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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

November 10, 2026

The Honorable James C. Justice
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Public Letter of Admonition

Dear Senator Justice:

Pursuant to its authority under Senate Resolution 338 (1964), the Select Committee on Ethics (the Committee) initiated a preliminary inquiry regarding your failure to file a timely annual financial disclosure report for calendar year 2025. The Committee finds your failure to file your report before the statutory deadline violated federal law and Senate Rules and, accordingly, issues you this Public Letter of Admonition.

The Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 5 U.S.C. § 13101 et seq., assigns the Committee responsibility for the U.S. Senate financial disclosure program. In accordance with the statute, Members are mandated by federal law to file an annual financial disclosure report by May 15 each calendar year the Member is in Senate office. The statute authorizes filing extensions not to exceed 90 days.

The Committee concluded that you requested and received two filing extensions, and your filing deadline was August 13, 2026.[1] In the six months before your filing deadline, your filing assistant acknowledged six separate Committee communications reminding you of the deadline and offering Committee assistance. Despite these communications, your filing assistant only informed the Committee that you did not intend to file your report less than 30 minutes before the statutory deadline. On August 24, 2026, the Committee referred this matter to you with express direction to file your delinquent report no later than August 28, 2026. You filed your untimely report on September 8, 2026.

In the 47 years since the governing statute was enacted, the Committee has no record of any other Member failing to file a timely annual financial disclosure report. While you recently made the Committee aware that your personal accountant and filing assistant experienced a significant family hardship in the final months before your filing deadline, circumstances for which the Committee has great compassion, this does not abrogate your personal responsibility as a U.S. Senator to comply with governing federal law. The original deadline for filing was May 15, 2026, but your report was received four months later, after multiple communications with your staff.

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[1] On May 8, 2026, you requested and received an 82-day extension. On July 15, 2026, you requested and received a second filing extension of eight days.

Timely financial disclosure is critical to public transparency and ensures Members remain free from conflicts of interest. The public must feel confident that Members never place personal financial interests ahead of the best interests of the United States. Your actions failed to uphold that standard, resulting in harm to the public trust and confidence in the United States Senate and a violation of federal law.

Sincerely,

James Lankford
Chairman

Christopher A. Coons
Vice Chairman