AO 10
Rev. 3/2023

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022

Report Required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. app. §§ 13101-13111)

1. Person Reporting (last name, first, middle initial)	2. Court or Organization	3. Date of Report
Laplante, Joseph N.	US District Court, D. NH	5/15/2023
4. Title (Article III judges indicate active or senior status; magistrate judges indicate full- or part-time)	**5a. Report Type (check appropriate type)**	**6. Reporting Period**
US District Judge, Active	☐ Nomination Date ☐ Initial ☑ Annual ☐ Final **5b.** ☐ Amended Report	01/01/2022 **to** 12/31/2022
7. Chambers or Office Address		
United States District Court 55 Pleasant Street Concord, NH 03301		

IMPORTANT NOTES: ***The instructions accompanying this form must be followed. Complete all parts, checking the NONE box for each part where you have no reportable information.***

I. POSITIONS. *(Reporting individual only; see Guide to Judiciary Policy, Volume 2D, Ch. 3, § 345 Trustees, Executors, Administrators, and Custodians; § 350 Power of Attorney; § 355 Outside Positions.)*

☐ NONE *(No reportable positions.)*

	POSITION	NAME OF ORGANIZATION/ENTITY
1.	Trustee (Board of Trustees)	Rivier University (non-profit)
2.	Trustee (Board of Trustees)	Southern NH Health System (non-profit)
3.		
4.		
5.		

II. AGREEMENTS. *(Reporting individual only; see Guide to Judiciary Policy, Volume 2D, Ch. 3, § 340 Agreements and Arrangements.)*

☑ NONE *(No reportable agreements.)*

	DATE	PARTIES AND TERMS
1.		
2.		
3.		

III. NON-INVESTMENT INCOME. *(Reporting individual and spouse; see Guide to Judiciary Policy, Volume 2D, Ch. 3, § 320 Income; § 360 Spouses and Dependent Children.)*

A. Filer's Non-Investment Income

☐ NONE *(No reportable non-investment income.)*

	DATE	SOURCE AND TYPE	INCOME (yours, not spouse's)
1.	2022	Boston College School of Law	$6,500.00
2.	2022	University of New Hampshire School of Law	$3,500.00
3.			
4.			

B. Spouse's Non-Investment Income - *If you were married during any portion of the reporting year, complete this section.*

(Dollar amount not required except for honoraria.)

☐ NONE *(No reportable non-investment income.)*

	DATE	SOURCE
1.	2022	St. Christopher School (Development Office, parochial school)
2.		
3.		
4.		

IV. REIMBURSEMENTS *-- transportation, lodging, food, entertainment.*

(Includes those to spouse and dependent children; see Guide to Judiciary Policy, Volume 2D, Ch. 3, § 330 Gifts and Reimbursements; § 360 Spouses and Dependent Children.)

☐ NONE *(No reportable reimbursements.)*

	SOURCE	DATES	LOCATION	PURPOSE	ITEMS PAID OR PROVIDED
1.	Penn State School of Law	1/27/22 - 1/28/22	Philadelphia, PA	Moot court judge	Hotel, airfare, meals, transportation, miscellaneous expenses
2.	SEAK Annual National Expert Witness Conference	4/22/22 - 4/23/22	Clearwater Beach, FL	Keynote speaker	Hotel, airfare, meals, transportation, miscellaneous expenses
3.					
4.					
5.					

V. GIFTS. *(Includes those to spouse and dependent children; see Guide to Judiciary Policy, Volume 2D, Ch. 3, § 330 Gifts and Reimbursements; § 360 Spouses and Dependent Children.)*

☑ NONE *(No reportable gifts.)*

	SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	VALUE
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

VI. LIABILITIES. *(Includes those of spouse and dependent children; see Guide to Judiciary Policy, Volume 2D, Ch. 3, § 335 Liabilities; § 360 Spouses and Dependent Children.)*

☑ NONE *(No reportable liabilities.)*

	CREDITOR	DESCRIPTION	VALUE CODE
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Name of Person Reporting	Date of Report
Laplante, Joseph N.	5/15/2023

VII. INVESTMENTS and TRUSTS *-- income, value, transactions (Includes those of spouse and dependent children; see Guide to Judiciary Policy, Volume 2D, Ch. 3, § 310 Reporting Thresholds for Assets; § 312 Types of Reportable Property; § 315 Interests in Property; § 320 Income; § 325 Purchases, Sales, and Exchanges; § 360 Spouses and Dependent Children; § 365 Trusts, Estates, and Investment Funds.)*

