From: Elia Shelton
To: USOGE
Subject: Proposed Rule: Legal Expense Fund Regulation (RIN 3209-AA50)
Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 3:00:25 PM

Hello,

I strongly oppose the Office of Government Ethics' proposed legal expense fund regulation as currently drafted. OGE should:

- make compliance with the regulation mandatory, not 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.

Allowing this corrupt ethical practice begun in the Trump administration to stand runs counter to OGE's mandate. Please make ethics government mean something again.

Thank you,

Elia