets you to the infield for required events/meet and greets for Troops at the Track with military Veterans and other dignitary's/officials and the other which is the ticket/pass to get to the other VIP areas where other events/meet and greets occur with other State/Local officials and usually DoD/Military personnel. Those are the only credentials I'm historically aware of which is to give you access to the events or places we are usually scheduled and required to attend. Like the example I gave earlier, it's like going to a football stadium you need a ticket to enter areas of the stadium and a special pass to get onto the field. Those passes are very controlled and you must submit name and info prior with valid Government ID for pickup. I'm unaware of anything changing or being added from the historical partnership and outreach event with NASCAR. I hope this helps.

Thanks,
Rob

From: (b)(6) OGC
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 12:50 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA <(b)(6)>
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Rob,

Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities, such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials accepting a free "hot pass" which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President's suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.

Please provide a description of what type of pass the venue is providing.

Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 9:26 AM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

From my understanding this will be like past events with VA staff there from across the Administrations to include the mobile vet center assisting in Veteran and family member outreach. They have also always encouraged family participation as well since they promote as a family event in recognizing Veterans and their families who many will bring along but I have no plans in bringing anyone with me at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks,
Rob

From: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 4:24 PM
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic <[Redacted]>
Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and survivors attend.

You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandyucker, at (804) 675-5500. The VAMC Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously John on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/
Robert T. Reynolds
Director
Roanoke Regional Office

From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM
To: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR
Cc: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good morning,

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District NLT September 6, 2018. Thank you.

Management Analyst
VBA North Atlantic District

From: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Cc: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO

Subject: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

August 30, 2018

Good afternoon North Atlantic District,

The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22. They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to OFO/BAS POC.
Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
tendance

From: [b](OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:56 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Rob,

Thank you. You are good to go as to acceptance of the two types of passes you described below which are required to conduct VBA official activities such as outreach at the race.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 3:49 PM
To: [b]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

I doubt very seriously they would be Presidential Suite passes, which I presume is for owners. The areas we attend are usually large with numerous hundreds of people which usually includes everyone I have mentioned. Your there for a bit to do meet and greets or a certain event with Veterans and/or drivers that they have asked you to show up for.

Thanks,
Rob

From: [b](OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Rob,

Thanks.
From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:19 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Thanks. As I mentioned there are typically two types of credentials needed to attend all the required events that we are asked to attend in representing VA. The one Hot Pass which gets you to the infield for required events/meet and greets for Troops at the Track with military Veterans and other dignitary's/officials and the other which is the ticket/pass to get to the other VIP areas where other events/meet and greets occur with other State/Local officials and usually DoD/Military personnel. Those are the only credentials I'm historically aware of which is to give you access to the events or places we are usually scheduled and required to attend. Like the example I gave earlier, it's like going to a football stadium you need a ticket to enter areas of the stadium and a special pass to get onto the field. Those passes are very controlled and you must submit name and info prior with valid Government ID for pickup. I'm unaware of anything changing or being added from the historical partnership and outreach event with NASCAR. I hope this helps.

Thanks,
Rob

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 12:50 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Rob,

Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities, such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials accepting a free "hot pass" which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President's suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.
Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA  
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 9:26 AM  
To:  
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

From my understanding this will be like past events with VA staff there from across the Administrations to include the mobile vet center assisting in Veteran and family member outreach. They have also always encouraged family participation as well since they promote as a family event in recognizing Veterans and their families who many will bring along but I have no plans in bringing anyone with me at this time. Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks,  
Rob

From: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR  
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 4:24 PM  
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic

Cc:
**Subject:** FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and survivors attend.

You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandecker, at The VAMC Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously John on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/
Robert T. Reynolds
Director
Roanoke Regional Office

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From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM
To: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR <[redacted]>
Cc: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic <[redacted]>

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good morning,

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District NLT September 6, 2018. Thank you.

Management Analyst
VBA North Atlantic District

From: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM
To: V AVBA/NorthAtlantic <[redacted]>
Cc: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO <[redacted]>

Date of Note: 03/04/2019
(21-00051-AR) 0311
Subject: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

August 30, 2018

Good afternoon North Atlantic District,

The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22. They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to OFO/BAS POC.

Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR 110419

Rob,

Thanks.

[REDACTED]

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 2:19 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Thanks [REDACTED] As I mentioned there are typically two types of credentials needed to attend all the required events that we are asked to attend in representing VA. The one Hot Pass which gets you to the infield for required events/meet and greets for Troops at the Track with military Veterans and other dignitary’s/officials and the other which is the ticket/pass to get to the other VIP areas where other events/meet and greets occur with other State/Local officials and usually DoD/Military personnel. Those are the only credentials I’m historically aware of which is to give you access to the events or places we are usually scheduled and required to attend. Like the example I gave earlier, it’s like going to a football stadium you need a ticket to enter areas of the stadium and a special pass to get onto the field. Those passes are very controlled and you must submit name and info prior with valid Government ID for pickup. I’m unaware of anything changing or being added from the historical partnership and outreach event with NASCAR. I hope this helps.

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Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 12:50 PM
To: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Rob,
Per our discussion, you may accept free attendance at the NASCAR event, on behalf of yourself, to the extent that such attendance is necessary to engage in official activities, such as outreach to Veterans and meeting with your State Department of Veterans Affairs Counterparts. In that regard I noted that we had no issue with VBA officials accepting a free "hot pass" which granted them access to the track and other areas where official activities were conducted. I further noted that we did have an issue with accepting, in addition to the hot pass, a free VIP passes to the President’s suite where a limited amount of people (who paid for access) could go to get away from the track area, visit with the track President, and enjoy complimentary food and drinks.

Please provide a description of what type of pass the venue is providing.

Thanks.

From: Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 9:26 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

As always, good to speak with you. Per our discussion, this is the outreach and public/private partner event we have done for years with NASCAR that you are familiar with. I know it had been discussed early on and the purpose but wanted to let you know they have asked me to represent VA again. They are still finalizing the itinerary but if it is like previous years there will be two long days with numerous events and meet and greets required in the official duties of representing VA.

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Thanks,
Rob

From: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2018 4:24 PM
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Cc: [b](6)

Reynolds, Robert, VBAROA

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good afternoon,

I am pleased to represent the Under Secretary for Benefits and/or Principal Deputy USB at the NASCAR event in Richmond, VA September 21-22 as I am sure their travel schedules prohibit them from attending. I know firsthand the importance of this event and the positive impact and image it has had for VA within the community, enabling us the ability to provide outreach services where such a large number of our servicemembers, veterans, their families, and survivors attend.

You can reach the VAMC Richmond Director, John Brandecker, at [John]. The VAMC Richmond should be able to identify Veterans to attend the event on Friday, September 21st. I have worked previously John on past events and he was most accommodating.

/s/
Robert T. Reynolds
Director
Roanoke Regional Office

From: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2018 8:22 AM
To: VAVBAROA/RO/DIR <buro>
Cc: [buro]

Subject: FW: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

Good morning,

Please see the below request and reply directly to the North Atlantic District NLT September 6, 2018. Thank you.

Management Analyst
VBA North Atlantic District

From: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2018 5:04 PM
To: VAVBA/NorthAtlantic <buro>
Cc: VAVBAWAS/CO/OFO <buro>
VBAVACO [buro]

Date of Note: 09/14/2018
(21-00051-AR) 0315
Subject: OFO - Broadcast - Richmond VA - NASCAR

August 30, 2018

Good afternoon North Atlantic District,

The Richmond NASCAR Race in September is one of the events with several activities planned. The raceway is planning to hold an onsite event for Veterans at the track and would like to have executive leadership from the Roanoke Regional Office or North Atlantic District Office participate to highlight the event and activities. The attached agenda shows the schedule for the 21-22.

They would also like to invite 25 Veterans and request the RO work together with the Richmond VAMC to provide names.

We request the names and POC be sent no later than 9/7/18.

Any questions may be directed to OFO/BAS POC, [Redacted]

Thank you,
Office of Field Operations
From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2010 11:35 AM
To: [redacted]
CC: [redacted]
Subject: RE: using appropriate money for gift to foreign dignitary: 9:30 am discussion

Hello [redacted],

I would like to add some information that may be helpful in your quest to provide us with answers to our questions.

Background of Visit: Secretary Shinseki received a request from Minister Yang Kim, Korea Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, to send two representatives from VA to their 6th International Workshop on Veterans Affairs. The Workshop will be held from August 24-30, 2010, in Seoul, Korea.

There will be two reps from each of the following countries that will be giving briefings:

Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, and the Philippines (not including our reps)

The Minister will host a banquet on 8/29 for the attendees.

Mr. Steve L. Muro, Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs was approved by Department Senior Leadership to attend and represent the Department. The themes for his presentation are:

- How do the public (central/federal, and local governments) and private sectors cooperate to ensure effective delivery of services for Veterans.

- Key activities of the Veterans' organizations for their members and community in general, and their ways to cooperate with the central/federal and local governments.

This will not be a huge conference but a small group of representatives from the countries identified above, with the Minister's Staff. The Minister will also meet with the briefers. The Minister is a key member appointed by the Republic of Korea President Lee Myung-bak. Minister Yang is equal to a cabinet secretary in the realm of Protocol.

We would like to present gifts to our counterparts; particularly pens, we would need a total of 17@$14.00 <mailto:17@$14.00> each. The pens have the NCA logo on the upper portion and is a reminder to all of the service we provide to our Veterans.

Mr. Muro will depart for his trip on August 24, 2010.

In advance, I appreciate your response.

Have a good day.

V/r

[redacted]

Department of Veterans' Affairs
Executive Assistant to the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs
Phone: [b](6)  
Fax: [b](6)

"Vision without Action is a DayDream  
Action without Vision is a Nightmare"

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2010 11:10 AM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: using appropriate money for gift to foreign dignitary: 9:30 am discussion

Good Morning and thank you for your assistance. Since I’ve started the ball rolling, I am going to turn this over to [b](6) who is the Executive Assistant and who has additional information. It also is helpful he has a protocol background as well. Thanks all.

Thank You
(b)(5)

Chief of Human Resources (41D)  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
National Cemetery Administration  
810 Vermont Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20420

(b)(6) mobile  
fax

LVA Class of 2006  
President VA Gaveliers Toastmasters 2920  
Dance is the hidden language of the soul. ~Martha Graham

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2010 10:30 AM  
To: [b](6)  
Subject: FW: using appropriate money for gift to foreign dignitary: 9:30 am discussion

Good morning, [b](6)  

(b)(5)

Sincerely,
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, August 17, 2010 5:58 PM
To: [Redacted] (OGC)
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: using appropriate money for gift to foreign dignitary

Thanks,

[Redacted]

Staff Attorney
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of General Counsel
Professional Staff Group III
810 Vermont Ave NW
Washington, DC 20420

(Fax)
Document too large to forward to SharePoint, document saved here.

Ethics Specialty Team,

Staff Attorney
Office of Regional Counsel (02)
Department of Veterans Affairs
4500 South Lancaster
Dallas, Texas 75216

Date of Note: 04/10/2012
A PROCESS THAT CHANGES YOU - FOR THE BETTER

and unbeknownst to all, possibly prepares you for a new job of a LIFETIME...

In the U.S. military, 12 weeks of basic training can make someone a soldier. But it may take years, even decades, for many veterans to re-adjust to home life.

Personnel from the United States Armed Forces are trained to live a life of discipline and versatility, while maintaining the physical and emotional stresses associated. They become goal-oriented, mission focused individuals who dedicate their life for the safety of others. The physical, emotional and mental trauma they endure on a daily basis to some is unfathomable. Their dedication and commitment to our country should not be taken lightly.

What is sad, however, is that as trained, skilled and as dedicated as our U.S. military soldiers are, many of those who have been in battle can’t be expected to easily return to who they once were. So many of us have been witness to this with our spouses, our loved ones and friends. And, working in the healthcare field, we at Luke & Associates have witnessed and learned first hand that the U.S. military does not nurture the transformed identity. They take their recruits and say, “Become a soldier, sailor, marine, do your duty and go home.” Well, to put it simply, the fact is that this is impossible. The progression our soldiers have is civilian, GI, veteran, civilian and it simply doesn’t work.

Their DEDICATION and COMMITMENT to our country should not be TAKEN LIGHTLY.
TRANSLATION OF A SOLDIER

Mental Health and PTSD

While much of the responsibility for guiding the transition falls to the Department of Veterans Affairs, there are hundreds of community-based groups stepping in to assist our service men.

In 2011, Purdue University’s Military Family Research Institute says with more than a million soldiers having served in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, more community-based programs are needed to augment an overtaxed veteran.

The studies were published online in the American Journal of Public Health on January 25 and are scheduled to appear in the March supplement print issue of the journal.

In the second study, researchers found depression and substance abuse disorders increased among active duty combat-exposed veterans. The finding comes from an analysis of data from 678,382 active personnel serving between 2001 and 2006. Those deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan were more likely to be diagnosed with major depression or substance abuse than non-deployed personnel. Army and Marine Corps personnel were more likely to be diagnosed with the conditions than Navy and Air Force personnel.

“Our study provided valuable insight for the mental health readiness of the U.S. armed services and implications for potential, continued support of ongoing operations and their post-deployment health care needs,” the researchers wrote in a journal news release.

