



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N758
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (855) 463-6848

Mike Braun, Governor
Lyndsay Quist, Commissioner

September 8, 2025

FILED

SEP 8 2025

INDIANA STATE
ETHICS COMMISSION

Katherine Noel, Chair
Indiana State Ethics Commission
315 West Ohio Street, Room 104
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

RE: Waiver of Application of 42 IAC 1-5-1 (the "Gift Rule") for Certain Items of Value Received by INDOT Commissioner Quist

Chairwoman Noel:

Commissioner Lyndsay Quist, the appointing authority of the Indiana State Department of Transportation ("INDOT"), has designated authority to me as the agency's ethics officer to waive application of the Gift Rule in individual cases when consistent with the public interest. I am hereby waiving application of 42 IAC 1-5-1 (a) for an item of value received by INDOT Commissioner Lyndsay Quist in relation to her participation in a helicopter tour of the Interstate 69 Ohio River Crossing project.

The INDOT Commissioner has been asked to accompany United States Department of Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy on a tour of the Interstate 69 Ohio River Crossing project area on September 8, 2025. Indiana Code 8-23-2 provides that INDOT is responsible for the "identification, development, coordination, and implementation of the state's transportation policies" By attending the tour, Commissioner Quist will have the opportunity to demonstrate INDOT's successful stewardship of public dollars to Secretary Duffy, a benefit to both the department and Indiana taxpayers.

The September 8, 2025, helicopter tour will be on a helicopter owned by a private party, Bob Cooke. Cooke has no business relationship with INDOT. This waiver covers the value of the helicopter tour. Commissioner Quist has been instructed not to accept any other item of value from any private person or entity if that person or entity may have a business relationship with INDOT or may seek to influence an action by INDOT personnel in his or her official capacity. INDOT personnel are regularly informed that the safest course of action at any industry event is to assume that anyone in attendance from the private sector might have a business relationship with INDOT.

Therefore, it is my opinion that it is consistent with the public interest for Commissioner Quist to attend the tour on September 8, 2025, and to receive the item of value specified above, even though payment for these items was made by a private person without a business relationship with INDOT. Based on this finding, I am hereby waiving application of 42 IAC 1-5-1 (a) to allow INDOT Commissioner Lyndsay Quist to accept the helicopter tour on September 8, 2025.

If you need additional information or have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact me at Delaw@indot.in.gov

Respectfully Submitted,
/s/: **Deborah Law**

Deborah Law,
Senior Attorney & Ethics Officer
Indiana Department of Transportation

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