



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 29, 2023

Case No. FL-2020-00134

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

Dear Mr. Sus:

As we noted in our letter dated July 31, 2023, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. § 552. Thus far, the Department of State (“Department”) has identified an additional 11 responsive records subject to the FOIA. We have determined that all 11 records may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each record. Where applicable, the Department has considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing these records and applying FOIA exemptions. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

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 Benton.Peterson@usdoj.gov or (202) 252-2534. Please refer to the case number, FL-2020-00134, and the civil action number, 20-cv-02076, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diamonece Hickson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "H".

Diamonece Hickson
Chief, Litigation and Appeals Branch
Office of Information Programs 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: (b)(6)
To: (b)(6);
Subject: RE: Madison Dinners - Action requested today
Date: Fri, 22 May 2020 15:17:19 +0000

So far all I can find are emails dealing with Mrs. Pompeo, but I'll try to send you what I have.
As for the law –

(b)(5)

(b)(5)
(b)(5) (b)(6)

SBU - LEGAL

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 9:38 AM
To: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject: Madison Dinners - Action requested today

SBU - Legal

(b)(6)
(b)(5)
(b)(5) (b)(5)
(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Could you please send me by this afternoon, if possible, anything relevant you might have so I could package it for Marik? I'll be doing a search through my emails as well for any relevant guidance.

Thanks, (b)(6)

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)

From:	(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6);
Subject:	FW: Secretary's Holiday Cards - Ethics Question
Date:	Fri, 22 May 2020 15:23:58 +0000

(b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5) (b)(5); (b)(5)

I'll keep looking.

SBU - LEGAL

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 6:27 PM

To: (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Subject: Re: Secretary's Holiday Cards - Ethics Question

Thanks so much (b)(6) I'll let you know if we have any further questions.

Have a great evening!

(b)(6)

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 6:04 PM

To: (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Secretary's Holiday Cards - Ethics Question

(b)(6) thanks for stopping by this morning. As we discussed, (b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5)

To assist with the review, you've come up with categories of potential 2018 holiday card recipients, totaling 1356 individual recipients. The categories are as follows:

- Foreign Ministers (AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA extracted from POTUS holiday card list) – TOTAL – 192
 - AF: 46
 - EAP: 28
 - EUR: 52
 - NEA: 19
 - SCA: 13
 - WHA: 34
- Members of the House – TOTAL – 438
- Members of the Senate – TOTAL – 100
- Former Secretaries of State – TOTAL – 7
- Supreme Court Justices – TOTAL – 9
- Diplomatic Corps – TOTAL – 190
- Diplomatic Reception Room Supporter List – TOTAL – 150
- Diplomacy Center Supporter List – TOTAL – 150
- Members of the Cabinet – TOTAL – 23
- Madison Dinner Guest – TOTAL – 50
- Policy list from S-P – TOTAL – 47

(b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5) Please let me know if you have any other questions or concerns. (b)(6)

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 5:34 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: Re: Secretary's Holiday Cards - Ethics Question

Hi (b)(6)

Just checking in again on the official guidance that we can send forward.

Thanks for your help!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 12:50 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Secretary's Holiday Cards - Ethics Question

Good afternoon (b)(6) -

I believe your colleague (b)(6) meant to copy you on this email chain a couple of weeks ago. Could you please provide your guidance on (b)(6) question (b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5)

Thanks much!

(b)(6)
Office of the Chief of Protocol
Ceremonials Division
(b)(6)

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, October 4, 2018 3:49 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Secretary's Holiday Cards - Ethics Question

My apologies. I meant to say (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, October 4, 2018 3:46 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Secretary's Holiday Cards - Ethics Question

Hi (b)(6)

(b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5) I would think we would, but I am definitely not the expert in that arena. Copying my colleague (b)(6) of L/M for her sage guidance.

Best,

(b)(6)

Attorney Adviser
Office of the Legal Adviser
Ethics and Financial Disclosure
U.S. Department of State

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, October 4, 2018 3:08 PM
To: Ethics Attorney Mailbox <EthicsAttorneyMailbox@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Secretary's Holiday Cards - Ethics Question

Good afternoon,

Every year, the Office of the Chief of Protocol is tasked with coordinating and distributing the Secretary of State's holiday. (b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5) I am more than happy to jump on call expand upon who might fall within each of these categories listed below.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Protocol Officer
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR/C)
U.S. Department of State

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Proposed 2018 Holiday Cards List (1356)

- Foreign Ministers (AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA extracted from POTUS holiday card list) – TOTAL – 192
 - AF: 46
 - EAP: 28
 - EUR: 52
 - NEA: 19
 - SCA: 13
 - WHA: 34
- Members of the House – TOTAL – 438
- Members of the Senate – TOTAL – 100
- Former Secretaries of State – TOTAL – 7
- Supreme Court Justices – TOTAL – 9
- Diplomatic Corps – TOTAL – 190
- Diplomatic Reception Room Supporter List – TOTAL – 150
- Diplomacy Center Supporter List – TOTAL – 150
- Members of the Cabinet – TOTAL – 23
- Madison Dinner Guest – TOTAL – 50
- Policy list from S-P – TOTAL – 47

2017 Holiday Cards List (600)

- Foreign Ministers – TOTAL – 192
 - AF: 46
 - EAP: 28
 - EUR: 52
 - NEA: 19
 - SCA: 13
 - WHA: 34
- Diplomatic Corps – TOTAL – 190
- Members of the Cabinet – TOTAL – 21
- Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee – TOTAL – 21
- Members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee – TOTAL – 27

- Supreme Court Justices – TOTAL – 8
- Diplomatic Reception Room Supporters – TOTAL – 89
- Marcee Craighill’s curator’s list – TOTAL – 100

