



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT

October 30, 2020

New York City Conflicts of Interest Board  
2 Lafayette Street, Suite 1010  
New York, NY 10007

Re: Ariel Palitz

Dear Conflicts of Interest Board Members:

I write to request a waiver, pursuant to Conflicts of Interest Board Rule section 1-13(e), to permit Ariel Palitz, Senior Executive Director of the Office of Nightlife (“ONL”) within the Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment (“MOME”) to serve as member of the Nighttime Economy Culture and Policy Alliance (“NITE-CAP”) and to use City time and City resources in her work as a member. As set forth below, there is a demonstrated nexus between Ms. Palitz’s City job, her work for NITE-CAP, and the mission of ONL/MOME.

In September 2017, the City established ONL by Local Law 178 of 2017, codified as Charter section 20-d. Mayor de Blasio appointed Ariel Palitz as the office’s first leader. ONL’s purpose is to help establish and coordinate systemic solutions to support the nighttime economy, culture, and quality of life in New York City. ONL serves a liaison for New York City’s nightlife industry and community to City agencies.

Formed in October 2020, NITE-CAP is a network of professionals responsible for nighttime economy advocacy, planning and management in United States cities to: (i) share experience, policies, and practices; (ii) raise awareness about nighttime economy and culture across disciplines; and (iii) highlight the value and importance of the nightlife industry within government. NITE-CAP connects with related professionals and other nighttime economy advocates to build broader alliances that support the development of vibrant nighttime economy and culture. The new organization is currently operating as an unincorporated association and intends to organize as a non-profit.

Ms. Palitz expects to work for no more than two hours per week on NITE-CAP activities. Commissioner del Castillo would like to allow her to perform this work during normal City work hours.

There is a clear nexus between Ms. Palitz’s work in ONL and her participation as a member of NITE-CAP, because both entities are involved in policy and the nightlife industry. Her work on NITE-CAP serves a public purpose and will benefit the City by elevating ONL’s work nationally, establishing alliances with similar government offices in other cities, and allowing for exchange



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of information and ideas. Her work would not be undertaken primarily for the benefit or interests of NITE-CAP alone.

Sincerely,

Lori Barrett-Peterson  
General Counsel

I endorse the above waiver for Ariel Palitz:

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Anne del Castillo, Commissioner  
Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment