

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF
GOVERNMENT ETHICS



March 3, 2025

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy:

Congratulations and welcome to service in the Executive Branch of the United States Government.

We share the honor of taking the oath of office and of committing ourselves to serving the American people. I wish you nothing but success in your new role as Secretary.

I encourage you to always consider the oath you have taken as you carry out your important duties, and to set an exemplary standard in terms of your personal compliance with all ethics requirements. You will meet with your Department's ethics officials as you begin your service, and they are available to advise and assist you throughout your appointment. Your commitment to ethics will bolster your success as a leader.

While we each took our oath of office individually, with that oath we joined a community of public servants. One of our most important responsibilities as leaders is to ensure that the public servants we lead understand and are fully committed to our singular duty: to serve the public. With this in mind, I encourage you to regularly remind your team of this duty; to underscore the importance of ethics compliance more generally; to reiterate that your Department has dedicated and well-supported ethics officials from whom they can seek counsel, as needed, to help with the tough issues; and to do what you can to foster a strong culture of integrity.

The trust of the American people is the currency that makes our experiment in self-government possible. It is our duty to protect and grow that trust. I wish you great success in your service to the American people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelley Finlayson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "S" at the beginning.

Shelley Finlayson
Program Counsel, OGE