2016 Holiday cards sent – 1,114

- Foreign Ministers (AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA extracted from POTUS holiday card list) – TOTAL – 192
 - AF: 46
 - EAP: 28
 - EUR: 52
 - NEA: 19
 - SCA: 13
 - WHA: 34
- Members of the House – TOTAL – 438
- Members of the Senate – TOTAL – 100
- Former Secretaries of State – TOTAL – 7
- Supreme Court Justices – TOTAL – 8
- Diplomatic Corps – TOTAL – 190
- Marcee Craighill’s curator’s list – TOTAL – 111
- Members of the Cabinet – TOTAL – 21
- Policy list from S-P – TOTAL – 47

2015 Holiday cards sent – 1,098

- Foreign Ministers (AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA extracted from POTUS holiday card list) – TOTAL – 186
 - AF: 47
 - EAP: 27
 - EUR: 51
 - NEA: 15
 - SCA: 13
 - WHA: 33
- Members of the House – TOTAL – 440
- Members of the Senate – TOTAL – 100
- Former Secretaries of State – TOTAL – 7
- Supreme Court Justices – TOTAL – 9

- Diplomatic Corps – TOTAL – 189
- Marcee Craighill’s curator’s list – TOTAL – 104
- Members of the Cabinet – TOTAL – 21
- Policy list from S-P – TOTAL – 42
-

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)

From:	(b)(6)
To:	Newstead, Jennifer G (b)(6)
CC:	Dorosin, Joshua L (b)(6) Visek, Richard C (b)(6)
Subject:	Dinners
Date:	Wed, 28 Nov 2018 18:49:33 +0000

Jennifer – This is the latest (b)(6) and I have on the analysis L/EFD and L/M did on the “Madison dinners.”

Best,

(b)(6)

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Newstead, Jennifer G (b)(6) Dorosin, Joshua L (b)(6) Visek, Richard C (b)(6)

*Attorney-Client Privilege
Deliberative
DRAFT – July 18, 2018*

Travel, Motor Pool, and Representational Expenses

(b)(5); (b)(5)

[Redacted content]

(b)(5); (b)(5)

[Redacted content]

(b)(5); (b)(5)

[Redacted content]

(b)(5); (b)(5)

[Redacted content]

(b)(5); (b)(5)

[Redacted content]

*Attorney-Client Privilege
Deliberative
DRAFT – July ~~11~~18, 2018*

(b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(5)

*Attorney-Client Privilege
Deliberative
DRAFT – July ~~11~~18, 2018*

Travel, Motor Pool, and Representational Expenses

(b)(5); (b)(5)

(b)(5); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(5)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(5)

From:	"Lawler, Sean P" <(b)(6)>
To:	(b)(6) Henderson, Cam <(b)(6)> (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Madison Dinner Series
Date:	Sun, 22 Jul 2018 22:29:00 +0000

Thanks (b)(6) this really is something else.

From: (b)(6)
Date: July 22, 2018 at 6:24:57 PM EDT
To: Lawler, Sean P <(b)(6)>, Henderson, Cam <(b)(6)>
 (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Madison Dinner Series

My head and my stomach hurts....just kidding. Will advise the Chef's of the suggested menu changes. Review tomorrow.

Contact for ALL names for Sept. 13th have been initiated—either by me or Mrs. Pompeo. Will send those names now to (b)(6) to add AND the Sept. 18th I just received. All are the initial PHONE/email outreach.

NOTE—Will have (b)(6) UPDATE the Sept. 13 and 18th postal invitations as Mrs. P. wanted them made larger and mailed in ONLY one envelope—no outer envelope.

She had wanted me to offer ANY dinner to Mr. Tosi which I am doing now.

Sept., October..I have that email. But will also add July 26th but (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Happy Sunday back.

Best,

(b)(6)

**Official
UNCLASSIFIED**

From: Lawler, Sean P
Sent: Sunday, July 22, 2018 6:08 PM
To: Susan Pompeo <(b)(6)>
Cc: Henderson, Cam <(b)(6)>
<(b)(6)>
Subject: Re: Madison Dinner Series

Got it ma'am - we'll clarify on the spreadsheet by adding columns to annotate which phase of invitation has gone out. Currently the notes section has the info but we'll make it more clear.

As far as the master, it's all the names... because we have folks sliding to later dinner dates it does get a little confusing but we were trying to capture everything on one spot so if we could look ahead and get contact details for potential guests as you add them. We'll update per your guidance.

<(b)(6)> team updates the spreadsheets...

Happy Sunday -

v/r
Sean

From: Susan Pompeo <(b)(6)>
Date: July 22, 2018 at 5:31:21 PM EDT
To: Lawler, Sean P <(b)(6)>
Cc: Henderson, Cam <(b)(6)>, <(b)(6)>
Subject: Madison Dinner Series

Sean,

I was able to meet with Mike about our Madison Dinners before he flew back out today. Here are action items to pass along to you and the team:

Spreadsheets

#1, What does "pending" mean on the dinner spreadsheets? Does it mean invited by phone and waiting for reply? Or, phone and postal invitations extended and waiting for reply? Or, planning to invite but haven't yet? Could we clarify that and indicate that in the legend? (We think it should mean phone and postal invitations extended and we're waiting for a reply.)

#2, What is the “Master Dinner List”? Names on that list appear on other lists—it’s confusing. The “Madison Dinner Attendees—Historic Record” list should be every person who attends a dinner (with full information), but name added ONLY after they have attended. And, any name on the Madison Dinner Attendee list should NOT appear on the “Potential Madison Dinner Guest” list.

#3, Who is the person maintaining these spreadsheets? As we fine tune these lists and provide more potential guest names and note information, we need to know with whom to work.

#4, The Potential Madison Dinner Guest List. We’ll continue to add names to this list, so see #3 above.