“Given the continuing U.S. military presence in Afghanistan and other parts of the world, and the increasing trend in major mental health conditions reported in the U.S. military, it would be important for the Department of Defense to assess whether the current system has adequate resources and manpower to handle the increasing number of active duty personnel who need mental health services,” they concluded. The third study found suicide rates for all U.S. military services increased between 2005 and 2007, particularly for members of the regular Army and National Guard. The analysis of data from 2,064,183 active duty personnel in 2005 and 1,981,810 active duty personnel in 2007 also showed that mental health diagnoses, mental health visits, prescriptions for selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) antidepressants and sleep medicines, reduction in rank, enlisted rank and separation or divorce were all associated with suicides.

Our affiliation with the OTWcrew school program, our connection with the healthcare industry and our genuine passion for providing a service that actually helps to rehabilitate and conquer the needs of our soldiers in the civilized world is why OTWcrew will make a difference.

The goal is to work directly with mental health professionals to provide new hope and inspiration for our returning soldiers and those who are currently struggling with their transition back to civilization.
TOP TEN REASONS TO HIRE VETERANS & WOUNDED WARRIORS

1. Ability to learn new skills and concepts. While in the military, Service Members undergo rigorous training programs to become experts in a wide range of skills and concepts that can easily be transferred to a civilian work environment. The skills Service Members have learned and applied in real-world situations in the military make them ideal candidates to enhance your organization’s productivity.

2. Strong leadership qualities. The military trains Service Members to lead by example as well as through direction, delegation, motivation, and inspiration in some of the toughest situations imaginable. Service Members are not only well schooled in the academic theory of leadership; they also understand and have used practical ways to manage behaviors for results.

3. Flexibility to work strongly in teams or work independently. Military training teaches Service Members to work as a team by instilling a sense of a responsibility to one’s colleagues. In addition, the size and scope of military operations necessitates that Service Members understand how groups of all sizes relate to each other and support the overarching objective. While military duties stress teamwork and group productivity, they also build individuals who are able to perform independently at a very high level.

4. Diversity and strong interpersonal skills. Service Members have learned to work side by side with individuals regardless of race, gender, religion, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, economic status, and geographic origins as well as mental, physical, and attitudinal capabilities. Many Service Members have also been deployed or stationed in numerous foreign countries that give them a greater appreciation for the diverse nature of our globalized economy.

5. Ability to work efficiently and diligently in a fast-paced environment. Service Members have developed the capacity and time-management skills needed to know how to accomplish tasks correctly and on time, in spite of limited resources and immense pressure.

6. Respect for procedures and accountability. Service Members know how policies and procedures enable an organization to be successful and they easily understand their place within an organizational framework. Service Members understand the responsibility that comes with being responsible for the actions of subordinates and they understand how to properly elevate issues through the proper supervisory channels.

7. Hands on experience with technology and globalization. Today’s military uses the cutting-edge technology to maintain our dominance over the enemy in the battlefield. From communications technology to the security of computer networks and hardware, Service Members must stay aware of emerging technologies in the public and private sector.

8. Strong personal integrity. Military training demands that individuals not only abide by a strong Code of Ethics, but that they live it each and every day. Military personnel are often trusted with security clearances that give them access to highly sensitive information. An employee with a proven track record of trustworthiness is often an asset to an organization.

9. Strong sense of health, safety and property standards. Service Members are aware of health and safety protocols both for themselves and the welfare of others. Individually, they represent a drug-free workforce that is cognizant of maintaining personal health and fitness. On a company level, their attentiveness and care translate into respect for employees, property and materials.

10. Triumph over adversity. In addition to dealing positively with the typical issues of personal maturity, Service Members have frequently triumphed over great adversity. Service Members have proven their mettle in mission critical situations demanding endurance, stamina and flexibility. In the case of wounded warriors, they have overcome severe disabilities, acquired injuries (including invisible injuries) through strength, determination and personal conviction.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN
Multi-million dollar corporation seeks talented team player with a refuse-to-lose attitude. Must handle extreme pressure well and make every second count. Mistakes will not be tolerated and may lead to immediate dismissal. Extensive travel required.

That doesn’t sound like a wonderful job description, but it’s one position many race fans would like to apply for. Next to driving in stock car racing’s big leagues, the thought of working on a pit crew fills the daydreams of many people.

Being a member of a professional auto racing team isn’t a job for everyone. It takes special knowledge, skill and determination.

As you can imagine, making those dreams a reality is tough but not impossible. With the proper training, the right attitude and, yes, a little luck, you can take your place along pit road. You may not wind up on a Sprint Cup team, but you could land on a team in a smaller touring series and at least get your foot in the proverbial racing door. OTWcrew will begin its recruitment amongst some of our country’s finest and most proud: The U.S. Military Soldier.

What is going to produce better performance over the wall is a surplus of athletic ability and a little mechanical ability, not the other way around. Soldiers are trained in physical and mental ability. Concentration, dedication, and working in unification for the same end goal. Our goal is to take those skills and allow them to apply it once again. Coming home and having to transition into a regular job, a normal day to day function can be almost impossible. Our outreach is to have these guys get excited! Take their energy, agility and adrenaline and apply it — under 13-seconds at a time!

We will recruit, train and teach them what they need to do, over the wall! Our end goal is to have enough teams to supply the entire motorsports industry — all series and produce record times of no more than 12-second flashes of mechanical choreography performed by elite athletes. For OTWcrew, our mission is to train pit crew teams that will not only compete for the race lead, but against one another. What a better way to drive the fans back to NASCAR!

Imagine... Driver against Driver... Pit Crew against Pit Crew. But add ONE important factor, OTWcrew teams will be made up of 100% Army striving for speed and accuracy against another team comprised of 100% Navy and 100% Air Force and 100% Marines... How exciting would this be?
PIT CREWS BRING TOGETHER ELITE ATHLETES

Where else, but on NASCAR’s pit road, can you find a retired pro wrestler known as the “The Minister of Pain” working alongside hockey players, former NFL starters and enough college football and baseball talent to field respectable NCAA Division I teams. Increase that talent by adding trained soldiers.

Marc Jones, one of our OTWcrew team members, is one of those soldiers who transitioned from combat to over the wall. At six feet, three inches tall, top notch physical fitness and a commitment to succeed, Jones served six years and three tours as Special Forces, Air Force. Upon returning home, Jones applied his disciplined skills, long reach and ability to get the job done as a rear tire carrier for multiple top tier teams in NASCAR's Nationwide and Sprint Cup Series. His dedication and military training helped make him one of the sports fastest tire carriers.

Every move is timed down to the millisecond. Their performances have been known to be the difference between glory and total frustration in a sport where speed is the only thing that matters. They are members of auto racing pit crews, and it isn’t a job for the faint of heart or mind. What was once a job for family, friends and anyone a driver could rope into coming to the race is now a highly skilled job for trained professionals.
“It is more critical than ever because the cars are closer to the same speed,” said Mark Martin, driver of the No. 55 MWR car. “It’s harder to pass than ever before. So the pit stops have become one of the more critical aspects of what we do.”

Hendrick Motorsports tire carrier, 6-foot-1, 288-pound, “Tiny” Mike Houston, who for years worked part time in the race shop during the week, wrestled professionally on Friday and Saturday nights, then flew out every Sunday morning to crew a Sprint Cup Series race.

“Mike Mayhem,” as he was known with the Mid-Atlantic Wrestling Association, was popular up and down the East Coast as “The Minister of Pain” villain. Race fans would ask him to sign autographs and pose for photographs just like the NASCAR drivers he pitted for. His success as a wrestler presented an offer from the WWF (now the WWE), and he eventually had to make a decision between car racing and body slamming.

“My body was definitely taking a beating,” Houston joked. Inevitably, NASCAR won out. That was a decade ago, and Houston says he has definitely seen the evolution in crew makeup.

“The pit crews are probably 70 or 80 percent former athletes,” said Houston, who now carries tires to the No. 88 Chevy driven by Dale Earnhardt Jr. “Now what we do is not necessarily athletic in the pure sense because we work with machinery. You’re not going against another human; you’re going against a machine.” But what translates is attitude. Those that have played at a college or pro level know how to deal with stress. They are mentally prepared for competition, and that gives them a step up on the average Joe.

“Being a great athlete doesn’t mean you’ll be a great pit-crew man, but the athletic movements are more quick and precise, and it helps.” And as the pit-crew responsibilities have gotten more specific, so has the job description for the ideal candidate. Tire changers, for example, need to be quick and have a long arm reach with physical builds similar to baseball shortstops or college wrestlers. The jack man is like a linebacker. He needs be strong — the jack he’s wielding weighs 35 pounds — but he also needs to be agile and quick to get around the car. Mike Casto, the 6-foot-3, 212-pound jack man for Tony Stewart’s No. 14 Office Depot-Mobil 1 Chevy, played wide receiver at Glenville State College in West Virginia under former Michigan Coach, Rich Rodriguez, and is the ultimate — albeit rare — hybrid on pit road.

He has a degree in engineering he uses during the week to prepare the Stewart-Haas Racing cars, and then turns to his athletic side on weekends, working over the wall.

“I’m on the edge with both sides,” Casto said with a laugh. “The engineers look at me differently because of the sports side, and the athletes look at me differently because of the engineering side.” Casto has spent the past 10 years in the sport and says the pit crews are at the top of their game athletically, but acknowledges it takes a combination of skill and brawn.

“I’ve seen some of the greatest athletes in the world come in and try, but lack the coordination,” Casto said.

“In football, you try to dominate the person you’re lined up against,” said Aaron Walker, a former University of Florida star, who spent five seasons in the NFL and now fuels Mark Martin’s No. 5 Chevy.

“In racing, you’re more in control. You have to try not to be overly aggressive, and it’s a big transition. The more in sync you are, the faster you are. It’s more about being mentally prepared to do it right every time because everyone is depending on you. People don’t realize how mentally tough it is to do the job at a high level every time. You have to evolve your programs and develop new conditioning programs to keep your athletes at peak level. Every team is going that way. They have to keep up.”
OTWcrew

Race fans are envious of them. Drivers rely on them. They make the difference between 1st and 10th place in any major motor sports race. They are a highly trained, well-oiled machine. It’s the pit crew.

“Over the Wall” Crew, also known as OTWcrew, is a pit crew training facility located in racing country, Mooresville, North Carolina. It began in 2009, when NASCAR “Over the Wall” veteran and ESPN/MRN analysis, DJ Copp, decided to apply his skills and knowledge beyond the track and provide a service to help others become a part of this elite industry. Today, Copp has partnered with Luke Motorsports, Inc. to leverage this school to a nationally recognized program.

OTWcrew, presently, has individuals going over the wall for: The Pro Cup series, Sprint Cup Series, the K & N East Series, the ARCA REMAX Series, the Camping World Truck Series and the Nationwide Series. No matter the type of racing, OTWcrew has prepared its individuals to be ready for all levels of competition.

Recruitment

OTWcrew adheres to all individuals and skill levels, enrolling students from all around the country. From the beginning, DJ is dedicated in placing individuals into the “Over the Wall” community and since 2009 has had over 300 students. Out of these 300, 25 are in full time positions with teams in NASCAR, some in top tier teams. OTWcrew is proud of its success to date. 95% of all students have been or currently are on an outsourced team through the school in the ARCA, NNS or Sprint Cup Series. And, it is only the beginning.

Curriculum & Physical Training

- Learn firsthand knowledge of what it takes to be an Over the Wall crew member.
- Implement tactics taught by NASCAR’s finest Over the Wall veterans.
- Progress at their own pace, while perfecting learned skills.
- Be scouted by higher level NASCAR pit crew coaches, crew chiefs and team owners.
- Participate in race day Over the Wall experiences.
- Train for specific jobs for Over the Wall crew members i.e. tire carrier, tire changer, fueler, catch-can and jack man.
- Master pit stall preparation, to assemble and disassemble pit boxes, pit cameras and other necessities for race day operations.
- Acquire the proper use of Over the Wall equipment such as: Jacks, pit guns and proper damage repair tools.
- Perform hands-on mechanical techniques to actual race cars and trucks.

No question, OTWCrew is the only school in its industry that has over 95% school to work program. Sponsor participation will garnish national attention and endorse your support in such a passionate tour. Developed with the input of the industry-leading pit crew coaches and coordinators, the 8-24 week Pit Crew curriculum requires students to learn the skills of each pit crew position before focusing on one primary position. This makes for well-rounded graduates who are not only performing live pit stops by the end of the course, but who can also understand their teammate’s responsibilities and perform their own equipment maintenance and race-day setup.
Each Pit Crew class has dedicated instructors who are all graduates of the program themselves. Once complete the opportunities for placement will include:

Recruitment

Racing pit crews are comprised of various individuals with specific job responsibilities, such as the Front Tire Changer, the Rear Tire Changer, Gas Man, Gas Catch Man and Tire Carriers. Additional specialists include the Head Engine Builder, the Fabricator, the Truck Driver, the Gear and Transmission Specialist and other various mechanics.

Aside from the mechanical crew, the pit crew includes the crew chief who is commonly referred to as the pit boss or coach. The crew chief oversees the actions of the other team member, informs the pit of what needs to be done during each stop, and makes the decision to replace crew members as needed.

Other duties of the crew chief include informing each crew member of his duty, guaranteeing that the pit is working as a team and directly communicating with the driver.

Primary Duties

Tire Changers utilize air guns to remove old tires and fit new tires. The average tire change takes six to eight seconds per tire. Tire Carriers provide new tires and clear old tires from the pit area. The Jack Man is responsible for utilizing an air jack to raise the car for tire changes and using a rolling jack to lift the car. The Fueler and the Gas Catch Man are responsible for fueling the race vehicles. Due to the combustible nature of the fuels used, Fuelers must wear a full face helmet and a fire suit.

Crew members earn an average salary of $45,000 to $72,000 per year, but may make additional bonuses with increased speed in the pit. With bonuses, pit crew members can make as much as $100,000 per year.
MEET DJ COPP

Hailing from a small town near Rochester, New York, DJ grew up with the thirst and ambition to be a race car driver. DJ cut his teeth into racing as a teenager at Canandaigua Speedway, which is a ½ mile dirt track in New York. DJ ran the #83jr late model stock car and had much success. At the ripe age of 18, DJ decided to head south to North Carolina with hopes to pursue a career in motorsports.

DJ had his first “Over the Wall” experience when he worked for Mansion Motorsports, with driver Carl Long. Since then, there has been a long line of teams DJ has worked for during his lustrous 15 year career in racing.

Some of the teams include: Dale Earnhardt Inc., Roush Racing, JTG Motorsports and Richard Petty Motorsports, only to name a few.

DJ is not only an Over the Wall pro; he also has his own segment on ESPN’s “NASCAR Now” TV show. If TV wasn’t enough, DJ has recently become involved in radio, participating in live broadcasts and promotional campaigns for Motor Racing Network (MRN).

Are you familiar with the Pit Road helmet cam? Watching the guys on pit road do their stops from the camera on Hollywood’s helmet? That, was brought to NASCAR by DJ!

You can still catch DJ going over the wall in the Nationwide Series for JR Motorsports. If you can’t get to the track, make sure you tune into “NASCAR Now” on ESPN2 and MRN Radio to see and listen to DJ’s unique perspective on going over the wall.
COMING TO AN AREA NEAR YOU:
HOPE AND INSPIRATION!
WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT PEOPLE.


Luke is unique in that we focus on what makes companies successful: People. We recognize the inherent individual gifts and value each person across the globe. All of our employees are valuable and recognized as an important part of our success. In our local communities and across the world, we choose to serve others and continue to seek out long-term, sustainable improvement to their quality of life.

Incorporated in 2004, Luke is headquartered in Merritt Island on the Space Coast of Florida and provides a wide range of services for both the federal government and private industries. Focused on making a difference in the world and positively impacting the lives of others, Luke’s company culture reflects a commitment to integrity, community, innovation and people. This commitment has resulted in rapid growth. From three employees in 2006 to more than 1,300 employees today, Luke has been recognized by INC Magazine as the No. 3 fastest-growing company in the United States in 2010.

December 2011 – Awarded Investigational Research Omnibus Contract (IROC) by the U.S. Navy.
June 2009 – Awarded contract to provide Direct Care Medical Services to the U.S. Army
December 2009 – Awarded Information Technology Services contract for WorkSource.
September 2006 – Awarded Contract to Provide Clinical Support Services to the U.S. Air Force.
Ranked # 3 for Inc. 500 Top fastest-growing private companies in 2010.
This tour is unlike any other. Imagine the impact of a no pressure, welcoming gathering area in the parking lot of your local veteran hospital, military base or commercial hospital. Scheduled to appear in 12 states in 2012, this Hope and Inspiration tour will follow the Sprint Cup NASCAR Series and land in a parking lot near you.
MEET PATRICK RUMMERFIELD

Patrick Rummerfield is, quite literally, a walking miracle. Injured in an alcohol-related car crash in 1974, Patrick Rummerfield’s spine suffered four crushed cervical vertebrae. Doctors saw little chance for survival, and they predicted death within 72 hours. His indomitable will, positive attitude and spiritual strength beat the hand of death and more.

After enduring 17 years of intense physical therapy, he has regained almost complete physical function, and is recognized as the world’s first recorded fully-functional spinal-cord-injured quadriplegic. His determination to “never give up” became the cornerstone of his new life.

Patrick is walking proof that never, ever giving up creates miracles.

When doctors told his family that the best course for Patrick was to be moved to a long-term nursing facility, where he could die in peace, Patrick refused to accept that sentence. He worked hard, and with faith as his guiding light, beat the insurmountable odds.

He is the first fully functional quadriplegic in the history of medicine.

Time and time again, Patrick rose to his many challenges. First he survived; then he moved. He walked; then he ran. And when Patrick runs, he does it with the same commitment and desire to succeed that has guided his life.

He has competed in marathons and triathlons all over the world: the Hawaiian IronMan Triathlon, Antarctica Marathon and Racing-The-Planet’s 155 mile Gobi March. And then there are the fast cars his goal was to drive: NASCAR, drag racing, Grand Am, American Le Mans and the ultimate: attaining the World Land Speed record for the electric car.

Today, Patrick devotes his life to public service, to helping others and to showing the world the power of Activity Based Restoration Therapies. Coupled with positive thinking and the miracles that come from never, ever giving up, he works with patients affected by spinal cord injuries, and gives inspirational speeches on the power of personal will and personal perseverance.

Having achieved unprecedented accomplishments was just a beginning. A deathbed challenge from his father inspired Patrick to dedicate his life to public service and helping others to “never give up” their dreams.

His own life is a testimony to the miracle that can come of will power and positive thinking. Rummerfield now contributes his time to helping with fundraisers, lecturing on safety issues, giving inspirational and motivational talks and, along the way, establishing 36 new world records and “firsts”.

He provides an unbelievable amount of inspiration for others, including our military. He works with the Metal of Honor group and provides many speeches about Resiliency for our troops.
Our passion for people extends to preparation for combat, too.

Gryphon Group offers a full spectrum operations training regime. Their program takes relevant battlefield knowledge, skills and abilities and incorporates those lessons into their training. These high quality standards of training are in place to ensure that warfighters will see what they will potentially face on today’s battlefield.

General Jones  Gary “Mike” Jones, also known as Brigadier General Gary “Mike” Jones - U.S. Army Retired, is the President of Gryphon Group Security Solutions. He is recognized as a proven, experienced forged senior leader in military and international affairs. General Jones has 28 years military special operations experience with extensive operational expertise in Europe, Sub-Saharan Africa, Central Asia, the Caribbean, Central America and the Middle East.
The setup of this event is a high priority to us and will be organized and maintained from setup to tear down. There will be two stations, one on each side of the unit, for individuals to get the experience of a professional tire changer.

Each person will use an Ingersoll Rand pit gun powered by compressed nitrogen stationed behind the fixture. We plan on having four cameras mounted on the race car fixture, one on each side, filming the face of the individuals, and one on each side filming the hub of the car where they will be hitting lug nuts.

Each station will be individually timed by an electronic race timer to add a competitive edge. Safety is our number one priority at this event as we want to keep all of the participants safe and protected. To achieve this, our team will provide a full face shield to protect them from lug nuts flying in their face, knee pads, and gloves to wear. Actual equipment used in a pit stop, such as a race jack, a fully mounted race car tire, and a fuel can will be on display in the section.
EVENT OPERATION

When the day starts, continuous video of professional tire changers hitting lug nuts throughout the NASCAR series will be playing. Individuals will then be invited to come test their skills to see if they have what it takes to be a NASCAR tire changer. Each person will be given a full face shield to protect them from flying objects, a pair of Mechanix Wear knee pads and gloves. They will then be put in position to begin the experience.

The participant will be allowed to hit all five lug nuts off, place five lug nuts on the studs and tighten them all back on as fast as possible. Once they begin, our staff will begin the time and keep it running until the last lug nut is tightened back on the wheel.

While they are performing the tasks, two different video cameras will capture their experience and can be viewed following the stop. When the participant is finished, all equipment will be returned to the designated area, and the video will be uploaded to be viewed on our 46” LCD television while the next participants start their experience.

Event staff will be available to talk to anyone who would like more information about our Over the Wall Crew School in North Carolina.
Keeping our visitors healthy
Clorox MAINTENANCE »

Keeping the event running smooth and having everything clean and presentable is the key to our success. One of our qualified event staff personnel will track the nitrogen usage, not letting any of our tanks get below 400 psi which allows the best experience for the participant. There will be 8 to 10 tanks throughout the whole day, allowing us to use a fast spray wax and all lug nuts and studs to be cleaned and changed. In addition, our pit guns will be re-oiled, and the socket will be examined and replaced if needed. After each participant is finished, safety equipment will be wiped down or sprayed with Clorox disinfectant before it is reused. Every half hour, our four by four fixture will be wiped down and waxed.
This special tour is meant to accomplish multiple goals:

1. Give our thanks to those who have served. Come on down, enjoy food and drinks.
2. Meet and chat with Patrick Rummerfield
3. Recruit students
5. Connect with the veteran executives and human resources to build a new and long term rapport for their future staffing needs, as well as to be able to work together on other events in support of our troops and veterans.
6. Work and build opportunities for our soldiers suffering from mental health and PTSD issues by offering them a chance at the school, training and possibility of a new career with a school to work program.
7. Connect with NASCAR, Patriot Guard Riders, Wounded Warriors and other organizations to further enhance and promote our program for our soldiers to change them in a quick manner.

Cook Out Made Possible by:

- BUBBA burger
- BUSH’S BEST
- KINGSFORD
- Coca-Cola
- Kimberly-Clark
Social Media

THE FLAT STANLEY STORY

Inspired by Jeff Brown’s book entitled Flat Stanley, this activity is designed to encourage children to share ideas and information with others, and by taking part in the project, it is a good way to improve reading and writing skills. It also combines writing with many school subjects, including math, science, geography, social studies, and art.

To participate, the child creates a drawing of the book’s main character and cuts out the figure. Next, he takes him to visit other people or to see local points of interest, and he records his paper pal’s experiences in a journal. Then FlatStanley, the journal, and a letter explaining the project are mailed to someone else who continues the activity and documents the character’s adventures in the small book.

After a few days, the flat friend and journal are returned to the original sender. Sometimes the character returns with souvenirs, postcards, or photos showing places to which he traveled or people with whom he visited. FlatStanley has had some exciting adventures during his lifetime. He’s met several presidents, appeared on television, and even gone into space on a NASA Space Shuttle!

For us, Flat Luke will be used to engage our military friends and leverage our social media connection! Luke Motorsports will be “THE” spot to post your pictures of Flat Lt. Luke! Moving into next year, it will be the mobile unit for our race team!
Back at the shop....
CORPORATE TEAM BUILDING

The Pit Crew Experience
Course Description: With the racing pit crew as a backdrop, this experiential learning program uses pit stops as a tool for teaching the concepts of teamwork, quick changeover, workplace standardization, equipment reliability and more. Through a combination of classroom training and hands-on activities, we will address communication, roles and responsibilities, creative thinking, and work performance — all of which are highlighted through easy to understand examples by the pit stop experience.

The day will include classroom discussion and group exercises on the NASCAR pit crew concepts and an outdoor, hands-on activity with PIT coaches. Participants will learn how to build a culture of teamwork and continuous improvement and the elements that will raise your improvement program to the next level.

Lunch is included and participants will receive gloves, glasses and a DVD recording of the pit stops mailed after the event.

Topics to be covered:
- Standard Work
- Performance Metrics
- Continuous Improvement
- Critical Paths
- Team Development
- Reliability Specialization
- Preventive Maintenance
- Preparing for Performance
- Conflict Resolution
We THANK YOU
Good morning!

Your ethics inquiry has been referred to attorney [redacted].

Thank You,

[redacted]
Office of General Counsel
Ethics Specialty Team
Phone: [redacted]
Facsimile: [redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2012 6:21 AM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Another legal question
Importance: High

[b](5)

[b](6) Senior Attorney
Department of Veterans Affairs - Office of Regional Counsel
251 N. Main St. (318/02). Winston-Salem, NC 27155
[b](6) (p) [b](6) (f)
Office of Regional Counsel - Region 23 - Client Site

Your feedback is very important to us and we would greatly appreciate you answering a few questions by clicking the link below.
How was our Service?

This e-mail message is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure, or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and destroy all copies of the original message. Thank you.

----Original Message----
From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 5:11 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Another legal question

What do you advise/think?

(b)(6), MHA, FACHE
Associate Director
Charles George VAMC, Asheville, NC

----Original Message----
From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2012 3:56 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Another legal question

(b)(6) I was contacted by the grandson of one of our Korean War volunteers. He works for a Nascar racing team in Charlotte. In honor of his grandfather, he wanted to paint on their car advertising our needs (things, $ or people). Are you okay with the following: "Remember our Veterans" and include the CGVAMC website with a link to volunteer or inquiry about donating. . This is a free advertising offering. The car will run in the Memorial Day weekend race in Charlotte where thousands of people will see it. . Your thoughts?
From: Tierney, Brian
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 5:00 PM
To: [b] [t] [i] [e] [r] [n] [e] [y], Bria
Cc: [b] [a] [r] [i] [a] [n] [t] [e] [r] [y], Bria
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] NASCAR Media Group - Department of Veterans Affairs - Agreement for signature
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 4:45 PM
To: Tierney, Brian
Cc: [b][b][b]
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] NASCAR Media Group - Department of Veterans Affairs - Agreement for signature

All,

This weekend, we have an OPIA crew heading to Charlotte for an event in which they will interview a Veteran now working within NASCAR.