☐ NONE *(No reportable income, assets, or transactions.)*

A. Description of Assets (including trust assets) Place "(X)" after each asset exempt from prior disclosure		B. Income during reporting period (1) Amount Code 1 (A-H)	B. (2) Type (e.g., div., rent, or int.)	C. Gross value at end of reporting period (1) Value Code 2 (J-P)	C. (2) Value Method Code 3 (Q-W)	D. Transactions during reporting period (1) Type (e.g., buy, sell, redemption)	D. (2) Date mm/dd/yy	D. (3) Value Code 2 (J-P)	D. (4) Gain Code 1 (A-H)	
1.	Santander Bank	A	Interest	M	T					
2.	Digital Federal Credit Union	A	Interest	J	T					
3.	Northwestern Mutual Brokerage Account (formerly American Mutual Funds									
4.	--Europacific Grown Fund - A	A	Dividend	J	T					
5.	--The Growth Fund of America Class A	A	Dividend	L	T					
6.	Northwestern Mutual Roth IRA									
7.	--The Growth Fund of America Class A	A	Dividend	J	T					
8.	Northwestern Mutual IRA									
9.	--The Bond Fund of America Class A	A	Dividend	J	T					
10.	--The Growth Fund of America - Class A	A	Dividend	K	T					
11.	Northwestern Mutual Roth IRA									
12.	--The Bond Fund of America Class A	A	Dividend	J	T					
13.	--The Growth Fund of America Class A	A	Dividend	L	T					
14.	Northwestern Mutual IRA									
15.	--The Bond Fund of America Class A	A	Dividend	K	T					
16.	--The Growth Fund of America Class A	A	Dividend	M	T					
17.	Coverdell ESA's (Northwestern Mutual Education Savings)									

1. Income Gain Codes: (See Columns B1 and D4)	A =$1,000 or less	B =$1,001 - $2,500	C =$2,501 - $5,000	D =$5,001 - $15,000	E =$15,001 - $50,000	
	F =$50,001 - $100,000	G =$100,001 - $1,000,000	H1 =$1,000,001 - $5,000,000	H2 =More than $5,000,000		
2. Value Codes (See Columns C1 and D3)	J =$15,000 or less	K =$15,001 - $50,000	L =$50,001 - $100,000	M =$100,001 - $250,000		
	N =$250,001 - $500,000	O =$500,001 - $1,000,000	P1 =$1,000,001 - $5,000,000	P2 =$5,000,001 - $25,000,000		
	P3 =$25,000,001 - $50,000,000		P4 =More than $50,000,000			
3. Value Method Codes (See Column C2)	Q =Appraisal	R =Cost (Real Estate Only)	S =Assessment	T =Cash Market		
	U =Book Value	V =Other	W =Estimated			

Name of Person Reporting	Date of Report
Laplante, Joseph N.	5/15/2023

VII. INVESTMENTS and TRUSTS *-- income, value, transactions (Includes those of spouse and dependent children; see Guide to Judiciary Policy, Volume 2D, Ch. 3, § 310 Reporting Thresholds for Assets; § 312 Types of Reportable Property; § 315 Interests in Property; § 320 Income; § 325 Purchases, Sales, and Exchanges; § 360 Spouses and Dependent Children; § 365 Trusts, Estates, and Investment Funds.)*

☐ NONE *(No reportable income, assets, or transactions.)*

A. Description of Assets (including trust assets). Place "(X)" after each asset exempt from prior disclosure	B. Income during reporting period (1) Amount Code 1 (A-H)	B. (2) Type (e.g., div., rent, or int.)	C. Gross value at end of reporting period (1) Value Code 2 (J-P)	C. (2) Value Method Code 3 (Q-W)	D. Transactions during reporting period (1) Type (e.g., buy, sell, redemption)	D. (2) Date mm/dd/yy	D. (3) Value Code 2 (J-P)	D. (4) Gain Code 1 (A-H)	
18. --The Growth Fund of America Class A	A	Dividend	M	T					
19. 529 Plans									
20. --American Balanced Fund Class A	A	Dividend	K	T					
21. --The Growth Fund of America Class A	A	Dividend	M	T					
22. --U.S. Government Securities Class A			J	T					
23. --American Funds U.S. Government Money Market Class A	A	Dividend	M		Sold (part)	01/03/22	K	A	law school tuition
24. U.S. Treasury Bill (52 weeks)	A	Int./Div.	K	T	Buy	10/06/22	K		
25. U.S. Treasury Bill (52 weeks)	A	Int./Div.	J	T	Buy	10/06/22	J		
26. U.S. Savings Bonds (Series I)	A	Int./Div.	J	T	Buy	02/07/22	J		
27. U.S. Savings Bonds (Series I)	A	Int./Div.	J	T	Buy	02/07/22	J		