Guest List/Invitation Timeline for Each Madison Dinner

Mike asked me to convey the following timelines for this dinner program, to better accommodate the schedules of these Dinner guests and our ability to avoid last minute scrambling:

One Month Prior to Dinner, Phone and Postal Madison Dinner Invitations are out (Keep Susan informed as you receive responses; she will flood new names to you for regrets; (b)(6) as we’ve discussed before—just shoot me a text or fast email when you log a regret)

Two Weeks Before Dinner, Fourteen persons are committed to attend Dinner.

July 26 Madison Dinner

Seating: Mike requests one small change: (b)(6)
(b)(6) That is, starting at the end of the table (closest to hallway door) and moving toward me: Mrs. Mulhall (on end), Ambassador Mulhall, Veronica Cowher, Bill Cowher, Susan P.

Physical Arrangement in Monroe Room: looks A-OK.

Dinner Menu: On the draft menu, (b)(6) (kitchen would know, as they have all his diet information). Just to give him a bit more to eat, could we change out the dessert and serve what we had for dessert at the July 17 Madison Dinner (chocolate pudding cake). This dessert is a nod to the Madison-era of pudding desserts. (Should we note that on the printed program? ie: make up a name, even just “Madison era chocolate pudding cake”?)

Guest Favors: Love the journals. Would like to provide each guest with a journal and pen.

Guest List: (b)(6) Mike asked if LT Tosi and Alessandra are unable to attend the July 26 dinner?

September Madison Dinners

Tabs for both of our September Madison Dinners are missing guest list names and attendance confirmations that I have already provided. Separately, I will forward the email that I sent on July 12 at 5:13pm with guests lists and confirmed responses for both dinners. Please get these updated ASAP, so you can get the invites out. Baiers and Ghoorahs are confirmed for September 13. Need to get the invitation extended to Nadellas ASAP.

Overall Comments

Communication. I am genuinely confused and need your counsel on improving our communications in writing, meetings and conversations. I know everyone is moving fast and working hard, but we were stunned to have our first little dinner group gathering in the Jefferson Room, not the Monroe Room for the reception.

I articulated the Monroe Room reception location anytime I wrote about this Dinner Series (see my original “Event Concept Outline for the SoS Madison Dinner Series” that read “All guests to be brought up (b)(7)(E) enabling us to walk them thru multiple (beautiful) rooms en route to the Monroe Room...” and delineation of the Monroe Room as the reception room in other parts of the outline; see also my email sent to entire planning team on July 6 at 2:11pm that read “I will talk about one artifact—as a good way to quiet the group and ask them to move from the Monroe Room to the Madison Room for dinner.”) and on the “Run of Show” provided to me the afternoon of the July 17 Dinner, it repeatedly noted the Monroe Room as the location for our reception. For my planning participation-- whether in our meetings or in writing—we never spoke about any other reception site than the Monroe Room.

There are other pieces of dinner business that have been communicated in writing that we have to reiterate. So, if there is just too much being put in writing—please tell me how to handle the information flow in an efficient manner that gets the job done. These errors are not life ending, but I know the standards that you have—that we share—so, please don’t be shy to tell me your team’s preferred comms method.

Dinner Walk Thru. I would like to do this. Mike and I both dislike his schedule showing us walking out of his office to the dinner at 6pm (the start time of the reception that we are hosting)—as it did on the day of the last dinner; insuring that . While Mike’s schedule may not allow for him to take a “sneak peek,” surely I can hop up before guests begin arriving? (b)(6) will you please coordinate this with Sean/staff for 7/26?

Thanks much, Sean!

Susan

On Jul 20, 2018, at 3:03 PM, Lawler, Sean P <(b)(6)> wrote:

Ma’am –

As promised... please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks –

v/r
Sean

v/r
Ambassador Sean P. Lawler
Chief of Protocol of the United States

Office: (b)(6)

Cell: (b)(6)

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

<MADISON DINNER GUEST LIST as of 7-20-18.xlsx><Madison Dinner Diagrams - July 26th.pdf>

Sender:	"Lawler, Sean P" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) Henderson, Cam (b)(6) (b)(6)

From:	(b)(6) (b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(E)
	(b)(6)
	Henderson, Katherine C (b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(E)
To:	(b)(6)
	Fisher, Mary-Kate (b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(E)
	(b)(6)
	(b)(6) (b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(E) (b)(6)
CC:	Kenna, Lisa (b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(E) (b)(6)
Subject:	RESPONSE KINDLY REQUESTED: RE: Madison Dinners
Date:	2020/03/09 18:49:24
Importance:	High
Priority:	Urgent
Type:	Note

Greetings,

Mrs. Pompeo asked me to check in to ensure you received her email on Friday requesting three separate meetings with Protocol. I have included her original below for your convenience.

Please advise if scheduling one or, preferably, all three of these meetings works on your calendars. Mrs. Pompeo is currently holding tomorrow open hoping to get on your schedules.

Thank you.

(b)(6)

Office of the Secretary
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

(b)(6)



From: Susan Pompeo <(b)(6)>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 4:11 PM
To: Henderson, Katherine C <(b)(6)>; Fisher, Mary-Kate <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6); Kenna, Lisa D <(b)(6)>
Subject: Madison Dinners

All,

Circling around to be sure word has traveled. As we're ten days out and no invites issued, Mike wants the March Madison Dinner cancelled. Mike and I will look at the calendar for April Madison Dinner replacement date (due to State Dinner conflict).

Mike would like for me to meet with the three of you about what he wants to the lead time for Madison Dinner invitations to be issued and how those guest lists may be more easily generated, at this point.

Unrelated note to Cam and Mary Kate, I'd like to have 15-20 minutes with you on gifts. Just the three of us. I believe that you may have a couple items to discuss with me?