NASCAR has provided the attached media distribution agreement and requested two signed copies ASAP.

Would OGC be able to review this before we sign off on it and identify any issues you may have? If you believe we can sign this at the OPIA level without OGC review, please let us know.

We’re hoping to return is ASAP, as credentials for the event will not be issued until the agreement is signed.

From: [b][b][b]
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 4:34 PM
To: [b][b][b]
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] NASCAR Media Group - Department of Veterans Affairs - Agreement for signature

Not sure who would need to sign this...can you?
From: Gary Ramsey
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 12:22 PM
To: [blank]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NASCAR Media Group - Department of Veterans Affairs - Agreement for signature

[https://c.na8.content.force.com/servlet/servlet.ImageServer?id=01580000000vEMe&oid=00D80000000awh9]

Client: Department of Veterans Affairs

Project: Use of gathered materials for a story on veterans working in sports for television program on The Pentagon Channel and same segment online on VA.gov website.

Dear [name],

Attached is your agreement for your request to shoot video during a NASCAR event weekend at Charlotte Motor Speedway for your project described as "Use of gathered materials for a story on veterans working in sports for television program on The Pentagon Channel and same segment online on VA.gov website."

Please provide me with two signed original copies of this agreement as soon as possible. Note, NMG policy is no credentials can be released for your project until we have received a signed agreement.

Feel free to contact me at any time should you have any questions or further needs from us.

Thank you for your business and I look forward to working with you again.

Best regards,

Gary
NASCAR Media Group, LLC
550 S. Caldwell Street, Suite 500
Charlotte, NC 28202
Ph: (704) 454-8000  Sprint Mobile: (704) 601

From: [b][6]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 5:52 PM
To: [b][6] Tierney, Brian [b][6]
Cc: [b][6]
Subject: Re: NASCAR Media Group - Department of Veterans Affairs - Agreement for signature

Thank you!

[b][6]
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420
Phone: [b][6]

From: [b][6]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 05:47 PM
To: [b][6] Tierney, Brian [b][6]
Cc: [b][6]
Subject: RE: NASCAR Media Group - Department of Veterans Affairs - Agreement for signature

[b][6] attached are the revisions made by OGC staff groups 023 and 024.

Thanks,

[b][6]
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, DC 20420
Phone: [b][6]

From: [b][6]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:24 AM
To: [b][6] Tierney, Brian [b][6]
Cc: [b][6]
Subject: RE: NASCAR Media Group - Department of Veterans Affairs - Agreement for signature

As promised...here is an editable copy of the NASCAR agreement. They asked that edits be made in tracked changes. Once complete please pass back to me and I will share it with them for their review. Thanks!

[b][6]

[b][6]
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420
I just spoke with NASCAR and they will send us a draft document so we can make any edits we deem necessary...their legal office will then review the edits to see if it will still work for their requirements. They are more than happy to work with us on this...we just have to find a compromise in wording that works for everyone.

Thanks,

Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420
Phone:  

All,

has served as the primary point of contact with NASCAR, so I will defer to her in terms of presenting our concerns to NASCAR.

Do you think we can let them know our thoughts and find out if we can work with them. One of the things we are dealing with is that the video that VA creates is a government work and therefore ineligible for copyright protection, which is a large part of their agreement.

Thanks!
All,

If this is helpful... A few weeks ago, a Mobile Vet Center participated at an event in Darlington. Attached is the language agreed to by the regional OGC (per [redacted] from OPIA) and NASCAR.

Thank you all for the quick turnaround on this. If there is something we can send back through [redacted] to NASCAR today to try to get this resolved, we'd be most grateful.

Also, so it's all in one email, below are [redacted] comments from yesterday:
From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 6:55 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] NASCAR Media Group - Department of Veterans Affairs - Agreement for signature

OK, thanks...we went around and around with the regional OGC office about the indemnification stuff for the mobile vet center at the Darlington track...they need some type of statement that ensures they (NASCAR) aren’t held liable for something we (VA) does. Attached is what wording was finally agreed upon by both parties...hopefully they can use this verbiage, no need to reinvent the wheel.

Thanks,

[b](6)

[b](6)
Media Relations
Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420
Phone: [b](6)
From: Jaynes, Mark T.  
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 6:01 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: RE: Request for Review--CMR 7678039 Readjustment Counseling Service

Thanks!

Mark

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 5:01 PM  
To: Jaynes, Mark T.  
Subject: FW: RE: Request for Review--CMR 7678039 Readjustment Counseling Service

Mark,

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 5:50 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: FW: RE: Request for Review--CMR 7678039 Readjustment Counseling Service

Mark

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 4:43 PM  
To: Jaynes, Mark T.  
Cc: Raun, Eric L.  
Subject: RE: Request for Review--CMR 7678039 Readjustment Counseling Service

Hi Mark,

Thank you in advance.
Please visit our new Government Ethics website
ATTORNEY CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
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From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 3:39 PM
To: 
Subject: RE: Meeting next week

Hi,

Below is some Q&A that was shared with me:

Is NASCAR or the track giving them to VA directly for us to distribute?  
   The Richmond International Raceway is “allocating” tickets.... But they have indicated they will take care of mailing and distribution. What we would get is a list of ticket codes to be shared with people and then they would contact the track with the code and the track would then mail out tickets.

Was there any specific Veteran demographics mentioned?  
   None

And what is the total number again?  
   500 general admission tickets for the xfinity race on September 11, 2015 and 100 general admission tickets for the 9/12 sprint cup race.

Also, the racetrack wants to develop some discount ticket packages for Veterans that they want us to mention to partners, via social media etc.. eg if someone is a vet they can get a discount to attend the race. We need to know if there are any limitations with sharing/promoting this.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,

From: 
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 1:11 PM
To: 
Subject: RE: Meeting next week

(b)(6)

(b)(5)
Sure. Let me look into it before I come over.
CAUTION: The information contained in this e-mail constitutes professional communications and any accompanying attachments may contain Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Privacy Act, and/or Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) protected information, including attorney-client or attorney work product privileged information. This information may not be released or forwarded to anyone who is not an authorized user/recipient without appropriate prior authorization from the sender. If you are not the intended recipient of this information, any disclosure, copying, distribution, or the taking of any action in reliance on this information is prohibited. If you receive this e-mail in error, please notify this office immediately by return e-mail.

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 1:03 PM
To: 
Subject: RE: Meeting next week

Hi,

I apologize for the delay in my response. I was on leave and then had computer issues resulting in not being able to access my email.

Does tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. still work? We can meet in my Director’s office at 1722 I St. NW if that works. I can send a calendar invite.

The meeting is to address ways in which we (VA) can distribute free tickets to Veterans and their families for a NASCAR race event.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Thank you!

Benefits Assistance Service
Veterans Benefits Administration

From: 
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 2:09 PM
To: 
Subject: RE: Meeting next week

Hi,

Thanks!
It was very nice meeting you today at the Strategic Partnerships meeting. I mentioned getting together sometime next week to discuss some questions we had on a specific partnership.

Are you available next Wednesday, April 29th after 2:00 p.m. or Thursday, April 30th after 3:00 p.m.?

You are welcome to come over to our offices at 1722 1st St. NW (same building as the Appeals Management Center/near Farragut West metro), or we are happy to come to you as well. Please let me know.

Thanks,
Please visit our new Government Ethics website

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From: [Name]
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 12:05 PM
To: [Name]
Subject: VA/NASCAR MOU DRAFT

Hi [Name],

Attached is the VA/NASCAR MOU draft we are currently working. The NASCAR signatory is still being finalized, but it will most likely be Jordan Jiloty or his boss.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for all of your help!

[Name]

Department of Veterans Affairs

[Address]
From: Jaynes, Mark T.
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 5:02 PM
To: Raun, Eric L.; [REDACTED] (OGC); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans’ Access to Benefits

Eric-

Mark

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:50 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans’ Access to Benefits

Mark,

[REDACTED]

“Richmond International Raceway is proud to partner with such an important organization as the Department of Veterans Affairs,” said RJR President, Dennis Bickmeier. “NASCAR is a very patriotic sport, and we pride ourselves on supporting the men and women who have served and are currently serving our country. There’s no better way to do that than by partnering with VA to set the field for the Federated Auto Parts 400 ‘Last Race to Make the Chase.’”

From: Jaynes, Mark T.
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 4:33 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans’ Access to Benefits

[b][b][b][b]

What do you think?

Mark

From: Raun, Eric L.
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:18 PM  
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Mark

Eric

From: [Redacted] (OGC)  
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:50 PM  
To: Raun, Eric L.
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans’ Access to Benefits

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:47 PM  
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans’ Access to Benefits

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:46 PM  
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Thanks all

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 1:58 PM  
To: [Redacted]
Subject: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Attached is release 15-141 VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway.

OGC: I suspect you will want to dig into this one. ☺️
Deputy Director for Media Relations
Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420

Main:  [Redacted]
Direct:  [Redacted]
Cell:   [Redacted]
From: [b](6)
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 9:46 AM
To: Kennedy, Tammy
Cc: Szybala, Renee (SES) OGC; Jaynes, Mark T.; Raun, Eric L.
Subject: RE: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Tammy,

[b](5)

[b](6)

From: Kennedy, Tammy
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 9:34 AM
To: [b](6)
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

[b](6) - Are you and Renee concerned about endorsement?

Tammy

Tammy L. Kennedy
Principal Deputy General Counsel
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Suite 1030
Washington, DC 20420
Telephone: [b](6)
Facsimile: [b](6)

From: Kennedy, Tammy
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 9:23 AM
To: Raun, Eric L.; Szybala, Renee OGC
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T.; [b](6)
Subject: RE: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Good morning. Why did you say that you concurred against your better judgment Renee? If Renee doesn't answer because she is out of the office today, [b](6) could you brief me on the concerns?

Thanks,
Tammy

Tammy L. Kennedy
Principal Deputy General Counsel
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Suite 1030
Washington, DC 20420
Telephone:
Facsimile:

From: Raun, Eric L.
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2015 9:20 AM
To: Kennedy, Tammy
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T.;
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Tammy:
We recommend OGC concur in the attached news release.
Thanks
Eric

From: Szybala, Renee OGC
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 5:25 PM
To: Raun, Eric L.
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T.;
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Renee
We recommend OGC concur in the attached news release. OK to send to Dick?
Thanks
Eric

From: Jaynes, Mark T.
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 5:04 PM
To: Raun, Eric L.;
Cc:
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Eric-

Mark
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:50 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans’ Access to Benefits

Mark,

“Richmond International Raceway is proud to partner with such an important organization as the Department of Veterans Affairs,” said RIR President, Dennis Bickmeier. “NASCAR is a very patriotic sport, and we pride ourselves on supporting the men and women who have served and are currently serving our country. There’s no better way to do that than by partnering with VA to set the field for the Federated Auto Parts 400 ‘Last Race to Make the Chase.’”

From: Jaynes, Mark T.
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 4:33 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans’ Access to Benefits

Mark

From: Raun, Eric L.
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans’ Access to Benefits

Mark

Thanks

Eric

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:50 PM
To: Raun, Eric L.
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:47 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Is there any chance we have a one pager we can share with 4 corners regarding this? The reason I ask is, once we push this out, the committees will likely want to know if this will cost VA any money and what type of resources has we dedicated to it.

Thanks all

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:46 PM
To: [redacted], [redacted]
Subject: RE: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Attached is release 15-141 VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway.

OGC: I suspect you will want to dig into this one. 😊

Deputy Director for Media Relations
Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420
Main: [redacted]
Direct: [redacted]
Cell: [redacted]
From: Jaynes, Mark T.
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 4:02 PM
To: Raun, Eric L.; J[***]
Cc: J[***]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Eric-

Mark

From: J[***]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:50 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Mark,

"Richmond International Raceway is proud to partner with such an important organization as the Department of Veterans Affairs," said RIR President, Dennis Bickmeier. "NASCAR is a very patriotic sport, and we pride ourselves on supporting the men and women who have served and are currently serving our country. There's no better way to do that than by partnering with VA to set the field for the Federated Auto Parts 400 'Last Race to Make the Chase.'"

From: Jaynes, Mark T.
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 4:33 PM
To: J[***]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

J[***]

What do you think?

Mark

From: Raun, Eric L.
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Mark

[Redacted]

Thanks

Eric

From: [Redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:50 PM
To: Raun, Eric L.
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:47 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 3:46 PM
To: [Redacted]; Hipolit, Richard
Subject: RE: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Is there any chance we have a one pager we can share with 4 corners regarding this? The reason I ask is, once we push this out, the committees will likely want to know if this will cost VA any money and what type of resources has we dedicated to it.

Thanks all

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 1:58 PM
To: [Redacted]; Hipolit, Richard
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway to Increase Veterans' Access to Benefits

Attached is release 15-141 VA Partners with Richmond International Raceway.

