From: Ryan
To: USOGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 3:20:00 PM

The very idea that anyone in our government would even attempt to pass a rule making ethics oversight an optional thing is appalling on every conceivable level and please know that as a voter I oppose OGE's proposed legal expense fund regulation as drafted. OGE should:

remove the exception that makes compliance with the regulation optional;
replace the proposed recusal requirement with a broader 5-year recusal requirement that prevents donors of cash gifts from influencing decisions, policies, or regulations affecting them or the industries in which they have substantial interests;
remove the offensive example involving an accused sexual harasser; and
place nonprofit charities (501(c)(3) organizations) on an equal footing with large law firms by allowing them to hire legal counsel for whistleblowers.

Sincerely,

Ryan L. Watson, Psy.D