Then, another 30 minutes, with the protocol gift leadership (and (b)(6) if you're interested) as I want to pass along inventory ideas, recipient responses to gift, requests, etc.

Hopefully, we could do all three in one swoop? I am flexible all day next Monday 3/9 and Tuesday 3/10. Anything on either of those days work for you?

Thank you,

Susan

Sender:	(b)(6) (b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(E)
	(b)(6)
	Henderson, Katherine C (b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(E)
	(b)(6)
	Fisher, Mary-Kate (b)(7)(E)
Recipient:	(b)(7)(E)
	(b)(6)
	Fenton, Catherine (b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(E) (b)(6)
	(b)(7)(F)
	(b)(7)(E) (b)(6)
Sent Date:	2020/03/09 18:49:23
Delivered Date:	2020/03/09 18:49:24

From:	"Henderson, Katherine C" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) Fisher, Mary-Kate <(b)(6)>
CC:	(b)(6)
Subject:	RE: Working Dinner Draft
Date:	Mon, 1 Jun 2020 16:33:30 +0000

A couple of thoughts:

- On the KFUND Reports you highlight the funding that is appropriate for the meals. Should we black out the other funds?
- I want to rename the files that say Madison dinner to match the language that is in the report which is Policy Dinner Series.

Otherwise I think this looks good.

Thanks,
Cam

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 7:33 PM
To: Fisher, Mary-Kate <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6)
 (b)(6) Henderson, Katherine C (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Working Dinner Draft

Hi Mary-Kate,

Here is the email draft with the attachment that has been approved for dissemination by Ceremonials. Forwarding for your review, feel free to make edits with my wordings. Please forward to Cam for her approval once you've reviewed and made your corrections in my email draft. Thanks!

To EDCS and HACFO,

Attached are the list of attendees with dates provided and below is the breakdown:

For **FY 2019 Qtr 4** Report:

B-1 for **\$1,351.84** – There were two invoices submitted for two different dinner dates;
 \$275.72 - May 23, 2019 (14 attendees)
 \$1,076.12 - July 3, 2019 (18 attendees)

B-3 for **\$719.76** - July 29, 2019 (12 attendees)

For FY 2020 Qtr. 1 Report:

B-1 for **\$567.79** – Upon review we’ve discovered that this working dinner was not Madison and should have been reported as “Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE” with U.S. Business Leaders.

B-2 for **\$942.29** – November 18, 2019 (17 attendees)

Best,

(b)(6)

Budget Analyst (S/CPR/M)

Phone: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Stay connected with Protocol:



This e-mail and any attachments may contain confidential and/or proprietary information. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete the e-mail and any attachments; any further use of such e-mail or attachments is strictly prohibited.

Official - Transitory

UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 6:41 PM

To: (b)(6)

Cc:

Subject: RE: Working Dinner Draft

Thank you (b)(6) This all looks accurate to me insofar as the dates and guest lists and I just reviewed with (b)(6) also. Please move forward to the front office as planned.

Again, thank you for all your assistance.

Very best,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

**Assistant Chief of Protocol
For Ceremonials
Department of State**

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 6:24 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc:
Subject: Working Dinner Draft

Hi (b)(6) and (b)(6),

Please review this email with the attached, feel free to make edits with my wordings. Thanks!

To EDCS and HACFO,

Attached are the list of attendees with dates provided and below is the breakdown:

For **FY 2019 Qtr 4** Report:

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B-2 for **\$942.29** – November 18, 2019 (17 attendees)



(b)(6)
Budget Analyst
Office of the Chief of Protocol (S/CPR/M)
HST, Room 1238
Office: (b)(6)
Cell: (b)(6)
(b)(6)

Stay connected with Protocol:



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Official - Transitory
UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Henderson, Katherine C" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)

From:	(b)(6)
To:	Henderson, Katherine C <(b)(6)>
CC:	(b)(6)
Subject:	RE: Request for Guest Lists
Date:	Mon, 1 Jun 2020 19:47:07 +0000

Hi Cam,

I am so sorry, I had to re-save and separate each list and totally forgot to change the file name. Thank you for catching it. Really sorry...thanks!

Best,

(b)(6)

Budget Analyst (S/CPR/M)

(b)(6)

Stay connected with Protocol:



This e-mail and any attachments may contain confidential and/or proprietary information. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete the e-mail and any attachments; any further use of such e-mail or attachments is strictly prohibited.

Official - Transitory
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Henderson, Katherine C <(b)(6)>
Sent: Monday, June 1, 2020 3:32 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6); Fisher, Mary-Kate <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Request for Guest Lists

(b)(6)—this is not what I approved to be sent. I specifically did NOT want the files to be names Madison Dinner. Why did you not use the document I sent you?

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, June 1, 2020 3:28 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6); Fisher, Mary-Kate
(b)(6); Henderson, Katherine C <(b)(6)>
(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Subject: RE: Request for Guest Lists

Hi (b)(6)

As per your request, attached are the lists of attendees with dates provided and below is the breakdown. Please let us know if you need additional information. Thank you!

For **FY 2019 Qtr 4** Report:

B-1 for **\$1,351.84** – There were two invoices submitted for two different dinner dates;
\$275.72 - May 23, 2019 (14 attendees)
\$1,076.12 - July 3, 2019 (18 attendees)

B-3 for **\$719.76** - July 29, 2019 (12 attendees)

For **FY 2020 Qtr. 1** Report:

B-1 for **\$567.79** – Upon review we’ve discovered that this working dinner was not for U.S. Foreign Policy Discussion Dinner and should have been reported as “Working Dinner hosted by SECSTATE with U.S. Business Leaders.”

B-2 for **\$942.29** – November 18, 2019 (17 attendees)

Best,

(b)(6)

Budget Analyst (S/CPR/M)

(b)(6)

Stay connected with Protocol:



This e-mail and any attachments may contain confidential and/or proprietary information. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete the e-mail and any attachments; any further use of such e-mail or attachments is strictly prohibited.

