

MEMORANDUM

TO: STEPHEN ALEXANDER VADEN
ACTING GENERAL COUNSEL
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STUART BENDER
DESIGNATED AGENCY ETHICS OFFICIAL AND
DIRECTOR, USDA OFFICE OF ETHICS

FROM: DONALD F. MCGAHN II
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE

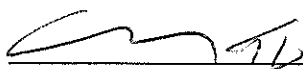
DATE: July 20, 2017

SUBJECT: Limited Waiver of Paragraph 7 of the Ethics Pledge

Official: Margaret ("Maggie") Lyons
Chief of Staff, Food Nutrition and Consumer Services
U.S. Department of Agriculture

After reviewing the U.S. Department of Agriculture's limited waiver request memorandum, I hereby waive the requirements of paragraph 7 of the Ethics Pledge to Ms. Margaret ("Maggie") Lyons to allow her to advise the Secretary of Agriculture and other senior Department officials with respect to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program. I have determined that it is in the public interest to grant this limited waiver because of Ms. Lyons' expertise in SNAP and WIC policy and implementation. Ms. Lyons' deep understanding of Congress and the SNAP and WIC programs make her an ideal person to assist the Secretary of Agriculture and his senior leadership team to make SNAP and WIC more efficient and effective.

In light of the importance of the aforementioned efforts to the Administration and to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, a limited waiver the provisions of paragraph 7 of the Ethics Pledge (contained in Section 1 of Executive Order 13770) is justified for Ms. Lyons to enable her to advise the Secretary of Agriculture. Accordingly, I authorize Ms. Lyons to participate personally and substantially in matters regarding SNAP and WIC. I understand that Ms. Lyons will otherwise comply with the remainder of the requirements imposed by the President's Ethics Pledge and with all preexisting government ethics rules.



Donald F. McGahn II
Counsel to the President

Dated: 27 July 2017