



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

December 04, 2020

Case No. F-2020-05642/
FL-2020-00134

Nikhel Sus
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics of Washington
1101 K St., NW Suite 201
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Sus:

This letter is in response to your request dated May 26, 2020, under the Freedom of Information Act (the "FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. Thus far, the Department has located nine responsive records subject to the FOIA. Upon review, we have determined that all nine records may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made excisions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each document. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released in the enclosed pages.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist. To the extent another agency asserts that it can neither confirm nor deny the existence of certain records, the Department of State will similarly take the position that it neither confirms nor denies the existence of those records.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Assistant United States Attorney Benton Peterson at (202) 252-2534 or Benton.Peterson@usdoj.gov. Please refer to the case number, F-2020-05642/FL-2020-00134, and the civil action number, 20-cv-02076, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

Susan C. Weetman
Deputy Director
Office of Information Program and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

(b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:

- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
- 1.4(b) Foreign government information
- 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
- 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
- 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
- 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
- 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
- 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction

(b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency

(b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:

ARMSEXP	Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c)
CIA PERS/ORG	Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g)
EXPORT CONTROL	Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c)
FS ACT	Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004
INA	Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f)
IRAN	Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505

(b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information

(b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product

(b)(6) Personal privacy information

(b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:

- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
- (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
- (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
- (D) disclose confidential sources
- (E) disclose investigation techniques
- (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual

(b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions

(b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

From:	Canton, Tricia J [REDACTED] (b)(6)
	[REDACTED] (b)(6)
To:	Moore, Keli [REDACTED] (b)(6)
	[REDACTED] (b)(6)
CC:	Jobe, Crystal F [REDACTED] (b)(6)
	[REDACTED] (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: K Fund Inquiry
Date:	2020/05/28 10:58:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

+ Keli

This is an inquiry for S/CPR. Lisa would email them to request the information. I will send you a draft email for you to tweak and send to Levita.

Thanks,
Tricia

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED **DeControlled**

From: Harris, Katherine A [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Jobe, Crystal F [REDACTED] (b)(6); Canton, Tricia J [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Cc: Thomas, Kenneth A [REDACTED] (b)(6); Kaldahl, Ryan M [REDACTED] (b)(6); Wells, Yvonne M [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Subject: K Fund Inquiry

HACFO Majority is asking a detailed list of all attendees at the events labeled, “*Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series*” as described in the K fund report.

Please advise.

Thanks,

Katherine Harris
Senior Congressional Advisor – House Appropriations
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Legislative Affairs

DeControlled

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	Canton, Tricia J	(b)(6)
		(b)(6)
Recipient:	Moore, Keli	(b)(6)
		(b)(6)
	Jobe, Crystal F	(b)(6)
		(b)(6)
Sent Date:	2020/05/28 10:58:05	
Delivered Date:	2020/05/28 10:58:00	

U.S. Department of State

Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service Appropriation



Unclassified Expenditure Report

First Quarter FY 2020

October 1 – December 31, 2019

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
10/01/2019 - 12/31/2019

CATERERS

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Waitstaff for the Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	(b)(6)	\$914.00
Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	Whole Foods, Costco	\$567.79
Reception hosted by POTUS and FLOTUS on the Occasion of the Seventy Fourth United Nations General Assembly	Paramount Hotel New York	\$227.70
Working Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE for the Foreign Affairs Policy Board	Wegmans	\$26.28
Waitstaff for the Working Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE for the Foreign Affairs Policy Board	(b)(6)	\$774.00
Working Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE for the Foreign Affairs Policy Board	Whole Foods, Porter & York Meats	\$961.30

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
10/01/2019 - 12/31/2019

CATERERS

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Waitstaff for the Ceremony and Reception hosted by SECSTATE for The 2018 Awards for Corporate Excellence	(b)(6)	\$1,626.00
Ceremony and Reception hosted by SECSTATE for The 2018 Awards for Corporate Excellence	Costco, Wegmans	\$350.69
Waitstaff for the Reception hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the American Hostages on the Occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the United State Embassy Takeover in Tehran	(b)(6)	\$2,081.50
Beverages for official events hosted by SECSTATE and Deputy SECSTATE	Republic of Tea	\$1,179.64
Working Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the Foreign Minister of Qatar	Whole Foods, Costco	\$250.09
Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	Costco, Whole Foods, Mom's	\$942.29