Official - Transitory

UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 10:25 AM

To: (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6)

Subject: Request for Guest Lists

Good Morning (b)(6)

EDCS received a request from the HACFO Majority 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 FY 2019 Quarter 4 and FY2020 Quarter 1 reports.

Attached are the referenced report sections along with highlighted entries that need guest lists. When you provide the guest lists, please identify them by the database dollar amount since all the meeting titles are the same. Also, please include the date of each dinner on the guest list.

Your immediate response to this request is greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

CGFS/EDCS

(b)(6)

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Henderson, Katherine C (b)(6)
	(b)(6)

From:	(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)
CC:	Fisher, Mary-Kate <(b)(6)> Henderson, Katherine C <(b)(6)>
Subject:	RE: Newly-Scheduled Madison Dinner Dates
Date:	Mon, 9 Mar 2020 13:48:22 +0000

My pleasure (b)(6)

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)

On March 9, 2020 at 9:47:46 AM EDT, (b)(6) wrote:
Thank you, (b)(6)

(b)(6)
Office of the Secretary
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
(b)(6)



From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 9:47 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: Fisher, Mary-Kate <(b)(6)> Henderson, Katherine C <(b)(6)>
Subject: Re: Newly-Scheduled Madison Dinner Dates

Ok sounds good (b)(6) Will stand by to hear from Mrs. P. For selected names and process. I. E. Bring able to offer both dates to some couples as we did in February.

Many thanks.

(b)(6)

Sent from [Workspace ONE Boxer](#)
On March 9, 2020 at 9:38:04 AM EDT, (b)(6) wrote:



Good Morning,

Two new Madison Dinner dates were announced during our morning huddle.

April 15

April 29

I just wanted to make sure we were all on the same page.

Thanks so much!

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Office of the Secretary

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

(b)(6)

✕

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Fisher, Mary-Kate (b)(6) Henderson, Katherine C (b)(6)

From:	(b)(6)
To:	
Subject:	RE: Madison Docs for Cam
Date:	Tue, 10 Mar 2020 19:11:36 +0000

Yep. I have it on the printer. Coming up now!

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From:	(b)(6)
Sent:	Tuesday, March 10, 2020 3:00 PM
To:	(b)(6)
Subject:	RE: Madison Docs for Cam

H (b)(6)

Are you still bringing up the second hard copy for Mary-Kate?

Thank you!

(b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From:	(b)(6)
Sent:	Tuesday, March 10, 2020 2:44 PM
To:	SCPR-FO-STAFF <SCPR-FO-STAFF@state.gov>
Cc:	(b)(6)
Subject:	RE: Madison Docs for Cam

Hi Ladies,

Attached are the Madison Dinner docs. I've made a few formatting changes to both. Bringing up hard copies.

Thanks!

(b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From:	(b)(6)
Sent:	Tuesday, March 10, 2020 12:00 PM
To:	SCPR-FO-STAFF <SCPR-FO-STAFF@state.gov>
Cc:	(b)(6)
Subject:	Madison Docs for Cam

Hi,

Here are the documents requested. The run of show and email invitation are from the most recent dinner. I am printing hard copies now.

Best,

(b)(6)

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	

From: Barz, Chloe O (b)(7)(E)
(b)(7)(E)
(h)(6)

To: Kaldahl, Ryan M (b)(7)(E)
(b)(7)(E)
(h)(6)
Moore, Jessica L (b)(7)(E)
(b)(7)(E)
(h)(6)

Subject: RE: Follow up

Date: 2020/07/28 20:01:59

Type: Note

□

I don't know the answer to who organizes these. Jess " lmk if theres someone I should connect with on that one.

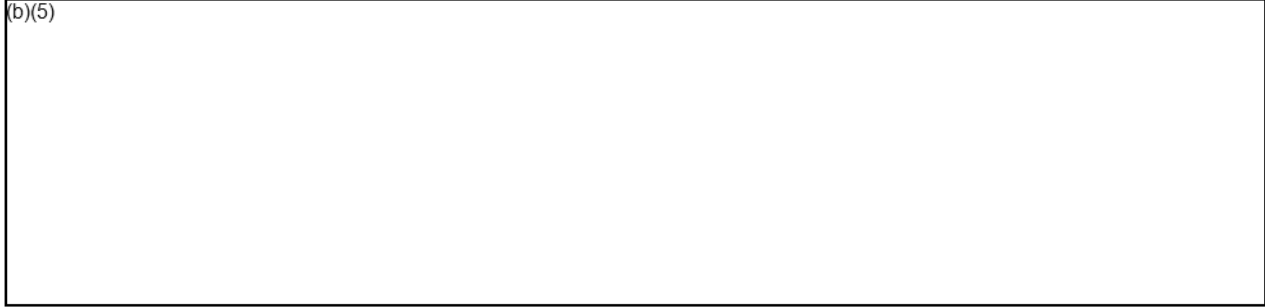
Madison Dinners

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

From: Kaldahl, Ryan M <(b)(6)>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 3:02 PM
To: Moore, Jessica L <(b)(6)> Barz, Chloe O <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Follow up

Chloe, do you mind taking this one?

Ryan Kaldahl
(b)(6)

SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

From: Moore, Jessica L <(b)(6)>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 3:00 PM
To: Kaldahl, Ryan M <(b)(6)> Barz, Chloe O <(b)(6)>
Subject: FW: Follow up

Any chance one of you could turn this into bullets for the Madison dinner Qs?

