

MEMORANDUM

TO: STEPHEN ALEXANDER VADEN
PRINCIPAL DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STUART BENDER
DESIGNATED AGENCY ETHICS OFFICIAL AND
DIRECTOR, USDA OFFICE OF ETHICS

FROM: DONALD F. MCGAHN II
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE

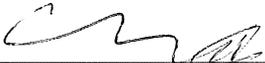
DATE: July 13, 2018

SUBJECT: Limited Waiver of Paragraph 7 of the Ethics Pledge

Official: Kenneth Barbic
Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

After reviewing the U.S. Department of Agriculture's limited waiver request memorandum, I hereby waive the requirements of paragraph 7 of the Ethics Pledge for Mr. Kenneth Barbic to allow him to advise the Secretary of Agriculture, the Deputy Secretary, and other senior Departmental officials with respect to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) renegotiation, the H2A agricultural worker visa program, and immigration legislation. I have determined that it is in the public interest to grant this limited waiver because of Mr. Barbic's expertise and understanding of the interests of the nation's farmers and producers. Mr. Barbic's extensive understanding of the needs of farming communities makes him uniquely qualified to assist the Secretary of Agriculture, the Deputy Secretary, USDA's senior leadership team, and Congress on the NAFTA renegotiation, the H2A visa program, and immigration legislation.

In light of the importance of the promoting trade and ensuring a legal agricultural workforce, a limited waiver of the provisions of paragraph 7 of the Ethics Pledge (contained in Section 3 of Executive Order 13770) is justified. Accordingly, I authorize Mr. Barbic to participate personally and substantially in matters regarding the NAFTA renegotiation, the H2A agricultural worker visa program, and immigration legislation. I understand that Mr. Barbic will otherwise comply with the remainder of the requirements imposed by the President's Ethics Pledge and with all preexisting government ethics rules.



Donald F. McGahn II
Counsel to the President

Dated: 13 July 2018