

July 11, 2023

Leonard Leo
Chairman
CRC Advisors
2850 Eisenhower Ave., Ste. 100
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Leo:

According to recent investigative reporting, in July 2008, you facilitated a gift of free transportation to and lodging at a fishing lodge in Alaska for Justice Samuel Alito. The reporting stated that you “attended and helped organize” this event, invited Justice Alito and Paul Singer to attend, and asked Mr. Singer if you and Justice Alito could fly to Alaska on a private jet owned by Mr. Singer, or an entity he owns or controls. Additionally, the free lodging for this trip was provided by Robin Arkley II, who has helped fund an advocacy group connected to you that has advocated for issues related to the federal judiciary. Justice Alito did not disclose these gifts of transportation and lodging on his annual financial disclosure form for 2008, in apparent contravention of the Supreme Court’s April 25, 2023, “Statement on Ethics Principles and Practices,” which asserts that Justices since 1991 “have followed” the financial disclosure requirements provided in the Judicial Conference regulations, and other applicable obligations. This follows earlier reporting indicating that you also joined at least one of Justice Thomas’s undisclosed trips to Harlan Crow’s Topridge Camp.

The Judicial Conference is a body established by Congress, which maintains an ongoing interest in the Conference’s proper functioning and execution of statutory requirements enacted by Congress. Moreover, the Senate Judiciary Committee is considering legislation to strengthen the ethical rules and standards that apply to the Justices of the Supreme Court. The information we request below will help identify specific shortcomings in the “Statement on Ethics Principles and Practices,” as well as current law, that legislation needs to address. For these reasons, please provide the following information as soon as possible, but no later than July 25, 2023:

1. An itemized list of all gifts, payments, and items of value exceeding \$415 provided, whether by you; by entities you own or control or for which you have served as a partner, director, or officer; or by others, to any Justice of the Supreme Court or a member of the Justice’s family which you had a role in facilitating or arranging. Please include the name of the Justice, the approximate dollar amount of each item, the date it was extended, and your role in arranging each item.

2. An itemized list of all transportation or lodging provided, whether by you; by entities you own or control or for which you have served as a partner, director, or officer; or by others, to a Justice of the Supreme Court or a member of the Justice's family, which you had a role in facilitating or arranging. Please include the name of the Justice, the date the transportation or lodging was provided, the mode of transportation provided, the itinerary traveled, any lodging provided, the approximate dollar value of the transportation or lodging, and your role in arranging the transportation or lodging.
3. An account of how you came to attend the July 2008 trip to Alaska, including when you first learned of the trip and your role in inviting Justice Alito, Paul Singer, and other attendees to attend the trip and to travel aboard a private jet owned by Paul Singer, as well as the names of any other attendees.
4. An itemized list of any other instance in which you have lodged or traveled with any Justice of the Supreme Court or a member of the Justice's family, including the name of the Justice, the date of the lodging or transportation, the mode of transportation provided, the itinerary traveled, the approximate dollar value of the transportation or lodging, an account of how you came to accompany the Justice or the member of their family, any role you played in inviting the Justice or other attendees, and the names of other attendees.

Sincerely,



SHELDON WHITEHOUSE
Chair, Subcommittee on
Federal Courts, Oversight,
Agency Action, and Federal
Rights



RICHARD J. DURBIN
Chair, Senate Committee on
the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable John N. Kennedy
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and
Federal Rights