Jess Moore
Deputy Assistant Secretary, House Affairs
U.S. Department of State

SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Taylor, Mary Elizabeth <(b)(6)>
Moore, Jessica L <(b)(6)>
Subject: Follow up

For further discussion:

“The Madison Dinners” named after the great Secretary of State and future President James Madison are a world-class opportunity to discuss the mission of the State Department and the complex foreign policy matters facing our exceptional nation. Invited guests have included many foreign diplomats, thought leaders, academics, government leaders at many levels, business leaders, Members of Congress and the media each of whom has a stake in America and its leadership in the world. The Secretary has benefited greatly from these gatherings as he has gained knowledge listening to his guests from all across the political spectrum and all around the world. Each Madison Dinner guest sees foreign and domestic issues that impact America through their own prism and bring to the table a unique perspective on President Trump’s America First policy aimed at securing freedom for all of us. The State Department further benefits by having the chance to share with these leaders its role in the world thereby creating goodwill ambassadors armed with the knowledge of the swagger and excellence of the State Department team. Foreign policy-focused social gatherings precisely like these are in the finest tradition of diplomatic and American hospitality and grace. The Secretary looks forward to continuing these Madison Dinners as they are an important component of the execution of his duties as Secretary of State.” Morgan Ortagus, State Department Spokesperson

Dozens of GOP donors invited to Pompeo's taxpayer-funded 'Madison Dinners'

Of 360 invitees, at least 150 were from groups that are overtly conservative, formally affiliated with the Republican Party or from right-wing media.

June 3, 2020

By Dan De Luce, Laura Strickler, Josh Lederman and Kit Ramgopal

WASHINGTON — The invitation list for Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's taxpayer-funded "Madison Dinners," now under scrutiny by two congressional committees, included dozens of donors to Republican candidates and causes, campaign finance records show.

In May, NBC News revealed that Pompeo had held some two dozen of the dinners at the State Department — lavish private affairs that official invitations described as a chance to gather "thinkers and leaders to share ideas on the future of America and the world."

Now, an analysis of Federal Election Commission data and internal State Department documents shows that out of a total of 360 people sent invitations, at least 150 were from groups that are overtly conservative, formally affiliated with the Republican Party or right-wing media outlets. Most of the others were from the private sector, with a smaller number from the diplomatic world.

Pompeo's Madison Dinners are among the topics multiple congressional committees are investigating as they interview fired State Department Inspector General Steve Linick on Wednesday. NBC News has previously reported that Linick, shortly before Pompeo had him fired, was looking into the State Department's Office of the Chief of Protocol, which planned and executed the Madison Dinners. The heavy concentration of Republican donors and power brokers who were invited or attended marks a significant departure from the practice of past secretaries of state.

Former officials from administrations of both parties said Pompeo's predecessors, when they entertained on the government's dime, were careful to ensure that the events were bipartisan, focused on a specific issue or theme and coordinated closely with other parts of the State Department whose work could be affected. None of those things happened with the Madison Dinners, current State Department officials said.

Cross-referencing that list against federal campaign data revealed that 33 invitees have donated more than \$10,000 apiece to Republican candidates and causes and that 17 have donated more than \$50,000

apiece. Eleven donated to Pompeo's campaigns when he served as a member of Congress from Kansas, including Adam Beren, chairman and president of Kansas-based Berexco, who contributed money to Pompeo, as well as more than \$225,000 to President Donald Trump's campaign committees. Every member of Congress invited to one of the dinners over a year and a half is a Republican, according to a master guest list obtained by NBC News.

There also were invitees from right-leaning advocacy groups such as the American Conservative Union and the Taxpayers Protection Alliance, as well as conservative luminaries such as Oliver North and Karl Rove. Ten Republican members of the House and the Senate were invited, as was Robert Kraft, the billionaire owner of the New England Patriots.

In some cases, Pompeo's ambitions to convene a star-studded event seemed larger than what he was able to pull off.

Champion golfer Jordan Spieth, Hall of Fame golfer Phil Mickelson, Duke University men's basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski and former player and NFL coach Tony Dungy all were invited but declined to attend. After six emails and two phone calls, Clint Eastwood's staff ultimately told the State Department that the Hollywood titan was tied up on a film shoot, according to State Department documents. Invitations to the media skewed heavily to the right, with more than 15 invitations going to journalists from conservative-leaning media outlets such as Fox News' Laura Ingraham and Brian Kilmeade. Other media attendees included CBS News' Norah O'Donnell, CNN's Jamie Gangel and CNBC's Joe Kernen, the documents show.

The three Supreme Court justices who got invitations — Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Samuel Alito — were nominated by Trump or a previous Republican president, George W. Bush. Only Alito was listed as attending, according to the documents.

Now, Democrats in Congress are raising questions about the rationale for the dinners, demanding that the administration produce extensive documents and communications about the events. MAY 20, 202002:44

The State Department has defended the dinners as entirely appropriate and in keeping with American diplomatic tradition. Spokeswoman Morgan Ortagus said Pompeo "has benefited greatly from these gatherings as he has gained knowledge listening to his guests from all across the political spectrum and all around the world."

In a separate statement, a State Department spokesperson said: "NBC News has found that more than half of the dinner guests were not affiliated with the Republican Party thus confirming the bipartisan nature of these dinners. The Madison Dinners will continue to bring foreign diplomats together with American political, business, and media leaders to help advance U.S. national security interests and diplomacy."

Under previous secretaries of state, in advance of a dinner, relevant officials inside the department were consulted and weighed in with briefing papers depending on the agenda or which foreign diplomats were attending, former officials said.

But that has not been the case with Pompeo's dinners, with regional bureaus and in-house experts not informed or sought out beforehand, current State Department officials told NBC News.

Secretaries of state have tended to steer clear of domestic politics, and federal law prohibits them from engaging in campaigning while in office. Inviting lawmakers from only one party to State Department functions and hosting partisan activists from mostly only one side of the spectrum pose a risk to that tradition, former officials said.

