

Message

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**From:** Fugh, Justina [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=54AFBE2E36D3481C8C52D27BA3979D47-JFUGH]  
**Sent:** 9/27/2021 8:21:46 PM  
**To:** [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP); Ex. 7(C)]@epa.gov  
**Subject:** FW: notification of (minor) pledge violation

FYI

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**From:** Olorunnipa, Funmi B. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 3:31 PM  
**To:** Fugh, Justina <Fugh.Justina@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: notification of (minor) pledge violation

Thank Justina. We defer to the agencies on whom to notify but your course of action below seems reasonable to me.

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**From:** Fugh, Justina <Fugh.Justina@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 1:42 PM  
**To:** Olorunnipa, Funmi B. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]  
**Subject:** notification of (minor) pledge violation

Hi there,

One of our non-career SES appointees, Joseph Goffman, realized belatedly that he acted on an email sent by a representative of his former employer, which is a technical violation of Section 2 of Executive Order 13989. He did not respond directly to the requestor but did forward the email to a subordinate with a recommendation about how to proceed. He copied the career chief of staff on that email, who alerted the appointee to his error, so he notified me.

This appointee had issued a recusal statement that names the career chief of staff as his screener. In addition, my staff had provided all of the politicals and key career staff in this office with specialized training on invitations and recusals. Nevertheless, the oops occurred. To “unring the bell,” I advised the subordinate to disregard the instructions from the appointee. I also contacted the requestor to explain that the appointee would not be available to meet and that, going forward, any further inquiries should be sent to the career chief of staff instead. And I have reminded the appointee to be more careful going forward.

Do you have any advice about whom else to notify about this minor pledge violation?

Justina

Justina Fugh | Director, Ethics Office | Office of General Counsel | US EPA | Mail Code 2311A | Room 4308 North, William Jefferson Clinton Federal Building | Washington, DC 20460 (for ground deliveries, use 20004 for the zip code) | phone 202-564-1786 | fax 202-564-1772