

January 10, 2017

Melinda Loftin  
Designated Agency Ethics Official  
and Director, Ethics Office  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW, MS 7346  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Loftin:

The purpose of this letter is to describe the steps that I will take to avoid any actual or apparent conflict of interest in the event that I am confirmed for the position of Secretary of the Department of Interior.

As required by 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which I know that I have a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which I know that a person whose interests are imputed to me has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me: any spouse or minor child of mine; any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner; any organization in which I serve as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position with Great Northern Veterans Peace Park Foundation. For a period of one year after my resignation, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know this entity is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my positions with Continental Divide International, LLC, and become a non-managing member of this entity. During my appointment to the position of Secretary, I will not manage this entity or provide any other services to it. Instead, I will receive only passive investment income from it. As Secretary, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of Continental Divide International, LLC, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

Upon confirmation, I will resign from my position with Double Tap, LLC, and I will become a non-managing member of this entity. During my appointment, I will not manage this entity or provide any other services to it. Instead, I will receive only passive investment income from it. As Secretary, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter

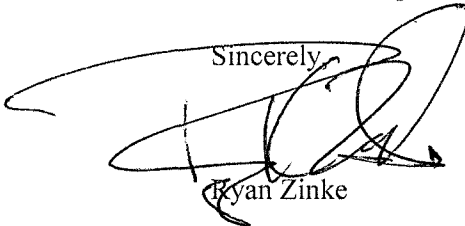
that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of Double Tap, LLC, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

I receive royalties from Thomas Nelson for sales of my book, *American Commander: Serving a Country Worth Fighting For and Training the Brave Soldiers Who Lead the Way*. I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which I know Thomas Nelson is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d).

My spouse has a vested beneficial interest in, and receives property management fees from, a family trust with underlying assets consisting of rental properties and an undeveloped lot, all of which are located in Santa Barbara, CA. As Secretary, I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter that to my knowledge has a direct and predictable effect on the financial interests of this trust, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1).

If I am confirmed as Secretary of the Department of the Interior, I am aware that I am prohibited by 30 U.S.C. § 1211(f) from holding a financial interest in any surface or underground coal mining operation. Additionally, I am aware that my position is subject to the prohibitions against holding any financial interest in federal lands or resources administered or controlled by the Department of the Interior extended to me by supplemental regulation 5 C.F.R. § 3501.103.

Finally, I have been advised that this ethics agreement will be posted publicly, consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 552, on the website of the U.S. Office of Government Ethics with ethics agreements of other Presidential nominees who file public financial disclosure reports.

Sincerely,  
  
Ryan Zinke