

RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY
8TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

515 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3711
FAX: (202) 225-7830

1701 EAST WOODFIELD ROAD, SUITE 704
SCHAUMBURG, IL 60173

TELEPHONE: (847) 413-1959
FAX: (847) 413-1965

www.krishnamoorthi.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 1, 2018

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David J. Apol
Acting Director and General Counsel
Office of Government Ethics
1201 New York Avenue NW Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Acting Director Apol,

On February 28th 2018, the *New York Times* reported that Senior Advisor to the President Jared Kushner's family businesses had received over half a billion dollars in private loans from two financial companies shortly after their executives met with Mr. Kushner in the White House. If the allegations in this report are true, they raise serious ethical questions that need to be investigated.

According to the *Times*, Mr. Kushner met repeatedly last year with Joshua Harris, a founder of financial institution Apollo Global Management, to discuss infrastructure policy and a potential White House job. Last November, Apollo's real estate arm – Apollo Commercial Real Estate Finance – lent Kushner Companies \$184 million to refinance the mortgage of a Chicago skyscraper. Significantly, this loan is more than triple the size of the firm's average real estate loan¹.

The Kushner Companies additionally received a \$325 million loan from Citi Group to refinance office buildings in Brooklyn, a move that followed Mr. Kushner's West Wing meeting with Citi Group's chief executive, Michael L. Corbat².

In light of the above actions, I respectfully request that you provide an advisory opinion on the following matters:

1. The ethical implications of a Senior White House Official with a broad portfolio of responsibilities failing to divest from financial holdings in active business entities, including those with large outstanding debt obligations;
2. The ethical implications of a Senior White House Official having personally guaranteed loans to a private business entity with large outstanding debt obligations;
3. The ethical implications of such an official meeting with potential investors and creditors in those business entities while in a position to directly benefit the investors and offer its principals favorable policy outcomes; and
4. Do the above actions by Mr. Kushner constitute a breach of his ethical obligations to the American people?

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

¹ "Kushner's Family Business Received Loans After White House Meetings", *New York Times*, 1 March 2018

² *Ibid*