1. Income Gain Codes: (See Columns B1 and D4)	A =$1,000 or less	B =$1,001 - $2,500	C =$2,501 - $5,000	D =$5,001 - $15,000	E =$15,001 - $50,000
	F =$50,001 - $100,000	G =$100,001 - $1,000,000	H1 =$1,000,001 - $5,000,000	H2 =More than $5,000,000	
2. Value Codes (See Columns C1 and D3)	J =$15,000 or less	K =$15,001 - $50,000	L =$50,001 - $100,000	M =$100,001 - $250,000	
	N =$250,001 - $500,000	O =$500,001 - $1,000,000	P1 =$1,000,001 - $5,000,000	P2 =$5,000,001 - $25,000,000	
	P3 =$25,000,001 - $50,000,000		P4 =More than $50,000,000		
3. Value Method Codes (See Column C2)	Q =Appraisal	R =Cost (Real Estate Only)	S =Assessment	T =Cash Market	
	U =Book Value	V =Other	W =Estimated		

VIII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR EXPLANATIONS. *(Indicate part of report.)*

Any lack of clarity with respect to Part VII (see lines 17-22) is attributable to (a) liquidations of and (b) fund changes made within education savings accounts. I have used those mutual fund-based accounts to save money for, and only for, education purposes. I maintain five (formerly six) college education accounts, three "529" accounts and two "Coverdale ESA" education savings accounts. All of these college savings accounts were constituted by various mutual funds from the "American Funds" family of mutual funds.

In recent years, with [redacted] attending and graduating from a private Catholic high school and all [redacted] moving on to post-secondary education, I have sold shares of those accounts to pay for college tuition at Georgetown University Law School, Georgetown University and Bishop Guertin High School. There have been occasions when I have liquidated certain funds to pay tuition, and other times to simply re-allocate the education savings to higher or lower risk funds for later-arising obligations, such as potential graduate school. This created the impression of multiple mutual fund transactions or liquidations where, in reality, I was merely selling funds to pay tuition and related college costs, or just changing funds within the American Funds family of funds for my education savings accounts.

The appearance (but not the reality) of further complicated transactions was created when I occasionally utilized funds in an education account maintained under one [redacted] name to pay the tuition for a different [redacted]. My funds manager also believed it was necessary to effectuate those transfers through my American Funds money market account, which appeared to add yet another layer to these transactions. This is permissible under the rules and regulations governing these accounts.

As background, trades placed in recent years within one 529 account were put into a money market, which supplemented another 529 account having been depleted from college related expenses. Transfers occurred from one 529 account to another 529 account which are both under the same ownership of Joseph Laplante, and then distributed out for college and law school expenses. Any dividends listed in Part VII were reinvested automatically in the same mutual funds that paid the dividends.

Occasionally, a college fund that appears as one year's Disclosure Statement does not appear in a subsequence year's statement. This is because the particular fund within that college account was liquidated and rolled into the same college account or a [redacted] designated account.

Unfortunately, I believe all of this activity - all involving saving for and paying for post-secondary educations - unnecessarily created confusion for me and for my accountant as we prepared Financial Disclosure Statements in recent years. (Similar confusion had been created in prior years.) My accountant and I worked together to try to address the confusing tangle of transactions, but we had some difficulty following the chain based on the documents provided by my account managers. We also consulted with my financial planner who employs the account managers, but it appears that our efforts did not result in a sufficiently clear Part VII of my Disclosure in prior years. This year I prepared this statement myself..

What I can certify, without any question in my mind, is that every dollar liquidated for any of these 529 or Coverdale accounts (Part VII, lines 17-22) was utilized lawfully to pay educational tuition and authorized related expenses, or simply transferred to a different American Funds 529 or ESA Coverdell fund within my existing education saving structure for future use in the same way.

Name of Person Reporting	Date of Report
Laplante, Joseph N.	5/15/2023

IX. CERTIFICATION.

I certify that all information given above (including information pertaining to my spouse and minor or dependent children, if any) is accurate, true, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that any information not reported was withheld because it met applicable statutory provisions permitting non-disclosure.

I further certify that earned income from outside employment and honoraria and the acceptance of gifts which have been reported are in compliance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. app. § 13141 et. seq., 5 U.S.C. § 7353, and Judicial Conference regulations.

Signature: s/ Joseph N. Laplante

NOTE: ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO KNOWINGLY AND WILLFULLY FALSIFIES OR FAILS TO FILE THIS REPORT MAY BE SUBJECT TO CIVIL AND CRIMINAL SANCTIONS (5 U.S.C. app. § 13106)

Committee on Financial Disclosure
Administrative Office of the United States Courts
Suite G-330
One Columbus Circle, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20544