

Message

From: Jones, Enesta [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=65B8E6C6E5CA4A7A9AE85D98A4C8EEDB-EJONES02]
Sent: 7/13/2018 6:19:27 PM
To: Itai Vardi [Ex. 6]
CC: Press [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b293283291dc44e0b5d1c36be9281d8a-Press]
Subject: Re: Journalist writing for HuffPost requesting comment

Itai,

On background: The subject line of the calendar entry states that the meeting was delegated to Mandy Gunasekara. On the calendar entry, the attendee list is an ex ante reflection of who organized the meeting and was invited to attend – it is not an ex post record of who actually attended the meeting. There were three meetings on Bill’s calendar for the 2PM – 3PM time slot on February 12th, 2018. He did not attend the meetings titled “FYI: Delegated to David Harlow: Senior Staff Meeting” and “Delegated to Mandy Gunasekara: Meet with American Electric Power...”; he attended the meeting titled “MTE Call.”

On Jul 13, 2018, at 10:06 AM, Itai Vardi [Ex. 6] wrote:

Hi again Enesta,

I went back and took another look at Bill Wehrum's calendar and am writing to ask for a clarification. The calendar clearly marks him as an "Attendee" (see attached screen shot). So can the EPA please explain the discrepancy between what the calendar states and your statement that Mr. Wehrum was not in attendance?

Thank you,

Itai

Itai Vardi
Freelance Journalist
On assignment for the Huffington Post
Tel: [Ex. 6]

On Thu, Jul 12, 2018 at 5:16 PM, Itai Vardi [Ex. 6] wrote:
Alright, thank you.

Itai

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 12, 2018, at 2:49 PM, Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov> wrote:

Itai,

“The meeting in question was delegated to Mandy Gunasekara. Assistant Administrator Bill Wehrum did not attend.” — EPA spokesperson

On Jul 12, 2018, at 8:50 AM, Itai Vardi <Ex. 6> wrote:

Hi Enesta,

I'm a journalist working on a story for the Huffington Post.

According to his calendar (which I received through FOIA), Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation Bill Wehrum met on February 12, 2018 with Hunton & Williams lawyers representing his former client, the Utility Air Regulatory Group, to discuss MATS.

This meeting seems to violate Wehrum's ethics agreement of not participating in matters concerning his former clients. The pledge was in accordance with President Trump's executive order on political appointee recusals as well 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

So I'd like to ask:

- 1) Why did Assistant Secretary Wehrum participate in this meeting?
- 2) Did he receive an ethics waiver to do so?

My deadline is today, Thursday, July 12, at 5:00PM EST. Please confirm receipt of this request for comment. And please contact me with any questions you may have.

If you're not the right person to address this request, please forward it to the appropriate press contact.

Thank you,

Itai

Itai Vardi
Freelance Journalist
On assignment for the Huffington Post
Tel: Ex. 6

<Wehrum calendar1.png>