OGC: I suspect you will want to dig into this one. 😊
Deputy Director for Media Relations
Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420
Main: [Redacted]
Direct: [Redacted]
Cell: [Redacted]
From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 5:57 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Ethics Question Related to Mental Health Court MOU

Hi, [redacted]
Staff Attorney, Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Chief Counsel, Midwest District West
One Jefferson Barracks Drive, Building 56
St. Louis, Missouri 63125
Desk: (b)(6)
Fax: (b)(6)
Cell: (b)(6)

ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT: This message (including any attachments) is intended for, and to be read by, only the individual(s) to whom addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected by law from disclosure. Receipt of this message does not waive any applicable privilege or exemption for disclosure. Reading, forwarding, or copying this message and any attachments by anyone other than the intended recipient(s) is prohibited. If you accidentally received this message, please immediately destroy the message and attachments, and all copies, and notify Ms.
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 8:57 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Ethics Question Related to Mental Health Court MOU

[b](6)

[b](6): [b](6):

[b](6)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 7:51 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Ethics Question Related to Mental Health Court MOU

VHA Directive 1098 - VHA Public Private Partnerships

[b](6): I think [REDACTED] should talk with [REDACTED] to see if he can assist. He is the National Coordinator, Veterans Justice Outreach.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 11:10 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Ethics Question Related to Mental Health Court MOU

VHA has one...I'm out of the area and don't have access to my files...[REDACTED]ed its development a few years back. Looping her in...

Sent with Good (www.good.com <http://www.good.com>)

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 06:14 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Ethics Question Related to Mental Health Court MOU

[b](6)

[b](5)
From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 5:57 PM  
To: [Redacted]  
Cc: [Redacted]  
Subject: RE: Ethics Question Related to Mental Health Court MOU

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 5:27 PM  
To: [Redacted]  
Cc: [Redacted]  
Subject: Ethics Question Related to Mental Health Court MOU
Staff Attorney, Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Chief Counsel, Midwest District West
One Jefferson Barracks Drive, Building 56
St. Louis, Missouri 63125
Desk: (b)(6)
Fax: (b)(6)
Cell: (b)(6)

ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT: This message (including any attachments) is intended for, and to be read by, only the individual(s) to whom addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected by law from disclosure. Receipt of this message does not waive any applicable privilege or exemption for disclosure. Reading, forwarding, or copying this message and any attachments by anyone other than the intended recipients(s) is prohibited. If you accidentally received this message, please immediately destroy the message and attachments, and all copies, and notify Ms. Milligan.
Staff Attorney and Deputy Ethics Official Ethics Specialty Team, Office of General Counsel (023)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Room 1119
Washington, D.C. 20420
Phone: [redacted]
Cell Phone: [redacted]
Fax: [redacted]

Please visit our new Government Ethics website for information on Ethics topics.

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From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 3:15 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: Barrans, David; Griffin, Brian D.; Jaynes, Mark T.
Subject: RE: VA seal question
Thank you Brian!

I have a request to develop a joint VA logo with Student Veterans of America on a new program with which we have a signed MOU. I image the logo will be used on marketing material and on social media.

Can we use the seal or the VA logo in the creation of a new logo?
Can the seal or the logo appear with another organization’s logo?
Would we be showing favoritism?
Is there anything else we should avoid?

Thanks for your time.

Confidentiality note: This e-mail is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected from disclosure. Dissemination, distribution, or copying of this e-mail or the information herein by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail, and destroy the original message and all copies.

From: Griffin, Brian D. (OGC)
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:49 PM
To: 
Cc: Barrans, David
Subject: VA seal question
Deputy Chief Counsel
Benefits Law Group
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 3:22 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Subject: RE: VA seal question -74317

Mark,

From: Jaynes, Mark T.
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 3:17 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: VA seal question

Mark

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Barrans, David; Griffin, Brian D. (OGC); Jaynes, Mark T.; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: VA seal question
Thank you Brian!

I have a request to develop a joint VA logo with Student Veterans of America on a new program with which we have a signed MOU. I image the logo will be used on marketing material and on social media.

Can we use the seal or the VA logo in the creation of a new logo?
Can the seal or the logo appear with another organization’s logo?
Would we be showing favoritism?
Is there anything else we should avoid?

Thanks for your time.

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Deputy Chief Counsel
Benefits Law Group
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Senior Ethics Attorney/
Deputy Ethics Official
Ethics Specialty Team

From: [b](6)
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:56 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Barrans, David; Griffin, Brian D. (OGC); [b](6)
Subject: RE: VA seal question

Thank you Brian!

[b](6)

I have a request to develop a joint VA logo with Student Veterans of America on a new program with which we have a signed MOU. I imagine the logo will be used on marketing material and on social media.

Can we use the seal or the VA logo in the creation of a new logo?
Can the seal or the logo appear with another organization’s logo?
Would we be showing favoritism?
Is there anything else we should avoid?

Thanks for your time.
R/

Confidentiality note: This e-mail is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected from disclosure. Dissemination, distribution, or copying of this e-mail or the information herein by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail, and destroy the original message and all copies.

From: Griffin, Brian D. (OGC)
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:49 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Barrans, David
Subject: VA seal question

[b](6)

[b](5); (b)(6)

Brian D. Griffin
Deputy Chief Counsel
Benefits Law Group
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Case: 82293: 7692119 - Requesting the use of VA logo for 8 NASCAR Note

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 4:10 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: FW: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692119

Mark,

[b](5) (b)(6) [b](5) (b)(6)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 3:53 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T.; [b](6)
Subject: FW: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692119

[b](6) Please look at this. (Printing docs will drop off to you)

Thank you,

[b](6)

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 3:57 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692119

Hi Mark,

See attached-docs 7692119/VAIQ-NEW EST GCL 82293

Also reference EST GCL 80135 --and the docs for that GCL-- and the email below --

From: [b](6)
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 3:38 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: Permission to use the VA Logo for eight 2016 NASCAR races - VAIQ #7692119
Importance: High
Hello.

Great speaking with you this afternoon. As promised, attached (also uploaded to VAIQ) is VBA’s signed memo with supporting docs and VAF4265 for OGC’s expedited concurrence, as the first race is on Thursday, May 12, 2016.

I am also sending the H/C folder with the original signed memo to EXECSEC.

SECVAC approved similar use of the logo at the Richmond International Raceway in June 2015.

Also, on April 5, 2016, VAIQ# 7684265, OGC concurred on a previous version of this memo for only one racetrack - “Richmond International Raceway”.

Thank you for slating this for expedited concurrence!

Correspondence Analyst
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)
Office of Executive Review (20A11)

---

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 3:27 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: VAIQ 7692119

Memo and concurrence sheet attached.

Office of General Counsel (02)
Tel#: [Redacted]
Fax#: [Redacted]
From: (b)(6)  
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 5:02 PM  
To: (b)(6)  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692119

Not a big deal—we have concurred—also uploaded into VAIQ.

Linda, please upload into EST GCL 82293. Thanks.

From: (b)(6)  
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 4:23 PM  
To: (b)(6)  
Subject: RE: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692119

Hi (b)(6)  

This is the updated memo with the header correction that I sent to you yesterday.

Probably not that big a deal, since Jen has the updated memo in the H/C pkg. that reflects the corrected header on Pg. 2. I corrected it to read “eight” instead of “seven”...

Thanks!

(b)(6):  
Correspondence Analyst  
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)  
Office of Executive Review (20A11)

From: (b)(6)  
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 4:17 PM  
To: (b)(6)  
Subject: FW: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692119

Just for FYI.

From: (b)(6)  
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 4:10 PM  
To: Jaynes, Mark T.  
Cc: (b)(6)  
Subject: FW: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692119

Mark,
Case: 82293: 7692119 - Requesting the use of VA logo for 8 NASC Note

From: (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 3:53 PM
To: (OGC)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T.
Subject: FW: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIOQ 7692119

Please look at this. (Printing docs will drop off to you)

Thank you,

From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 3:57 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T.
Cc: (OGC)
Subject: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIOQ 7692119

Hi Mark,

See attached-docs 7692119/VAIQ-NEW EST GCL 82293

Also reference EST GCL 80135 --and the docs for that GCL-- and the email below --

From: (OGC)
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 3:38 PM
To: (OGC)
Cc: 
Subject: Permission to use the VA Logo for eight 2016 NASCAR races - VAIOQ #7692119
Importance: High

Hello (OGC)

Great speaking with you this afternoon. As promised, attached (also uploaded to VAIOQ) is VBA’s signed memo with supporting docs and VAF4265 for OGC’s expedited concurrence, as the first race is on Thursday, May 12, 2016.

I am also sending the H/C folder with the original signed memo to EXECSEC.

SECVBA approved similar use of the logo at the Richmond International Raceway in June 2015.
Also, on April 5, 2016, VAIQ# 7684265, OGC concurred on a previous version of this memo for only one racetrack - "Richmond International Raceway".

Thank you for slating this for expedited concurrence!

Correspondence Analyst
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)
Office of Executive Review (20A11)

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 3:27 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: VAIQ# 7692119

Memo and concurrence sheet attached.

Office of General Counsel (02)
Tel#: [Redacted]
Fax#: [Redacted]
Not a big deal—we have concurred—also uploaded into VAIQ.

Please upload into EST GCL 82293. Thanks.

Hi

This is the updated memo with the header correction that I sent to you yesterday.

Probably not that big a deal, since Jen has the updated memo in the H/C pkg. that reflects the corrected header on Pg. 2. I corrected it to read “eight” instead of “seven”…

Thanks!

Correspondence Analyst
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)
Office of Executive Review (20A11)

Just for FYI.

Mark,
# Memo to Secretary of Veterans Affairs requesting use of Department of Veterans Affairs Seal at 8 NASCAR events

## CONCURRENCE AND SUMMARY SHEET

**To Be Completed by Executive Secretariat (001B)**

**Remarks**

**Control No.** 7692119

**Name of Reviewer**

### CONCURRENCES - To Be Determined by the Originating Office

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## Name of Authorized Signer

Danny G. I. Pummill

**Acting Under Secretary for Benefits**

---

**VA Form** NOV 2011 4265

**Supercedes VA Form 4265, Mar 2009, Which Will Not Be Used.**

(21-00051-AR) 0404
From: [b](6) (OGC)  
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 3:53 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T.  
Subject: FW: EST GCL 82293—FW: VAIQ 7692119

—Please look at this. (Printing docs will drop off to you)

Thank you,

---

From: [b](6) (OGC)  
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 3:57 PM  
To: Jaynes, Mark T.  
Cc: [b](6)  
Subject: EST GCL 82293—FW: VAIQ 7692119

Hi Mark,

See attached—docs 7692119/VAIQ—NEW EST GCL 82293

Also reference EST GCL 80135 ——and the docs for that GCL— and the email below ---

From: [b](6)  
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 3:38 PM  
To: [b](6)  
Cc:  
Subject: Permission to use the VA Logo for eight 2016 NASCAR races - VAIQ #7692119  
Importance: High

Hello!

Great speaking with you this afternoon. As promised, attached (also uploaded to VAIQ) is VBA's signed memo with supporting docs and VAF4265 for OGC's expedited concurrence, as the first race is on Thursday, May 12, 2016.

I am also sending the H/C folder with the original signed memo to EXECSEC.

SECVVA approved similar use of the logo at the Richmond International Raceway in June 2015.

Also, on April 5, 2016, VAIQ# 7684265, OGC concurred on a previous version of this memo for only one racetrack - “Richmond International Raceway”.

Thank you for slating this for expedited concurrence!
Correspondence Analyst
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)
Office of Executive Review (20A11)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 3:27 PM
To: [b](6)
Subject: VAIQ 76921119

Memo and concurrence sheet attached.

[b](6)
Office of General Counsel (02)
Tel#: [b](6)
Fax#: [b](6)
## Memo to Secretary of Veterans Affairs requesting use of Department of Veterans Affairs Seal at 8 NASCAR events

**CONCURRENCE AND SUMMARY SHEET**

### Subject

Memo to Secretary of Veterans Affairs requesting use of Department of Veterans Affairs Seal at 8 NASCAR events

### To Be Completed by Executive Secretariat (001B)

### Remarks

**Control No.:** 7692119

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### Name of Authorized Signer

Danny G. I. Pummill

### Signature of Initiating Key Official or Authorized Signer

Acting Under Secretary for Benefits

### Date

(21-00051-AR) 0409
Much Thanks!

Correspondence Analyst  
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)  
Office of Executive Review (20A11)

From: Doe
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 10:30 AM  
To: Fant  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: NASCAR: RE: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 769211  
Importance: High

OPA Concurs with the action; no issues.

Acting Executive Director  
Office of Public Affairs

From: Doe
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 10:08 AM  
To: Fant  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: NASCAR: RE: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 769211  
Importance: High

Hello

I left a VM message for you this morning regarding expedited concurrence (as the initial events are currently underway) on the attached (also uploaded to VAIQ 769211-parent/7700848-child) request for use of the VA logo at 8 NASCAR racetracks.

EXECSEC currently has the H/C folder with the original VBA signed memo, for SECVA’s signature.

SECVA approved similar use of the logo at the Richmond International Raceway in June 2015.

Thank you for your expedited concurrence!
Correspondence Analyst
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)
Office of Executive Review (20A11)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 7:45 AM
To: [b](6)
Cc:
Subject: RE: NASCAR: RE: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692111

Got it, thanks.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 5:20 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc:
Subject: NASCAR: RE: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692111
Importance: High

Hello [b](6)

OGC concurred. Whatever you can do to get SECVA's signature would be greatly appreciated.

v/r

Correspondence Analyst
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)
Office of Executive Review (20A11)

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 5:02 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc:
Subject: RE: EST GCL 82293--FW: VAIQ 7692119

Not a big deal—we have concurred also uploaded into VAIQ.

[b](6) please upload into EST GCL 82293. Thanks.
Hi,

This is the updated memo with the header correction that I sent to you yesterday.

Probably not that big a deal, since Jen has the updated memo in the H/C pkg. that reflects the corrected header on Pg. 2. I corrected it to read “eight” instead of “seven”...

Thanks!

Correspondence Analyst
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)
Office of Executive Review (20A11)

Just for FYI.

Mark,
Please look at this. (Printing docs will drop off to you)

Thank you,

Hi Mark,

See attached-docs 7692119/VAIQ-NEW EST GCL 82293

Also reference EST GCL 80135 --and the docs for that GCL-- and the email below --

Great speaking with you this afternoon. As promised, attached (also uploaded to VAIQ) is VBA’s signed memo with supporting docs and VAF4265 for OGC’s expedited concurrence, as the first race is on Thursday, May 12, 2016.

I am also sending the H/C folder with the original signed memo to EXECSEC.

SECVA approved similar use of the logo at the Richmond International Raceway in June 2015.

Also, on April 5, 2016, VAIQ# 7684265, OGC concurred on a previous version of this memo for only one racetrack -- “Richmond International Raceway”.

Thank you for slating this for expedited concurrence!

Correspondence Analyst
Office of the Under Secretary for Benefits (20)
Office of Executive Review (20A11)
Memo and concurrence sheet attached.
Hi Mark,

See attached-docs 7692119/VAIQ-NEW EST GCL 82293

Also reference EST GCL 80135 --and the docs for that GCL-- and the email below --

Great speaking with you this afternoon. As promised, attached (also uploaded to VAIQ) is VBA’s signed memo with supporting docs and VAF4265 for OGC’s expedited concurrence, as the first race is on Thursday, May 12, 2016.

I am also sending the H/C folder with the original signed memo to EXECSEC.

SECVIA approved similar use of the logo at the Richmond International Raceway in June 2015.

Also, on April 5, 2016, VAIQ# 7684265, OGC concurred on a previous version of this memo for only one racetrack - “Richmond International Raceway”.

Thank you for slating this for expedited concurrence!
Subject: VAIQ 7692119

Memo and concurrence sheet attached.

Office of General Counsel (02)
Tel# [reddacted]
Fax# [reddacted]
Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Pacific Ethics Specialty Team. Your ethics request is referred to Ethics Specialty Attorney, [redacted] for response.

Paralegal
Office of General Counsel Ethics Specialty Team, Pacific and Continental
San Diego, CA

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:30 PM
To: OGCPacificEthics
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Dear Ethics Team,
We received the below inquiry from [redacted]. Could you please review this ethics issue and respond to both [redacted] and [redacted] Thank you,

[redacted]
Deputy Chief Counsel
Pacific District South, AZ, NM & SoCal
Office of the General Counsel
650 E. Indian School Road, Bldg. 24
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tel: [redacted]
Fax:

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PLEASE NOTE: Email messages may be corrupted or incomplete, or may incorrectly identify the sender. Please contact the sender if you wish to arrange for a more secure means of communication or if you need to authenticate this message.

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Ms. [REDACTED]

I have provided the following information about whether May Donate Life Arizona can have an informational table at our upcoming NASCAR event.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:00 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal
Mr.

We would like to know if May Donate Life Arizona have a booth at our NASCAR event proposed for Nov. 10. I have highlighted the information below. They will not be selling anything just provided information.

I would appreciate a response as soon as possible to move forward with preparation for the upcoming event.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter,

Public Affairs Program Support Assistant
650 E Indian School Rd
Phoenix AZ 85012
Phone: [redacted]
U.S. Army Veteran

[link to facebook page]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 3:20 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

See #1 below - need to check w/ gen counsel or ethics to see if they can have a table here.

Public Affairs Officer
Phoenix VA Health Care System

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 5:10 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Good Morning [REDACTED]

Following up on the questions below.; especially the question - May Donate Life Arizona have a booth at the outreach fair on November 10th? They wouldn’t be collecting donations or anything, but rather would share information about donating organs and pass out pamphlets/other informational materials about their organization.
The racetrack followed up yesterday so they can get back with Joey Gase's manager.

Thanks,

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 4:05 PM
To:  
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Also, a few questions:

1) Regarding the booths/tables for the VA Health & Wellness Fair - would the non-profit organization, Donate Life America, be able to have a table? - <https://www.donatelifedonatelifed> - NASCAR driver, Joey Gase, who will be most likely one of the drivers coming to the VAMC, races for this organization. - <http://www.mrn.com/Race-Series/NASCAR-XFINITY/News/Articles/2016/04/Joey-Gase-Racing-for-a-Cause.aspx>

2) Do you have a list of the units/wings in the VAMC that would be appropriate for the NASCAR drivers to visit inpatient Veterans?

3) Would the Phoenix International Raceway be able to bring one of
their pace cars to the VAMC the day of the event to display near the entrance of the event? When we held a similar event at the Richmond VAMC a few weeks back, it was held in their cafeteria area and we had the racetrack display their pace car right outside the entrance of the cafeteria. Not sure of the makeup of your VAMC though and what would work best.

4) Does your VAMC have a photographer that could take pictures throughout the event for us?

Thanks!

From VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 4:04 PM
To
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Great! What is your new Director’s name?

I have attached a draft invitation for you to invite VHA program offices, VSOs, and other community partners to highlight their Veteran programs/services at the outreach fair. You do not have to use this invite as I know you may have a different or preferred way to invite organizations.

Just an option…also, I left the signature at the bottom blank.

Finally, let’s plan to have a call the week of Oct 24th if you are available? Please let me know.
Thanks,

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 3:47 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Yes I did - we're green J

[Redacted]
USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer
Phoenix VA Health Care System

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 12:47 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi [Redacted]
Checking in to see if you were able to speak with your new Director about the November 10th Phoenix VAHCS/NASCAR/PIR event.

Thanks!

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 1:12 PM
To: [Email Redacted]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Following up to see if you were able to speak with your new Director about the November 10th Phoenix VAHCS/NASCAR/PIR event.

Please let me know if this has been confirmed and we can continue planning.

Thank you,

From: [Email Redacted]
Awesome - sounds great!

Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer
Phoenix VA Health Care System

Thanks for the update! I will check back on Friday if that's ok? We are just excited to continue the planning the event.

If we can still move forward, I plan on coming out there with a couple of our contractors for the event too. So you will have plenty of support. J
To: VBAVACO

Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi,

Today is actually the new director’s first day on station, and we’ve got USH Dr. Shulkin and others from VACO here as well. I’m not on her calendar for today, but hope to get a few minutes with her before the end of the week. Regardless, I’m sending in an email so she can take a look at the plan...

Thanks!

Ed.D., USAF Ret.

Public Affairs Officer

Phoenix VA Health Care System

From: VBAVACO

Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2016 9:40 AM

Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi
Checking in regarding the Phoenix VAMC/NASCAR/PIR event for November 10, 2016 from 10am-2pm.

Did you get a chance to talk with your new director? Are we still a go?

Thanks,

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 3:30 PM  
To: [Redacted]  
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Awesome - thanks!

Ed.D., USAF Ret.  
Public Affairs Officer  
Phoenix VA Health Care System  

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:27 PM  
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Of course, I definitely understand. Thanks so much Paul! I can touch base later next week.

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 3:21 PM
To: [Redacted]@BAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Yes, new director is supposed to be on board effective Oct. 2. And I don’t anticipate any pushback, but just want to get it on her radar before we engage on it further. Thanks!

Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer
Phoenix VA Health Care System

From: [Redacted]@BAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:20 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Thanks (b)(6). Do you think you will know by next week?

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 3:15 PM
To: (b)(6) VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi (b)(6) - Can’t answer it yet. We’re undergoing a leadership change this week (and also having a DepSec visit next week) - I’d like to discuss with our new director to ensure she’s good with the plan. Thanks!

(b)(6) Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer
Phoenix VA Health Care System

From: (b)(6) VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 11:01 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal
Hi

Following-up on my email below. Does everything still work for November 10th at the Phoenix VAMC?

Thanks.

From: Life VBAVACO
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 3:10 PM
To: Life VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi

Happy Friday!

I wanted to reconnect with you regarding the Phoenix VAMC/NASCAR/PIR event that I mentioned a few months back. We have been working with the Phoenix International Raceway to find NASCAR drivers interested in visiting the Phoenix VAMC to do an autograph signing as well as visit inpatient Veterans within the facility. As part of those activities that day, we hope to have a VA Health and Wellness Fair where various internal VA programs (VHA, VBA, and NCA), VSOs, and other local community organizations can staff booths and highlight the services they provide to Veterans and their families.
We still propose the following schedule below.

Thursday, November 10, 2016

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - VA Health and Wellness Fair (VSOs, VHA programs/services, VBA benefits, community Veteran organizations)

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - NASCAR driver autograph signing and facility tour (approximate timeframe - will possibly be shorter)

A few questions -

1) Regarding the booths/tables for the VA Health & Wellness Fair - would the non-profit organization, Donate Life America, be able to have a table? - <https://www.donatelife.net/> - NASCAR driver, Joey Gase, who will be most likely one of the drivers coming to the VAMC, races for this organization. - <http://www.mrn.com/Race-Series/NASCAR-XFINITY/News/Articles/2016/04/Joey-Gase-Racing-for-a-Cause.aspx>

2) Do you have a list of the units/wings in the VAMC that would be appropriate for the NASCAR drivers to visit inpatient Veterans?

3) Would the Phoenix International Raceway be able to bring one of their pace cars to the VAMC the day of the event to display near the entrance of the event? When we held a similar event at the Richmond VAMC a few weeks back, it was held in their cafeteria area and we had the racetrack display their pace car right outside the entrance of the cafeteria. Not sure of the makeup of your VAMC though and what would work best.

4) Does your VAMC have a photographer that could take pictures
throughout the event for us?

As far as inviting VSOs and other organizations to participate in the VA Health & Wellness Fair, we can create an invitation for you to distribute with all of the information if you would like. Also, to promote the event to Veterans and their families, we can create a flyer for you and/or if you have TVs placed around the VAMC, we can create a PPT slide to display on the TVs promoting the event. Please let us know what you need us to create, and we are happy to do so.

Thanks so much!

Strategic Partnerships Liaison
Benefits Assistance Service
Veterans Benefits Administration
Washington, DC

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 5:28 PM
To: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Hi, I've gotten the green flag from our VBA RO as well as PVAHCS leadership - we're a go!

Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer

From: BAVACO
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 11:49 AM
To: 
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi

Checking in to ask if you were able to receive approval from your leadership on hosting a “Driving VA Benefits and Services Home” with NASCAR event to include an outreach health and wellness fair, NASCAR driver autograph signing and tour of the facility/visiting Veterans. We would like to begin asking NASCAR drivers to participate in the event. We are recommending the following schedule below (pending driver availability/scheduling):

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - VA Health and Wellness Fair (VSOs, VHA
programs/services, VBA benefits, community Veteran organizations)
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - NASCAR driver autograph signing and facility tour

Please let me know.

Thanks,

[Signature]

Strategic Partnerships Liaison
Benefits Assistance Service
Veterans Benefits Administration
Washington, DC

From: [Signature]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 6:10 PM
To: [Signature]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi - Thanks for the letter. This sounds like it'd be a great opportunity
for us! I'll zip it past the director and chief of voluntary to ensure they're on board, but I think it'd be awesome!

More soon!

Thanks,

[Redacted]

Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer

From: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 1:05 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Good afternoon [Redacted]

First, I'd like to introduce myself. My name is [Redacted] and I am VBA's Strategic Partnerships Liaison at VA Central Office in Washington, DC.
VA has been in a partnership with NASCAR and several racetracks across the country over the past few years to deliver information and access to VA benefits and services through targeted outreach into the community where Veterans and their families live and socialize. Last year, VA conducted outreach at eleven race events and plans to participate in nine or more this year.

In addition to providing outreach at the racetracks, one of our events included a “Driving VA Benefits and Services Home” with NASCAR outreach event at the Hunter Holmes McGuire VAMC in Richmond, VA during 9/11 weekend in 2015. The VAMC featured a four-hour outreach health and wellness fair highlighting VA programs, VSOs, and community-based organizations supporting and serving Veterans and their families. The event also included an autograph session from five NASCAR drivers who toured the facility and visited several inpatient Veterans including those in their polytrauma center. The event even had participation from the Richmond International Raceway where they put their pace car on display at the VAMC and staffed an outreach booth. The Richmond VAMC event was a huge success as we not only received support from their Director, but worked closely with their Public Affairs Officer and Chief of Voluntary Services.

I am reaching out to propose a similar event - “Driving VA Benefits and Services Home” with NASCAR - to be held at the Phoenix VAMC on Thursday, November 10, 2016 (Veteran’s Day weekend) from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The event would include participation from VA, NASCAR, and the Phoenix International Raceway (PIR) and would be modeled similar after the Richmond VAMC event shared above. This event would lead into the race weekend at PIR November 11-13th where VA health and benefits experts will be on site with the Mobile Vet Center providing information and access to VA benefits and services.

I am happy to further discuss this proposal and answer any questions you may have.
Thank you,

Strategic Partnerships Liaison
Benefits Assistance Service
Veterans Benefits Administration
Washington, DC
Staff Attorney and Deputy Ethics Official
Ethics Specialty Team, Office of General Counsel (023)
11301 Wilshire Blvd.
Bldg 506
Los Angeles, CA 90073-1003
Phone: [Redacted]
Cell: [Redacted]
Fax: [Redacted]

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-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, October 24, 2016 9:38 AM
To: OGCPacificEthics; [Redacted] (OGC)
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: 90387 ADV: Can Donate Life AZ have booth at VA fair?
Staff Attorney and Deputy Ethics Official Ethics Specialty Team, Office of General Counsel (023)
11301 Wilshire Blvd.
Bldg 506
Los Angeles, CA 90073-1003
Phone (111) 111-1111
Cell (111) 111-1111
Fax

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-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of OGCPacificEthics
Sent: Monday, October 24, 2016 9:00 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: 90387 ADV: Can Donate Life AZ have booth at VA fair?

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Pacific Ethics Specialty Team. Your ethics request is referred to Ethics Specialty Attorney, [REDACTED] for response.

[REDACTED] M.S.L.
Paralegal
Office of General Counsel Ethics Specialty Team, Pacific and Continental San Diego, CA

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED] [OGC]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:30 PM
To: OGCPacificEthics
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Dear Ethics Team,

We received the below inquiry from [REDACTED] Could you please review this ethics issue and respond to both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Thank you,

[REDACTED] Deputy Chief Counsel
Pacific District South, AZ, NM & SoCal
Office of the General Counsel
650 E. Indian School Road, Bldg. 24
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tel: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

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-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:05 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

I have provided the following information about whether May Donate Life Arizona can have an informational table at our upcoming NASCAR event.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter,

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:00 PM
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: FW: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

We would like to know if May Donate Life Arizona have a booth at our NASCAR event proposed for Nov. 10. I have highlighted the information below. They will not be selling anything just provided information.

Current Date: Dec 4, 2020

Date of Note: 10/24/2016
(21-00051-AR) 0443
I would appreciate a response as soon as possible to move forward with preparation for the upcoming event.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter,

Public Affairs Program Support Assistant
650 E Indian School Rd
Phoenix AZ 85012
Phone: [Redacted]

U.S. Army Veteran

<https://www.facebook.com/PhxVAHealthcare/>

From [Redacted]
Sept: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 3:20 PM
To [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

See #1 below - need to check w/ gen counsel or ethics to see if they can have a table here.

Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer
Phoenix VA Health Care System

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 5:10 AM
To: 
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Good Morning

Following up on the questions below: especially the question - May Donate Life Arizona have a booth at the outreach fair on November 10th? They wouldn’t be collecting donations or anything, but rather would share information about donating organs and pass out pamphlets/other informational materials about their organization.

The racetrack followed up yesterday so they can get back with Joey Gase’s manager.

Thanks,

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 4:05 PM
To: 
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Also, a few questions:
1) Regarding the booths/tables for the VA Health & Wellness Fair - would the non-profit organization, Donate Life America, be able to have a table? - [https://www.donatelifeline.net/] - NASCAR driver, Joey Gase, who will be most likely one of the drivers coming to the VAMC, races for this organization. - [http://www.mrn.com/Race-Series/NASCAR-XFINITY/News/Articles/2016/04/Joey-Gase-Racing-for-a-Cause.aspx]

2) Do you have a list of the units/wings in the VAMC that would be appropriate for the NASCAR drivers to visit inpatient Veterans?

3) Would the Phoenix International Raceway be able to bring one of their pace cars to the VAMC the day of the event to display near the entrance of the event? When we held a similar event at the Richmond VAMC a few weeks back, it was held in their cafeteria area and we had the racetrack display their pace car right outside the entrance of the cafeteria. Not sure of the makeup of your VAMC though and what would work best.

4) Does your VAMC have a photographer that could take pictures throughout the event for us?

Thanks!

From: [hidden] VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 4:04 PM
To: [hidden]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Great! What is your new Director's name?

I have attached a draft invitation for you to invite VHA program offices, VSOs, and other community partners to highlight their Veteran programs/services at the outreach fair. You do not have to use this invite as I know you may have a different or preferred way to invite organizations.

Just an option...also, I left the signature at the bottom blank.
Finally, let's plan to have a call the week of Oct 24th if you are available? Please let me know.

Thanks,

[b][/b]

From: [b] [Ed., USAF Ret.]
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 3:47 PM
To: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Yes I did - we're green J

[b][/b]

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 12:47 PM
To: [b]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

H:

Checking in to see if you were able to speak with your new Director about the November 10th Phoenix VAHCS/NASCAR/PIR event.
Thanks!

Hi

Following up to see if you were able to speak with your new Director about the November 10th Phoenix VAHCS/NASCAR/PIR event.

Please let me know if this has been confirmed and we can continue planning.

Thank you,

Awesome - sounds great!

Ed.D., USAF Ret.

Public Affairs Officer
Phoenix VA Health Care System

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2016 9:46 AM
To: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Thanks for the update! I will check back on Friday if that's ok? We are just excited to continue the planning the event.

If we can still move forward, I plan on coming out there with a couple of our contractors for the event too. So you will have plenty of support.

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2016 12:42 PM
To: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi, today is actually the new director's first day on station, and we've got USH Dr. Shulkin and others from VACO here as well. I'm not on her calendar for today, but hope to get a few minutes with her before the end of the week. Regardless, I'm sending in an email so she can take a look at the plan...

Thanks!

Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer
Hi

Checking in regarding the Phoenix VAMC/NASCAR/PIR event for November 10, 2016 from 10am-2pm.

Did you get a chance to talk with your new director? Are we still a go?

Thanks,

Awesome - thanks!

Ed.D., USAF Ret.

Public Affairs Officer

Phoenix VA Health Care System
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:27 PM
To: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Of course, I definitely understand. Thanks so much Paul! I can touch base later next week.

From: Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 3:21 PM
To: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Yes, new director is supposed to be on board effective Oct. 2. And I don’t anticipate any pushback, but just want to gert it on her radar before we engage on it further. Thanks!

Public Affairs Officer
Phoenix VA Health Care System

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:20 PM
To: VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Current Date: Dec 4, 2020
Date of Note: 10/24/2016
(21-00051-AR) 0451
Thanks. Do you think you will know by next week?

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 3:15 PM
To: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi, Can’t answer it yet. We’re undergoing a leadership change this week (and also having a DepSec visit next week) - I’d like to discuss with our new director to ensure she’s good with the plan. Thanks!

Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer
Phoenix VA Health Care System

From: [Redacted] VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 11:01 AM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi,

Following-up on my email below. Does everything still work for November 10th at the Phoenix VAMC?

Thanks,
From: VBAVACO
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 3:10 PM
To: [Email]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hello!

Happy Friday!

I wanted to reconnect with you regarding the Phoenix VAMC/NASCAR/PIR event that I mentioned a few months back. We have been working with the Phoenix International Raceway to find NASCAR drivers interested in visiting the Phoenix VAMC to do an autograph signing as well as visit inpatient Veterans within the facility. As part of those activities that day, we hope to have a VA Health and Wellness Fair where various internal VA programs (VHA, VBA, and NCA), VSOs, and other local community organizations can staff booths and highlight the services they provide to Veterans and their families.

We still propose the following schedule below.

Thursday, November 10, 2016

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - VA Health and Wellness Fair (VSOs, VHA programs/services, VBA benefits, community Veteran organizations)

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - NASCAR driver autograph signing and facility tour (approximate timeframe - will possibly be shorter)

A few questions -

1) Regarding the booths/tables for the VA Health & Wellness Fair - would the non-profit organization, Donate Life America, be able to have a table? - <https://www.donatelife.net/> - NASCAR driver, Joey Gase, who will be most likely one of the drivers coming to the VAMC, races for this organization. - <http://www.mrn.com/Race-Series/NASCAR-XFINITY/News/Articles/2016/04/Joey-Gase-Racing-for-a-Cause.aspx>
2) Do you have a list of the units/wings in the VAMC that would be appropriate for the NASCAR drivers to visit inpatient Veterans?

3) Would the Phoenix International Raceway be able to bring one of their pace cars to the VAMC the day of the event to display near the entrance of the event? When we held a similar event at the Richmond VAMC a few weeks back, it was held in their cafeteria area and we had the racetrack display their pace car right outside the entrance of the cafeteria. Not sure of the makeup of your VAMC though and what would work best.

4) Does your VAMC have a photographer that could take pictures throughout the event for us?

As far as inviting VSOs and other organizations to participate in the VA Health & Wellness Fair, we can create an invitation for you to distribute with all of the information if you would like. Also, to promote the event to Veterans and their families, we can create a flyer for you and/or if you have TVs placed around the VAMC, we can create a PPT slide to display on the TVs promoting the event. Please let us know what you need us to create, and we are happy to do so.

Thanks so much!

Strategic Partnerships Liaison
Benefits Assistance Service
Veterans Benefits Administration

Washington, DC
From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 5:28 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi (b)(6) I've gotten the green flag from our VBA RO as well as PVAHCS leadership - we're a go!

(b)(6) Ed.D., USAF Ret.
Public Affairs Officer

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 11:49 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

(b)(6)

Checking in to ask if you were able to receive approval from your leadership on hosting a “Driving VA Benefits and Services Home” with NASCAR event to include an outreach health and wellness fair, NASCAR driver autograph signing and tour of the facility/visiting Veterans. We would like to begin asking NASCAR drivers to participate in the event. We are recommending the following schedule below (pending driver availability/scheduling):

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - VA Health and Wellness Fair (VSOs, VHA programs/services, VBA benefits, community Veteran organizations)

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - NASCAR driver autograph signing and facility tour
Please let me know.

Thanks,

Strategic Partnerships Liaison
Benefits Assistance Service
Veterans Benefits Administration
Washington, DC

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 6:10 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Hi [Redacted] Thanks for the letter. This sounds like it’d be a great opportunity for us! I’ll zip it past the director and chief of voluntary to ensure they’re on board, but I think it’d be awesome!

More soon!

Thanks,
Case: 90387: ADV: Can Donate Life AZ have booth at VA fair? Note

From: VBAVACO
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 1:05 PM
To: VBA
Subject: Phoenix VAMC, NASCAR, and Phoenix International Raceway Event Proposal

Good afternoon,

First, I’d like to introduce myself. My name is [Redacted] and I am VBA’s Strategic Partnerships Liaison at VA Central Office in Washington, DC.

VA has been in a partnership with NASCAR and several racetracks across the country over the past few years to deliver information and access to VA benefits and services through targeted outreach into the community where Veterans and their families live and socialize. Last year, VA conducted outreach at eleven race events and plans to participate in nine or more this year.

In addition to providing outreach at the racetracks, one of our events included a “Driving VA Benefits and Services Home” with NASCAR outreach event at the Hunter Holmes McGuire VAMC in Richmond, VA during 9/11 weekend in 2015. The VAMC featured a four-hour outreach health and wellness fair highlighting VA programs, VSOs, and community-based organizations supporting and serving Veterans and their families. The event also included an autograph session from five NASCAR drivers who toured the facility and visited several inpatient Veterans including those in their polytrauma center. The event even had participation from the Richmond International Raceway where they put their pace car on display at the VAMC and staffed an outreach booth. The Richmond VAMC event was a huge success as we not only received support from their Director, but worked closely with their Public Affairs Officer and Chief of Voluntary Services.
I am reaching out to propose a similar event - “Driving VA Benefits and Services Home” with NASCAR - to be held at the Phoenix VAMC on Thursday, November 10, 2016 (Veteran’s Day weekend) from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The event would include participation from VA, NASCAR, and the Phoenix International Raceway (PIR) and would be modeled similar after the Richmond VAMC event shared above. This event would lead into the race weekend at PIR November 11-13th where VA health and benefits experts will be on site with the Mobile Vet Center providing information and access to VA benefits and services.

I am happy to further discuss this proposal and answer any questions you may have.

Thank you,

[Signature]

Strategic Partnerships Liaison
Benefits Assistance Service
Veterans Benefits Administration
Washington, DC
I do not have the authority to concur in VIEWS.

From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 4:21 PM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence REF: 144550

Staff Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of General Counsel (02Ethics)
810 Vermont Ave NW
Washington, DC 20420

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From: [REDACTED]
From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 2:28 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: RE: : Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence REF: 144550

Mark

From: [b](6)
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 1:20 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc: [b](6)
Subject: RE: : Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence REF: 144550
[b](5). [b](5).

From: [b](6) (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 1:32 PM
To: [b](6)
Cc:
Subject: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence
REF: 144550

[b](6).

[b](5).

[b](6)

[38 C.F.R. § 2] Use of the official seal, replicas, reproductions, and embossing seals.

(i) The Secretary or designees are authorized to affix replicas, reproductions, and embossed seals to appropriate documents, certifications, and other material for all purposes as authorized by this section.

(ii) Replicas may be used only for:

(A) Display in or adjacent to VA facilities, in Department auditoriums, presentation rooms, hearing rooms, lobbies, and public document rooms.

(B) Offices of senior officials.

(C) Official VA distinguishing flags, adopted and utilized pursuant to paragraph (e)(2) [https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/38/1.9] of this section.

(D) Official awards, certificates, medals, and plaques.

(E) Motion picture film, video tape, and other audiovisual media prepared by or for VA and attributed thereto.

(F) Official prestige publications which represent the achievements or mission of VA.

(G) For other similar official purposes.

(H) For such other purposes as will tend to advance the aims, purposes and mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs as determined by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary.
(iii) Reproductions may be used only on:

(A) VA letterhead stationery.
(B) Official VA identification cards and security credentials.
(C) Business cards for VA employees.
(D) Official VA signs.
(E) Official publications or graphics issued by and attributed to VA, or joint statements of VA with one or more Federal agencies, State or local governments, or foreign governments.
(F) Official awards, certificates, and medals.
(G) Motion picture film, video tape, and other audiovisual media prepared by and for VA and attributed thereto.
(H) For other similar official purposes.
(I) For such other purposes as will tend to advance the aims, purposes and mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs as determined by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary.

(iv) Use of the official seal and embossed seals:

(A) Embossed seals may be used only on VA legal documents, including interagency or intergovernmental agreements with States, foreign patent applications, and similar official documents.

(B) The official seal may be used only for those purposes related to the conduct of Departmental affairs in furtherance of the VA mission.

(f) Unauthorized uses of the seal and flag.

(1) The official seal, replicas, reproductions, embossed seals, and the distinguished flag shall not be used, except as authorized by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary, in connection with:

(i) Contractor-operated facilities.
(ii) Souvenir or novelty items.
(iii) Toys or commercial gifts or premiums.
(iv) Letterhead design, except on official Departmental stationery.
(v) Matchbook covers, calendars and similar items.
(vi) Civilian clothing or equipment.
(vii) Any article which may disparage the seal or flag or reflect unfavorably upon VA.
(viii) Any manner which implies Departmental endorsement of commercial products or services, or of the commercial user’s policies or activities.

-----Original Message-----
From: (b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 12:09 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: 
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence REF: 144550

(b)(5): (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----
From: (b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 12:01 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence REF: 144550

(b)(6)

I will circle back with you later today.

(b)(5): (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----
From: (b)(6) (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 11:45 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence REF: 144550

(b)(5): (b)(6)
Staff Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official Department of Veterans Affairs Office of General Counsel (O2Ethics)  
810 Vermont Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20420

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-----Original Message-----
From: OGC (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 10:07 AM
To: OGC
Cc: OGC
Subject: FW: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence REF: 144550
Greetings,

Thank you for contacting the South-East Ethics Specialty Team.

Your ethics request has been referred to Ethics Specialty Attorney.

-----Original Message-----
From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 9:42 AM
To: [b][e]  
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence

Give it to [b] as a high priority.

Mark

-----Original Message-----
From: [b][e] 
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 8:40 AM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) 
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence

Good morning Mark,

[b][e] is out until the 7th of October.

-----Original Message-----
From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 9:09 AM
To: [b][e] 
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence

[b][e]  
Assign to [b][e]  Thanks!

Mark

-----Original Message-----
From: [b][e] 
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 2:18 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency

Good afternoon Mark,

Who would you like me to assign this case to?

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 2:44 PM
To: Government Ethics
Subject: FW: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency

Good Afternoon,

Please see the views task below, thank you.

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 12:14 PM
To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency

New Task Assignment Alert!

A new case task was created on: 2019-10-02 12:13:32 and assigned to OGC-02 General Counsel.

Please see details below.
Case Subject: Titan Us of VA Logo
Primary MOC:
Signature Level: SECVA

Task Created By: [REDACTED]
Office: VHA-10NS Network Support
Organization: VHA

Task Name: LCT-167064
Due Date is on: 2019-10-04 17:00:00
Action Requested: Provide Concurrency
Requested Activity: Request concurrence

To view case Task details and to provide response, please use the link below:
<https://va.my.salesforce.com/a4at00000004qy5AAA>

Thank you!
(f) Unauthorized uses of the seal and flag.

(1) The official seal, replicas, reproductions, embossed seals, and the distinguished flag shall not be used, except as authorized by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary, in connection with:

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(v) Matchbook covers, calendars and similar items.

(vi) Civilian clothing or equipment.

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Staff Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of General Counsel (02Ethics)
810 Vermont Ave NW
Washington, DC 20420

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-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 10:07 AM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency REF: 144550

Greetings,

Thank you for contacting the South-East Ethics Specialty Team.

Your ethics request has been referred to Ethics Specialty Attorney.

-----Original Message-----
From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 9:42 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency

Give it to [redacted] as a high priority...

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 8:40 AM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency

Good morning [redacted]

[redacted] is out until the 7th of October.

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From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 9:09 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency

[redacted]

Assign to [redacted] Thanks!
Mark

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 2:18 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence

Good afternoon,

Who would you like me to assign this case to?

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 2:44 PM
To: Government Ethics [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence

Good Afternoon,

Please see the views task below, thank you.

-----Original Message-----
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 12:14 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence

New Task Assignment Alert!

A new case task was created on: 2019-10-02 12:13:32 and assigned to OGC-02 General Counsel.

Please see details below.
Case Subject: Titan Us of VA Logo
Primary MOC:
Signature Level: SECVA

Task Created By: [REDACTED]
Office: VHA-10NS Network Support
Organization: VHA

Task Name: LCT-167064
Due Date is on: 2019-10-04 17:00:00
Action Requested: Provide Concurrence
Requested Activity: Request concurrence

To view case Task details and to provide response, please use the link below:
<https://va.my.salesforce.com/a4at00000004qy5AAA>

Thank you!
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(B) Offices of senior officials.

(C) Official VA distinguishing flags, adopted and utilized pursuant to paragraph (e)(2) <https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/38/1.9> of this section.

(D) Official awards, certificates, medals, and plaques.

(E) Motion picture film, video tape, and other audiovisual media prepared by or for VA and attributed thereto.

(F) Official prestige publications which represent the achievements or mission of VA.

(G) For other similar official purposes.
(H) For such other purposes as will tend to advance the aims, purposes and mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs as determined by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary:

- (iii) Reproductions may be used only on:
  - VA letterhead stationery.
  - Official VA identification cards and security credentials.
  - Business cards for VA employees.
  - Official VA signs.
  - Official publications or graphics issued by and attributed to VA, or joint statements of VA with one or more Federal agencies, State or local governments, or foreign governments.
  - Official awards, certificates, and medals.
  - Motion picture film, video tape, and other audiovisual media prepared by and for VA and attributed thereto.
  - For other similar official purposes.

- For such other purposes as will tend to advance the aims, purposes and mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs as determined by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary:

(iv) Use of the official seal and embossed seals:

- (A) Embossed seals may be used only on VA legal documents, including interagency or intergovernmental agreements with States, foreign patent applications, and similar official documents.

- (B) The official seal may be used only for those purposes related to the conduct of Departmental affairs in furtherance of the VA mission.

....

(f) Unauthorized uses of the seal and flag.

- (1) The official seal, replicas, reproductions, embossed seals, and the distinguished flag shall not be used, except as authorized by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary, in connection with:

  - (i) Contractor-operated facilities.
  - (ii) Souvenir or novelty items.
  - (iii) Toys or commercial gifts or premiums.
  - (iv) Letterhead design, except on official Departmental stationery.
  - (v) Matchbook covers, calendars and similar items.
(vi) Civilian clothing or equipment.

(vii) Any article which may disparage the seal or flag or reflect unfavorably upon VA.

(viii) Any manner which implies Departmental endorsement of commercial products or services, or of the commercial user’s policies or activities.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you.

---

Staff Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of General Counsel (02Ethics)
810 Vermont Ave NW
Washington, DC 20420

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From: [redacted] (OGC)
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2019 2:05 PM
To: Hipolit, Richard (OGC)
Cc: [redacted] (OGC)

Subject: FW: : Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide
(f) Unauthorized uses of the seal and flag.

(1) The official seal, replicas, reproductions, embossed seals, and the distinguished flag shall not be used, except as authorized by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary, in connection with:

(i) Contractor-operated facilities.

(ii) Souvenir or novelty items.

(iii) Toys or commercial gifts or premiums.

(iv) Letterhead design, except on official Departmental stationery.

(v) Matchbook covers, calendars and similar items.

(vi) Civilian clothing or equipment.

(vii) Any article which may disparage the seal or flag or reflect unfavorably upon VA.

(viii) Any manner which implies Departmental endorsement of commercial products or services, or of the commercial user’s policies or activities.
Hope all is well. Thank you.

[O(5)]

Staff Attorney/Deputy Ethics Official
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of General Counsel (02Ethics)
810 Vermont Ave NW
Washington, DC 20420

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-----Original Message-----
From: [O(6)]
Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2019 10:07 AM
To: [O(6)]
Cc: [O(6)]
Subject: FW: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence REF: 144550

Greetings,
Thank you for contacting the South-East Ethics Specialty Team.

Your ethics request has been referred to Ethics Specialty Attorney, [Redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 9:42 AM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence

Give it to [Redacted] as a high priority.

Mark

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 8:40 AM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence

Good morning Mark,

[Redacted] is out until the 7th of October.

Dana

-----Original Message-----
From: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC)
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2019 9:09 AM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrence

[Redacted]

Assign to [Redacted], Thanks!

Mark

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 2:18 PM
To: Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [Redacted]

Date of Note: 04/10/2019
(21-00051-AR) 0478
Subject: RE: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency

Good afternoon Mark,

Who would you like me to assign this case to?

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 2:44 PM
To: Government Ethics [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency

Good Afternoon,

Please see the views task below, thank you.

-----Original Message-----
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 12:14 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Case #: 01471317 - Due Date: 2019-10-04 17:00:00 - Action Requested - Provide Concurrency

New Task Assignment Alert!

A new case task was created on: 2019-10-02 12:13:32 and assigned to OGC-02 General Counsel.

Please see details below.
Case Subject: Titan Us of VA Logo
Primary MOC:
Signature Level: SECVA

Task Created By: [Redacted]
Office: VHA-10NS Network Support
Organization: VHA

Task Name: LCT-167064
Due Date is on: 2019-10-04 17:00:00
Action Requested: Provide Concurrency
Requested Activity: Request concurrence

To view case Task details and to provide response, please use the link below:
<https://va.my.salesforce.com/a4at00000004qy5AAA>
Thank you!
From: [REDACTED] (OGC)
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 11:21 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Iskra, Tanner <[REDACTED]>, Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: BtB and OGN Episodes for OGC Review

- Kurt Busch (Interview)
  - <https://youtu.be/ZvxnQOD2aYI>
Newsworthiness: <https://nascar.nbcsports.com/2020/01/28/kurt-busch-to-again-give-away-100-tickets-to-veterans-for-all-cup-races/>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 9:47 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Iskra, Tanner <[REDACTED]>, Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: BtB and OGN Episodes for OGC Review

Per [REDACTED]

- Kurt Busch (Interview)
  - <https://youtu.be/ZvxnQOD2aYI>
  - Newsworthiness: <https://nascar.nbcsports.com/2020/01/28/kurt-busch-to-again-give-away-100-tickets-to-veterans-for-all-cup-races/>

- Todd Robinson (Full Episode) - Director, The Last Full Measure
  - <https://youtu.be/B4H4X1Waw5o>

- Charlynda Scales (Interview)
- **Fred Navarro and Phil Hall (Full Episode)** - Army Veterans who witnessed actions of William H. Pitsenbarger and personal events were depicted in The Last Full Measure
  - <https://youtu.be/cv5v-U4RBT0>

Thanks,

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From: [b](6)
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 9:36 AM
To: [b](6)
Mark T. (OGC) [b](6)
Cc: Iskra, Tanner [b](6)
Subject: RE: BtB and OGN Episodes for OGC Review

Please advise in which order you would like me to review these.

Thanks.

From: [b](6)
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 9:23 AM
To: [b](6)
Jaynes, Mark T. (OGC) [b](6)
Cc: Iskra, Tanner [b](6)
Subject: FW: BtB and OGN Episodes for OGC Review

Gents-
Here is an example of what we’d like to have put out very soon—please give a listen and let us know if there is any material that may be ‘questionable’ regarding the topic of ‘promoting’.

Thanks!

PDAS, OPIA

From: "Iskra, Tanner"
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at 6:25 PM
To: ""
Cc: ""
Subject: BtB and OGN Episodes for OGC Review

Good Evening Gents,

Per our discussion. The four aforementioned interviews (2 are full episodes) are available for OGC review.

**Borne the Battle**
- **Fred Navarro and Phil Hall (Full Episode)** - Army Veterans who witnessed actions of William H. Pitsenbarger and personal events were depicted in The Last Full Measure
  - [https://youtu.be/cy6v-U4RBTo](https://youtu.be/cy6v-U4RBTo)
- **Charlynda Scales (Interview)**

**Our Grateful Nation**
- **Todd Robinson (Full Episode)** - Director, The Last Full Measure
  - [https://youtu.be/B4H4X1Waw5o](https://youtu.be/B4H4X1Waw5o)
- **Kurt Busch (Interview)**
  - [https://youtu.be/ZvnQOwDD2yI](https://youtu.be/ZvnQOwDD2yI)

Thanks,
Tanner Iskra
Host | "Borne the Battle" Podcast
VA | Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs
810 Vermont Ave NW | Washington, D.C. 20420

**Borne the Battle**
Homepage: <https://bit.ly/2H0ASou>