

From: Silvana Tabares <Silvana.Tabares@cityofchicago.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 10:34 AM
To: Steve Berlin <Steve.Berlin@cityofchicago.org>
Cc: Rosaura Bocanegra <Rosaura.Bocanegra@cityofchicago.org>
Subject: Letter regarding Israel trip

Steve,

Kindly see the attached letter. Let me know if you have any questions.

Silvana

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February 13, 2025

Silvana Tabares
Chicago Alderman, 23rd Ward

Dear Alderman Tabares,

We look forward to your participation in the AIEF Israel Seminar for Democratic Leaders, May 3-11, 2025. You will be part of a select group of community and political leaders interested in learning more about Israel, the geopolitics of the Middle East, and the U.S.-Israel relationship. Today, Israel faces unprecedented challenges in the wake of the October 7 massacre. Through this program, you will have the unique opportunity to learn more about these issues through informational briefings with experts and government officials as well as personal visits to historical, religious and strategic sites.

This intensive educational experience is sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF), the charitable organization affiliated with AIPAC. AIEF has hosted leadership trips to Israel for political leaders and policy makers for close to 40 years. We hope this seminar will be the centerpiece of an ongoing process of education and engagement concerning Israel and the U.S.-Israel relationship.

To help you prepare for the trip, we've enclosed several briefing materials, including *Israel* by Daniel Gordis and *The Genius of Israel* by Dan Senor and Saul Singer, along with additional resources you may find helpful. We will also convene two video calls – the first will be a webinar that introduces the trip and an overview of Israel's history; the second will provide detailed information about the trip itinerary and logistics.

If you have any questions, please contact Pedro Cavallero at pcavallero@aipac.org or (323) 333-5825, Santiago Lucero at slucero@aipac.org or (832) 380-7717, or Jordana McMahon at Jmcmahon@aiefdn.org or (202) 754-5667. Thank you again for your participation and interest in learning more about the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship. We look forward to working with you now and in the future.

Sincerely,



Pedro Cavallero
National Outreach Director



Santiago Lucero
Senior Political Coalitions Director



CITY OF CHICAGO



BOARD OF ETHICS

February 6, 2025

The Honorable Silvana Tabares,
Alderman, 23rd Ward
121 N. LaSalle St., Room 200
Chicago, IL 60602

Re: AIEF Trip to Israel

Dear Ald. Tabares,

This letter will confirm our advice to you earlier this week that your acceptance of the trip to Israel offered by the American Israel Education Foundation conforms with the requirements of Chicago Governmental Ethics Ordinance, and is approved with the standard conditions for business or educational travel paid by a third party: (i) you may accept reasonable travel expenses, such as coach air, ground transportation, lodging, and food offered to other participants, and museum or cultural attraction admissions, but no honoraria ("swag" like hats, coffee mugs, or trinkets are fine as long as they do not total more than \$50 from any single source); and (ii) remember to send me an email within 10 days of your return to Chicago, stating who paid for your trip, when, and that you attended in an official capacity.

Safe travels to Israel.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Yours very truly,

Steven I. Berlin
Executive Director



CITY OF CHICAGO



SILVANA TABARES
ALDERMAN, 23RD WARD

May 13, 2025

Steven I. Berlin
Executive Director, Board of Ethics
740 N. Sedgwick Street, Suite 500
Chicago, Illinois 60654

Dear Mr. Berlin,

This letter confirms that I participated in an educational seminar trip to Israel from May 3rd to May 11th. The educational experience was sponsored by the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF).

Sincerely,

Silvana Tabares
Alderman – 23rd Ward