

From: Taylor, Richele <RicheleTaylor@gov.sc.gov>
To: Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>
CC: Adams, Chaney <ChaneyAdams@gov.sc.gov>
Schimsa, Rebecca <RebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 9/20/2016 3:31:03 PM
Subject: FW: question from the post and courier

Rob,

The real context here is the Governor needs round the clock security detail, but taxpayers cannot pay for campaign-related events as taxpayer dollars cannot influence an election. Her position, by nature, is political so the first thing we need to do is change the verbiage/issue of these questions.

Rebecca did a nice background on these questions, but they are not formal answers for the reporters.

From: Schimsa, Rebecca
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 3:25 PM
To: Taylor, Richele
Subject: RE: question from the post and courier

When are state taxpayers responsible for expenses incurred by the governor's political travel?

The premise of the question misrepresents the issue. The State Ethics Act does not regulate "political travel", which seemingly could encompass all travel conducted one elected to political office. Rather, state law (Section 8-13-1346 of the South Carolina Code of Laws) prohibits use of public resources to influence the outcome of an election, which can better be described as campaign-related travel. Another state law (Proviso 117.76 of the General Appropriations Act) requires state law enforcement agencies to provide security detail to the governor at all times regardless of the purpose of the travel. Accordingly, Governor Haley initiated a Memorandum of Agreement with the State Ethics Commission and SLED to clarify when reimbursements are appropriate. Pursuant to the MOA, reimbursements are made for campaign-related events, which are defined to include but not be limited to campaign fundraisers, campaign rallies, and other events paid for and planned by the campaign. As also set forth by the MOA, the Governor's staff shall determine whether an event is campaign-related, and the State Ethics Commission shall provide advice as needed.

Which state agency/agencies did the governor's office reimburse after a recent review of travel?

Pursuant to state law (Proviso 117.69), the Governor's security detail is provided by SLED, DPS State Highway Patrol, and DNR. Accordingly, reimbursements are made to these law enforcement agencies for costs, such as mileage, meals, accommodations, or airline tickets, incurred by the agencies for providing security to the Governor for campaign-related events.

For which trip(s) was/were this reimbursement related to?

Costs for all campaign-related events are reimbursed to the respective law enforcement agency. *I assume that a reporter can match up the dates to the calendar to see a listing of events, and therefore, we do not need to provide.

Why was this trip reimbursed and not others?

Costs for non-campaign-related events are not reimbursed.

From: Godfrey, Rob
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 2:34 PM
To: Taylor, Richele; Patel, Swati; Schimsa, Rebecca; Adams, Chaney
Subject: RE: question from the post and courier

Importance: High

This question, too:

- Which state agency/agencies did the governor's office reimburse after a recent review of travel? For which trip(s) was/were this reimbursement related to? Why was this trip reimbursed and not others?

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From: Godfrey, Rob
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 2:33 PM
To: Taylor, Richele; Patel, Swati; Schimsa, Rebecca; Adams, Chaney
Subject: question from the post and courier
Importance: High

We have the following question in from the Post and Courier. It's a follow up to answers we've provided them for the story on the governor's travel.

Will y'all please provide me with background/facts on what the answer is so we can work on using the material as an answer for the newspaper? Deadline this afternoon.

Thank you in advance.

QUESTION: - When are state taxpayers responsible for expenses incurred by the governor's political travel?

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