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Notes to file

3/22/2018 call between Sheri Dillon, and and and a second state of a second state of

: There have been news stories about a liability to Mr. Cohen.

Sheri Dillon: If the filer did owe Mr. Cohen money, it would show up on the report, but she does not believe he did.

: We need you to confirm that.

3/30/2018 call between Sheri Dillon,

, and

1. Example 2010 If the filer had a liability to Mr. Cohen it would have to be reported. Have you confirmed there is no liability to report?

Sheri Dillon: As far as she knows he did not owe him any money.

: Can you confirm?

Sheri Dillon: She will confirm

2. Like for 2017, if there was any money owed in 2016, he would have to amend to report that, so please confirm he did not owe Mr. Cohen money.

: At any point did he owe Mr. Cohen money?

Sheri Dillon: Not that I am aware of.

: Can you confirm that?

Sheri Dillon: She will confirm.

4/26/2018 call between Sheri Dillon,

and

1. Discussed how to report part 3 entries.

2. Sheri Dillon: White House is working on the gifts part.

3. Second second

Sheri Dillon: She confirmed that with filer.

: The Acting Director asked that we get that in writing.

Sheri Dillon: Why

: We did not ask him that question.

We provided further guidance on liability reporting requirements for loans and for bills for services.

4. Example 2015 for a Speech the filer made in the Fall of 2015 for a Ukrainian citizen. If the filer directed or received a payment it will have to be added to his 2016 candidate report.

Sheri Dillon: What if they would have never given him the money.

: The statute requires reporting of honoraria paid to charity in lieu of payment to the filer. Senate and House member are prohibited by statute from receiving honoraria and still are required to report it.

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Notes of Call with President Trump's FD on May 8, 2018 2pm

OGE – David Apol, Morgan Lewis – Sheri Dillon, Fred Fielding, Will Nelson White House Counsel's Office – Stefan Passantino

# Sheri Dillon-

Noted that we had several conversations in which OGE had asked questions about liabilities and media reports regarding monies owed to Michael Cohen. She represented all payments are in connection with legal services.

There is ambiguity regarding the facts. They don't view as reportable liabilities. The propose a disclosure as a Note on the liabilities page:

"Pursuant to OGE's request, in the interest of transparency, while not required to be disclosed as "reportable liabilities" on Part 8, in 2016 expenses were incurred by Donald J. Trump's personal attorney, Michael Cohen, in connection with his representation of Mr. Trump. Mr. Cohen sought reimbursement of those expenses and Mr. Trump reimbursed Mr. Cohen in 2017."

Cohen incurred expenses, Trump reimbursed for those expenses. They were routine vendor payments, not overdue and unpaid. As a result, they are not reportable liabilities.

All expenses paid by the end of 2017.

They do not view it as a line item on the liabilities schedule.

asked if they could describe the buckets that the expenses fell into. Ms. Dillon would not disclose the buckets because the information is privileged.

Dave Apol-

In his view, it appears to be a payment obligation of Mr. Trump.

Ms Dillon-

Said the information was not required to be disclosed because of the purpose of EIGA to help the voters to determine if there are conflicts. It is not OGE's job to go behind bills and notes payable and investigate.

Dave Apol -

OGE can't accept a report that is contrary to things that the filer has said publicly. We would encourage the President to fill out the schedule. If he add the line item, he can indicate it was paid as part of the retainer in 2017.

# Ms. Dillon-

She is concerned that we will be forcing the President to attest to facts that are not true or that are not yet in evidence. She is also concerned that we as a group not make judgments about the nature of the payments. She attempted to equate the payment to a revolving charge. (Dave indicated that was not a good analogy).

She also analogized the payments to payments for a kitchen remodel.

# Dave Apol-

The payments do not seem like expense tied with legal services, rather the Mr. Cohen paid an obligation of Mr. Trump.

### Ms. Dillon-

She indicated that this thinking was a slippery slope and that we were falsely trying to place things into buckets. She urged us to let the facts come out as they may and let the criticism fall on the President. She said they can work on the language but they will not report a liability.

#### Dave-

At some point no agreement was in place. He believes there was a liability at that point. Mr. Trump agreed to pay at some point and now has completely repaid.

### Ms. Dillon-

If there is a normal business relationship, you should not treat an arrangement like this as a liability until the bill is overdue.

OGE's reliance on the statements of Mr. Guiliani is misplaced. Reliance on media reports is misplaced. Pres. Trump had a long working relationship with Mr. Cohen, since 2007. Mr. Cohen acted with authority. OGE's focus on his change of position from working for the Trump Organization to private practice is misplaced. Mr. Cohen always knew that he would be reimbursed but the mechanisms for reimbursement changed over time. Again, she noted that nothing was ever overdue.

#### Dave-

He suggested that if they added a category of value and the terms to the note that it may be acceptable with the exception of the note that states it is not a reportable liability.

### Ms. Dillon-

She can't allow her client to sign something that is untrue. They are trying to be transparent and help. The path described above is not in the government's interest or her client's interest.

#### Dave-

He indicated that the natural interpretation of the publicly reported information is that Michael Cohen made payment for Pres. Trump and was later repaid by the President.

# Ms. Dillon-

She will not agree to that characterization. It is not a matter of what most people would believer but rather the fact. People will complain no matter what disclosure is made. However, she recognized that Dave must be comfortable.

She stated unequivocally that Michael Cohen did not loan President Trump money in the natural sense of the word.

Dave Apol-

- He is not ready to sign at this time
- Not sure while the following would prejudice if add:
  - Highest balance
  - Terms of Repayment
- It would be helpful to add a not about the 2016 report, filed in 2017.

Ms. Dillon

- The balance is a non-starter.
- She urges us to think about the purpose of FD
- OGE is overstepping its jurisdiction
- The public will know every detail when the facts come out.

The parties agreed to continue to think about the issues.

asked if we could see the retainer agreement after Ms. Dillon asserted that OGE was reading things into the agreement that are not there. Ms. Dillon will not permit OGE staff to read the agreement because it is privileged.