UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct Adjudicatory Subcommittee

n the Matter of)	
Representative Charles B. Rangel)	
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)	

DECLARATION OF MAURICE R. GREENBERG

- I, Maurice R. Greenberg, hereby declare as follows:
- 1. I am over 18 years of age and under no legal disability. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein, and this declaration reflects my best recollection of those matters.
- 2. I am the Chairman of The Starr Foundation, a non-profit organization founded in 1955 by Cornelius Vander Starr and funded almost in its entirety by Mr. Starr during his lifetime and under his Will.
- 3. The Starr Foundation makes grants in a number of areas, with a primary focus on education, health care, human needs, public policy, and the environment. During its existence, The Starr Foundation has given away approximately \$2.6 billion, more than half of which has gone to institutions in the City of New York.
- 4. In 2007, Congressman Charles Rangel requested a meeting with me to discuss the Rangel Center for Public Service at the City College of New York ("CCNY"). It was not unusual that I would receive such a request. Nor was it unusual that I granted the request. Our



relationship is based in part on Mr. Rangel and I both serving in the Korean War in the same time period.

- 5. On June 4, 2007, I hosted this meeting with Congressman Rangel, Gregory Williams, the President of CCNY, and another official from CCNY. The Rangel Center for Public Service was the topic of the meeting, along with the need to raise money for the Center. I do not recall there being any discussion about how much money CCNY was requesting from the Starr Foundation for the Rangel Center.
- 6. After the meeting, I asked Florence Davis, the President of The Starr Foundation, to look into the request from CCNY. Ms. Davis routinely manages the process of performing due diligence on our grant requests. My understanding is that she employed our usual process when reviewing the Rangel Center grant request as well. After performing due diligence on this request, Ms. Davis recommended the grant to me, as Chairman, and told me that she would recommend it to the full Board. However, she said that CCNY had requested \$10 million, but that she intended to recommend a \$5 million grant. I recommended that we make the grant over a three-year period.
- 7. On June 12, 2007, the Board of The Starr Foundation approved a grant of \$5 million over three years for the Rangel Center at CCNY. Records provided to the Committee accurately reflect the amount and duration of that grant. I attended that June 12, 2007, meeting and supported the grant.
- 8. The grant was considered and approved by the Foundation in an ordinary and customary way.



- 9. The grant was approved in 8 days, a relatively short amount of time, but that was not an unusual amount of time for The Starr Foundation to approve a grant like this one. The request came shortly before our June meeting. In the ordinary course of our business, we try to get requests onto that June meeting agenda, even if they only precede the meeting by a few days, so that those requests do not get held up over the summer, when we do not meet.
- 10. Educational grants are in a sweet spot of The Starr Foundation, and we had, in the past, given tens of millions of dollars to educational programs and scholarships at institutions of higher education in New York City.
- The Starr Foundation already was very familiar with CCNY. It was known to me and throughout New York as "the poor man's Harvard," an institution that provided excellent educational opportunities to students from working-class or even financially poor backgrounds. We had previously given to other schools within the City University of New York ("CUNY") system, of which CCNY is a part.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my recollection and belief. Executed on November 11, 2010.

Maurice R. Greenberg

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UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT ADJUDICATORY SUBCOMMITTEE

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In the Matter of	•1))
Representative Charles B. Rangel)
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AFFIDAVIT OF NEIL RUBLER

STATE OF NEW YORK) :ss.:
COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

NEIL RUBLER, first being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. My name is Neil Rubler and I am the president of a privately held real estate company in New York City.
- 2. Beginning in or around 2000 and until January 2006, I worked for the Olnick Organization ("Olnick" or the "Company"). Olnick is a family-owned company that owns and manages real estate, predominantly in New York City.
- 3. Bruce Simon was President and General Counsel of the Olnick Organization at the time of my departure from the Organization in 2006 and continues to work in that position today.
- 4. I held a variety of jobs within Olnick during this period. Initially, I was a relatively junior employee in the residential division, but I eventually took on broader responsibilities and, on or about early 2004, came to oversee operations as Chief Operating



Officer of Olnick. As Chief Operating Officer, among my responsibilities was to supervise Olnick's residential director who oversaw the property manager of the Lenox Terrace apartment complex ("Lenox Terrace"). As Chief Operating Officer, I generally did not get involved with day-to-day matters at Olnick properties.

