

Date: *November 9, 2011*

Ms. Kathryn Youel Page  
Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official  
U.S. Department of State  
Washington, DC 20520-6310

Re: Ethics Undertakings

Dear Ms. Youel Page:

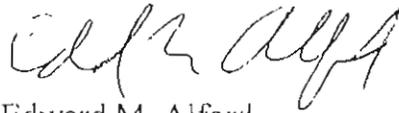
I am committed to the highest standards of ethical conduct for government officials. If confirmed as Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia, as required by 18 U.S.C. §208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that has a direct and predictable effect on my financial interests or those of any person whose interests are imputed to me, unless I first obtain a written waiver pursuant to §208(b)(1) or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me: any spouse or minor child of mine; any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner; any organization in which I serve as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

I understand that a heightened prospect of a conflict of interest could exist as to companies that maintain a presence in the Republic of The Gambia, because they may be more likely than other companies to seek official assistance from or make other contact with the Embassy. I will remain alert to the possible need for recusal where appropriate.

I will provide the appropriate officials with the list of those interests I have retained or may acquire in order to support my efforts to avoid conflicts of interest. In addition, I will recuse myself from participation on a case-by-case basis in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I determine that a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would question my impartiality in that matter, unless I am first authorized to participate pursuant to 5 C.F.R. Part 2635, Subpart E.

I have been advised that this ethics agreement will be posted publicly, consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with other ethics agreements of Presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ed M. Alford".

Edward M. Alford