"I think most secretaries are very careful to avoid partisan political activities, to make sure that they aren't involved in domestic politics," a former senior official familiar with how past dinners were organized said. "They understood politics as a fact of life, but they always thought that the national security was not to be mixed in with politics at the State Department."

The test for any State Department event held at taxpayers' expense is whether it bolsters U.S. foreign policy. "If the motive is to advance U.S. national interests, it's OK. If the motive is to advance personal interest, it's not OK," the former official said.

Pompeo is seen in Republican circles as a potential presidential candidate in 2024. To his critics, the taxpayer-funded dinners give Pompeo access to influential and wealthy figures in the political and corporate realms who would be useful for any future run for office. To others, the dinners are merely standard Washington fare.

David Ignatius, a Washington Post columnist and MSNBC contributor who attended one of the dinners, defended the events in a column. Ignatius noted he has harshly criticized Pompeo over his handling of the Ukraine-related impeachment inquiry and other issues, but he said the dinner he attended was a constructive, harmless gathering.

"Our democracy faces some severe threats under President Trump. But social events at the State Department with the secretary and his wife are not among them," [he wrote](#).

The Kansas City Star disagreed, [writing in an editorial](#) that "Mike Pompeo's gaudy, taxpayer-funded dinners should make him damaged goods in Kansas." The Leavenworth, Kansas, Times called it "[not a good look](#)."

The dinners are named after James Madison, America's fourth president and fifth secretary of state, and are held in an opulent reception room named after Madison and decorated to evoke early 19th-century America.

In a letter to Pompeo in late May, the chairs of the House Oversight and Reform Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee raised questions about the use of the Diplomatic Reception Rooms for the dinners. Under federal regulations, the rooms are not to be used for events "that have a partisan, political, sectarian, or similar nature" or "a personal nature, such as private parties or other social events which are not affiliated with, or in support of, official U.S. Government business," the lawmakers wrote.

'Regretted due to filming'

For the dinners, Pompeo and his wife, Susan, sought out a Who's Who of the top corporate leaders in America, including the CEOs of IBM, JetBlue, oil giant ConocoPhillips and Google subsidiary Jigsaw, who were all invited, according to State Department records.

The CEOs of Walmart, consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton and Snap Inc., which owns Snapchat, all were invited to one or more dinners but ultimately did not attend, people familiar with their invitations confirmed.

At least 15 of the people who were invited lead companies that have received government contracts over the past three years. The companies included heavyweights such as General Electric, General Dynamics, Raytheon and Lockheed Martin. Raytheon, in particular, has benefited from Trump's [push for arms sales](#) to Saudi Arabia.

Dinner invitations also went to several high-profile guests from the worlds of sports and entertainment, including Eastwood, who is listed in the State Department document as having "regretted due to filming."

Top-ranked U.S. tennis star John Isner said he was unable to attend because of a busy calendar. "I declined because of scheduling and was honored by the invite and hope to be invited again. I am a big fan of the Secretary of State and think he is doing an amazing job," an emailed statement provided by Isner's representative said.

Some guests from the business community described the dinners as opportunities to participate in "commercial diplomacy." CIA Director Gina Haspel said through a spokesperson that the event she attended was "an excellent opportunity to hear perspectives from a diverse group of people on current foreign policy."

Some prominent Republicans were not invited, however. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-

Ky., and his wife, Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao, did not make the cut, nor did the Republican chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, James Risch of Idaho. Also missing were any other members of the Senate Republican leadership.

Before Democrats in Congress started asking questions about the Madison Dinners, Pompeo's use of taxpayer-funded resources was the subject of an inquiry by Linick, the inspector general, whom Trump fired in May. Among other things, Linick was looking into allegations that the secretary enlisted a political appointee to carry out personal errands for him, like picking up dry cleaning, NBC News previously [reported](#). Linick is voluntarily submitting to a private virtual interview Wednesday with Democratic and Republican members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the House Oversight Committee and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, all of which are investigating Linick's firing. Pompeo has denied any wrongdoing or that he pushed for Linick's sacking as retaliation for any pending investigations.

Former intelligence officials say similar questions were raised during his tenure as CIA director, including whether he used government facilities for purely recreational purposes.

Two current and two former U.S. officials said Pompeo, who led the CIA from January 2017 to April 2018, would occasionally invite friends to weekend gatherings at Scattergood-Thorne House, a four-story Georgian Revival home on the agency's Langley, Virginia, campus that is used as a conference center.

The receptions, which included Sunday gatherings to watch NFL football, required government employees to open and staff the property, the officials said.

One current and one former official said Pompeo wanted a big-screen television installed at Scattergood-Thorne so he and his friends could better enjoy the games. CIA officials expressed concerns that it was inappropriate and should not be paid for with agency funds, the officials said.

But a source close to Pompeo denied that account, saying: "That is false."

The current and the former officials said Pompeo also made a number of weekend visits with his wife to the agency's training facility at Camp Peary, Virginia, known as the Farm. The training campus is on the York River next to Colonial Williamsburg.

"It wasn't anything that broke the law, but it raised eyebrows," a U.S. official said.

In response to inquiries from The Washington Post, the CIA acknowledged in 2018 that Pompeo stayed with his wife and adult son at the Farm during Christmas 2017.

A former U.S. intelligence official familiar with the matter said that during the visit, Pompeo's son participated in skeet shooting with agency personnel.

The CIA said the Pompeos "stayed at an Agency-owned facility for three days over Christmas 2017." But the agency said they opted to do so instead of traveling out of state and incurring additional costs to protect the family.

In a statement to NBC News, CIA press secretary Timothy Barrett said, "During his time here, former Director Pompeo unapologetically advanced the Agency's mission while making it a top priority to engage CIA Officers to express his deep appreciation and respect for their work."