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
10/01/2019 - 12/31/2019

CATERERS

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Ceremony and Reception hosted by SECSTATE for The 2018 Awards for Corporate Excellence	Ridgewells Catering	\$5,000.00
Waitstaff for the Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	(b)(6)	\$1,410.00
Working Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the Foreign Minister of Qatar	Whole Foods, Costco	\$250.09
Waitstaff for the Working Luncheon and Meeting hosted by SECSTATE for 2019 Defeat ISIS Global Coalition Ministerial	(b)(6)	\$2,995.00
US-Russia Working Ministerial Meeting and Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the Foreign Minister of Russia	Costco, Whole Foods	\$379.31
US-Russia Working Ministerial Meeting and Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the Foreign Minister of Russia	Moti's Market	\$76.99

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
10/01/2019 - 12/31/2019

ELEVATOR OPERATOR SERVICES

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Working Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE for the Foreign Affairs Policy Board	Quality Elevator Co., Inc.	\$620.00
Middle East Peace Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE	Quality Elevator Co., Inc.	\$310.00
Ceremony and Reception hosted by SECSTATE for The 2018 Awards for Corporate Excellence	SemperServe, LLC	\$8.51
Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	SemperServe, LLC	<u>\$119.21</u>
Elevator Operator Services - Total First Quarter		<u><u>\$1,057.72</u></u>

U.S. Department of State

Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service Appropriation



Unclassified Expenditure Report

Fourth Quarter FY 2019

July 1 – September 30, 2019

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
07/01/2019 - 09/30/2019

CATERERS

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Beverages for official events hosted by SECSTATE and Deputy SECSTATE	Siema Wines	\$479.88
Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	Fresh Direct	\$1,351.84
Holiday Cookies for the 2018 Diplomacy at Home for the Holidays hosted by SECSTATE in honor of Unaccompanied Tour Families	Maribeth's Bakery	\$1,476.05
Reception hosted by SECSTATE for the Former Employee Recognition Ceremony	Maribeth's Bakery	\$721.10
Waitstaff for the Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE for the Foreign Affairs Policy Board	(b)(6)	\$945.00
Waitstaff for the Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	(b)(6)	\$1,094.50

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
07/01/2019 - 09/30/2019

CATERERS

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Waitstaff for the Independence Day Reception hosted by SECSTATE for the Chiefs of Diplomatic Missions and their Families	(b)(6)	\$12,218.75
Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	Fresh Direct	\$719.76
Waitstaff for the Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	(b)(6)	\$995.00
Waitstaff for the Reception hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the 2020 Dubai Expo	(b)(6)	\$1,134.00

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
07/01/2019 - 09/30/2019

CATERERS

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Waitstaff for the Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	(b)(6)	\$851.50
Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	Costco, Fresh Direct, Amazon	\$1,106.06
Beverages for official events hosted by SECSTATE and Deputy SECSTATE	Zachys DC	\$835.96
Waitstaff for the Working Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom	(b)(6)	\$270.00
Working Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom	Costco, Whole Foods	\$413.22
Day 2 Catering for the Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom hosted by SECSTATE	Ridgewells Catering	\$112,700.00

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
07/01/2019 - 09/30/2019

CATERERS

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Working Luncheon hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the President of Serbia	Lotte NY Palace	\$2,228.94
Waitstaff for the Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	(b)(6)	\$1,148.50
Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	Costco, Whole Foods	\$843.32
Luncheon hosted by the Chief of Protocol in honor of the Newly Accredited Ambassadors	The Blair House	<u>\$3,722.85</u>
	Caterers - Total Fourth Quarter	<u><u>\$498,649.83</u></u>

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
07/01/2019 - 09/30/2019

ELEVATOR OPERATOR SERVICES

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Independence Day Reception hosted by SECSTATE for the Diplomatic Corps and their Families	Quality Elevator Co., Inc.	\$1,860.00
Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE with non-USG Officials for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series	SemperServe, LLC	\$664.17
Working Dinner Meeting hosted by SECSTATE for the Foreign Affairs Policy Board	SemperServe, LLC	\$357.63
Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE in honor of the Chairman of the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee	SemperServe, LLC	\$304.36
Independence Day Reception hosted by SECSTATE for the Chiefs of Diplomatic Missions and their Families	SemperServe, LLC	\$510.90