"As director of the CIA, the Secretary spent time at the facility over Christmas in an effort to allow staff to spend time with their families," said the source close to Pompeo.

Unlike his predecessors at Foggy Bottom, Pompeo lives in government housing "a stately home usually reserved for flag officers in the military. Pompeo pays an undisclosed amount to rent the property, and when the arrangement was made in 2018, officials said it would save taxpayers money by reducing significant security costs associated with a private residence. The State Department has said Pompeo pays fair market value to rent the home.

Pompeo's "Madison Dinners" aren't scandalous. I went to one.

Washington Post

David Ignatius

May 26, 2020 â€“ 7:08 PM

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/pompeos-madison-dinners-arent-scandalous-i-went-to-one/2020/05/26/f6148580-9f95-11ea-81bb-c2f70f01034b_story.html

When assessing the Trump administration, letâ€™s make sure that our outrage meters are well-calibrated, so that we donâ€™t waste time on trivial topics. A case in point is the recent uproar over the â€œMadison Dinnersâ€ held by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and his wife, Susan.

I have an unusual personal perspective on this latest â€œscandal,â€ because my wife and I were among the guests at a dinner hosted by the Pompeos on Nov. 18.

Critics have argued that the secretary was misusing public funds at this dinner and a handful of others, but it didnâ€™t feel that way sitting in the room. It seemed like the many other times Iâ€™ve been with previous secretaries at events like these. The only surprising thing was that I was invited, given what I had written about Pompeo. But Iâ€™ll get to that later.

There were about 20 guests, as I remember, mostly couples. We had cocktails in the lavish, main Diplomatic Reception Room where the State Department holds big events and then retreated to a smaller room, known as the James Madison Dining Room.

This was supposed to be a social event, as opposed to a business dinner. But in Washington, letâ€™s be honest, itâ€™s all business, all the time. The other guests included an ambassador and his wife, a senator, a member of the House, a former baseball commissioner and his wife, and several prominent businesspeople.

Similar events take place nearly every night in some embassy or think tank, when the city isnâ€™t shut down by a pandemic. The idea is that people will do their jobs better if they know each other, have a drink, socialize. I think thatâ€™s probably true, including for journalists. One reason Washington is such a nasty, partisan place these days is that people donâ€™t see each other outside work.

On the way to dinner, Susan Pompeo gathered the guests for a talk about some of the heirlooms â€” the fine china and porcelain that have been assembled over the years, thanks to private donations that began during the Kennedy administration. She spoke without notes and with detailed knowledge of the items in the collection. Sheâ€™s an active, engaged spouse now, as she was when Pompeo headed the CIA. That strikes me as a positive, not a negative.

Each guest was asked to say a few words. I said something about how, in covering the State Department since the 1980s, Iâ€™d learned that U.S. foreign policy is more powerful when it has bipartisan support, and when the news media are able to cover it freely. Bland, maybe, but thatâ€™s what I think.

The secretary nodded; so did others around the table. On to the next set of bromides. Some of the comments had a political edge, but for Trump-era Washington, it was mostly pretty tame stuff. It was genial, but it felt like work: People were trying â€” hard â€” to be friendly and get to know each other.

The only surprise about the dinner for me was that I was there at all. My wife and I had received our invitations in October. Two weeks before the event, on Nov. 5, I had published a column with the headline: â€œWhere is Mike Pompeo? Heâ€™s hiding in fear of Donald Trump.â€ The Ukraine investigation was unfolding then, and I wrote that while Trump was attacking former ambassador Marie

Yovanovitch, Pompeo has essentially been in hiding, protecting himself while his subordinates took the hit.

I didn't mince words: Pompeo has badly tarnished his reputation in accommodating Trump. He joins the long list of those damaged by their service to this president.

After that column appeared, I called one of Pompeo's top aides and said that if he preferred to withdraw his dinner invitation, I would understand: Nobody should have to socialize with someone if it's going to be uncomfortable. But the aide, after consultation, said no problem, come ahead. Pompeo and his wife were gracious throughout the evening.

I've criticized Pompeo since that dinner, noting, for example, he has a belligerent streak that even his supporters have long recognized is a severe liability. I've also endorsed policies of his that I thought were sensible. That's the way it's supposed to work. We tell the truth, upside and down. This is journalism, not war.

To be clear: Our democracy faces some severe threats under President Trump. But social events at the State Department with the secretary and his wife are not among them.

SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS

Sender:	Barz, Chloe O (b)(7)(F)
	(b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(F)
Recipient:	Kaldahl, Ryan M (b)(7)(F)
	(b)(7)(F)
	(b)(7)(F)
	Moore, Jessica L (b)(7)(E)
	(b)(7)(F)
	(b)(7)(F)
Sent Date:	2020/07/28 20:01:59

From:	(b)(6)
To:	
CC:	Henderson, Katherine C (b)(6) Fisher, Mary-Kate (b)(6)
Subject:	MEET WITH MRS. POMPEO FOR NEXT MADISON DINNERS/MARCH 11
Date:	Mon, 9 Mar 2020 20:08:32 +0000

(b)(6) per your call, and (b)(6) many thanks for coordinating a time for Mrs. Pompeo to come over for a quick Madison dinner meeting for the next dates of April 15 and 29.

Per your schedules Cam and Mary-Kate and Mrs. Pompeo's availability, (b)(6) suggested Wednesday, March 11 at 10 a.m. (b)(6) will escort Mrs. Pompeo to your office Cam. (And, per (b)(6) if one of you is pulled away, that is fine. We can still proceed with the update.)

Many thanks.

Best,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

**Assistant Chief of Protocol
For Ceremonials
Department of State**

(b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Henderson, Katherine C (b)(6) Fisher, Mary-Kate <FisherMK@state.gov>