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES
07/01/2019 - 09/30/2019

ENGRAVING AND SPECIALIZED PRINTING

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
SECSTATE's Guest Book Sign-in for visiting Foreign Dignitaries	Book Arts Conservatory	\$850.00
Tour Tickets for the U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series hosted by SECSTATE	Mosaic Express	<u>\$173.97</u>
Engraving and Specialized Printing - Total Fourth Quarter		<u><u>\$1,023.97</u></u>

From:	"Ferrer, Levita A" [REDACTED] (b)(6)
To:	Meterko, Lisa M [REDACTED] (b)(6) Hanish, Patrick N [REDACTED] (b)(6)
CC:	Balmer, Brittany L [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Subject:	RE: K fund and Secretary dinners
Date:	Tue, 13 Nov 2018 15:00:03 +0000

I'll make a note and incorporate changes in my spreadsheet. Thanks!



Levita A. Ferrer
Budget Analyst
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR/M)
HST, Room 1238

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Stay connected with Protocol:



Official - Transitory

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DeControlled

From: Meterko, Lisa M

Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 1:05 PM

To: Hanish, Patrick N [REDACTED] (b)(6) Ferrer, Levita A [REDACTED] (b)(6)

Cc: Balmer, Brittany L [REDACTED] (b)(6)

Subject: RE: K fund and Secretary dinners

Thanks!

Official - Transitory

UNCLASSIFIED

DeControlled

From: Hanish, Patrick N

Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 12:56 PM

To: Meterko, Lisa M [REDACTED] (b)(6) Ferrer, Levita A [REDACTED] (b)(6)

Cc: Balmer, Brittany L [REDACTED] (b)(6)

Subject: RE: K fund and Secretary dinners

Lisa,

I think "U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series" makes sense.

I am building Brittany Balmer into this discussion for awareness. Brittany, Lisa's concern is that "Madison Dinner" in the description will leave Congressional staff reviewing the expenditures unclear about what the nature of the event was. Is this OK with you?

Regards,
Patrick

Patrick N. Hanish
Executive Director
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR)
HST Room 1238

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Official
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From: Meterko, Lisa M
Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 10:02 AM
To: Ferrer, Levita A (b)(6)
Cc: Hanish, Patrick N (b)(6)
Subject: RE: K fund and Secretary dinners

Or how about: U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series hosted by the Secretary of State for non-USG officials.

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From: Meterko, Lisa M
Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 9:41 AM
To: Ferrer, Levita A (b)(6)
Cc: Hanish, Patrick N (b)(6)
Subject: RE: K fund and Secretary dinners

For the report to Congress, can you just put "Dinner hosted by the Secretary of State with non-USG officials to discuss U.S. foreign policy" I don't want to get questions from the Hill about why we call it the Madison dinners.

Official
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From: Ferrer, Levita A
Sent: Thursday, November 8, 2018 5:44 PM
To: Meterko, Lisa M (b)(6)
Cc: Hanish, Patrick N (b)(6)
Subject: RE: K fund and Secretary dinners

Hi Lisa,

For my future report can I use this excerpt?

Madison Dinner hosted by the SECSTATE to further U.S. Foreign Policy Interests.

This way I can still track the expenses in my spreadsheet and still provide information on what the Madison Dinner is for?

Thanks!



Levita A. Ferrer
Budget Analyst
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR/M)
HST, Room 1238

(b)(6)
(b)(6)

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From: Hanish, Patrick N
Sent: Thursday, November 8, 2018 4:17 PM
To: Meterko, Lisa M (b)(6)
Cc: Ferrer, Levita A (b)(6)
Subject: FW: K fund and Secretary dinners

Lisa,

Just following up, FYI, on our prior discussion of the "Madison Dinners." See below.

Regards,
Patrick

Patrick N. Hanish
Executive Director
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR)
HST Room 1238

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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From: Meterko, Lisa M
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 10:29 AM
To: Hanish, Patrick N (b)(6)
Subject: RE: K fund and Secretary dinners

Hi Patrick,

Yes, I approve use of the K fund for those items for the "Madison Dinners". Thank you.

Lisa Meterko
Acting Director, M/EDCS
Department of State
HST, Room 3214
Washington, DC

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

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From: Hanish, Patrick N
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 10:25 AM
To: Meterko, Lisa M (b)(6)
Subject: K fund and Secretary dinners

Lisa,

Thanks so much for talking with me. I appreciate your perspective and steer on K fund representational principles.

As I mentioned, The Secretary is conducting a series of dinners ("Madison Dinners"), in which he is seeking to further U.S. foreign policy interests by inviting foreign interlocutors to meet with key executive, legislative, and private sector leaders. The Secretary is hosting the event in a small-group setting – they plan about 12 people each time. The venue is in the 8th floor reception rooms.

I note that you said you would approve K fund use for the purchase of two items related to these dinners: pens (approx. \$25 each) and notepads (approx. \$8 each) which will be logo'ed and utilized in the dinners.

I will apprise you if there are any developments/changes, but at this point that's the scope of the concept.

Regards,
Patrick

Patrick N. Hanish
Executive Director
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR)
HST Room 1238

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

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Sender:	"Ferrer, Levita A"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Meterko, Lisa M	(b)(6)
	Hanish, Patrick N	(b)(6)
	Balmer, Brittany L	(b)(6)

From:	"Meterko, Lisa M" (b)(6)
To:	Hanish, Patrick N (b)(6) Ferrer, Levita A (b)(6)
CC:	Balmer, Brittany L (b)(6)
Subject:	RE: K fund and Secretary dinners
Date:	Tue, 13 Nov 2018 14:46:25 +0000

Thank you.

Official - Transitory

UNCLASSIFIED

DeControlled

From: Hanish, Patrick N

Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 4:26 PM

To: Meterko, Lisa M (b)(6); Ferrer, Levita A (b)(6)

Cc: Balmer, Brittany L (b)(6)

Subject: RE: K fund and Secretary dinners

Lisa,

Spoke with our Deputy Chief. Your proposed wording of "U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner Series" is fine with us.

Thanks,
Patrick

Patrick N. Hanish
Executive Director
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR)
HST Room 1238

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Official

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From: Hanish, Patrick N

Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 12:56 PM

To: Meterko, Lisa M (b)(6); Ferrer, Levita A (b)(6)

Cc: Brittany L Balmer (b)(6)

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This way I can still track the expenses in my spreadsheet and still provide information on what the Madison Dinner is for?

Thanks!



Levita A. Ferrer
 Budget Analyst
 Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR/M)
 HST Room 1238

(b)(6)
 (b)(6)

Stay connected with Protocol:



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Executive Director
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR)
HST Room 1238

(b)(6)
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From: Meterko, Lisa M
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To: Hanish, Patrick N (b)(6)
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As I mentioned, The Secretary is conducting a series of dinners ("Madison Dinners"), in which he is seeking to further U.S. foreign policy interests by inviting foreign interlocutors to meet with key executive, legislative, and private sector leaders. The Secretary is hosting the event in a small-group setting – they plan about 12 people each time. The venue is in the 8th floor reception rooms.

I note that you said you would approve K fund use for the purchase of two items related to these dinners: pens (approx. \$25 each) and notepads (approx. \$8 each) which will be logo'ed and utilized in the dinners.

I will apprise you if there are any developments/changes, but at this point that's the scope of the concept.

Regards,
Patrick

Patrick N. Hanish
Executive Director
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR)
HST Room 1238

(b)(6)

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Official
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Sender:	"Meterko, Lisa M"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Hanish, Patrick N	(b)(6)
	Ferrer, Levita A	(b)(6)
	Balmer, Brittany L	(b)(6)

From:	"Hanish, Patrick N" [REDACTED] (b)(6)
To:	Meterko, Lisa M [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Subject:	RE: K fund and Secretary dinners
Date:	Tue, 24 Jul 2018 14:29:30 +0000

Many thanks!

Patrick N. Hanish
Executive Director
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR)
HST Room 1238

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

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