- 5. As Chief Operating Officer within Olnick, I endeavored to ensure that Olnick operated in a professional manner, including by ensuring that Olnick had an effective legal department.
- 6. To the best of my recollection, beginning in or around 2004, Olnick increased its focus on enforcing against illegal tenancies. As I recall, the increased enforcement was focused primarily on tenants who were using their rent-stabilized apartments as pied-à-terre properties.
- 7. At some point during my tenure at Olnick, I became aware that Representative Charles Rangel lived at Lenox Terrace. During Representative Rangel's tenancy in Lenox Terrace, the Company was aware that Representative Rangel was a Member of the United States House of Representatives. Olnick management considered Representative Rangel's tenancy in Lenox Terrace to reflect well on the property.
- 8. During interviews with the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct staff, and testimony before Investigative Subcommittee Members, I was shown an email chain suggesting that I asked an employee under my supervision to draft a list of notable tenants of Lenox Terrace and that Representative Rangel was on that list. I have no recollection of requesting that such a list be prepared or of any use that was made of the list.
- 9. I do not recall whether I was aware during my employment with the Company of how many units Representative Rangel was leasing at Lenox Terrace.



- 10. At some point during the period when I worked for Olnick, the Company decided to explore pursuing a project to redevelop a portion of Lenox Terrace. As is typical for redevelopment projects such as this one, Olnick, as advised by outside consultants, sought community support for and acceptance of the project before commencing the same.
- As a result of the decision to explore pursuing this project, I met with more than 100 tenants and business and community leaders. Among those with whom I met was Representative Rangel. To the best of my recollection, I met with Representative Rangel and members of his staff at his office on 125th Street on one occasion to inform them of Olnick's plans to redevelop a portion of Lenox Terrace. I believe that I showed them a model of the project. As I recall, Representative Rangel participated in the meeting only briefly. I do not recall asking Representative Rangel for anything. I also do not recall what if anything Mr. Rangel said during the meeting or who attended the meeting from Representative Rangel's staff. I do not recall having any direct interaction with Representative Rangel outside of this meeting.
- 12. I do not recall who set up the meeting with Representative Rangel but believe it may have been a public relations firm retained by Olnick.

13. The proposed project is still under consideration, and has yet to be commenced.

Neil Rubler

Sworn to before me this

day of November, 2010.

Nøtary Public

STEVEN ERIC GOLDSTEIN
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
NO. 02G06143098
QUALIFIED IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY /
COMMISSION EXPIRES APRIL 03, 2019.5



UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT ADJUDICATORY SUBCOMMITTEE

In the Matter of	
REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES B. RANGEL,	
Respondent.	,

AFFIDAVIT OF LORIE SLUTSKY

- 1. I am the President of The New York Community Trust ("The Trust"). I have been with The Trust since 1977 and have served as President since 1990.
- 2. In addition, I am a member of the board of Independent Sector, a charitable association of nonprofits. I previously served as Chairman of the Board of the Council on Foundations, a charitable association of grantmaking foundations.
- 3. The Trust is a community foundation that was founded in 1924. A community foundation is both a public charity and a grantmaking foundation, typically with a particular geographic focus. As a public charity, The Trust receives broad support from the general public by way of gifts and grants. In contrast, a private foundation receives funding from an individual donor or family.
- 4. The Trust is the largest private funder of New York City nonprofits.
- 5. As of December 31, 2009, The Trust's endowment was \$1.7 billion. During 2009, The Trust made grants totalling \$123 million.
- 6. There are more than 2,000 charitable funds in The Trust. These include both donor-advised and non-advised (discretionary) funds.
- 7. Donor-advised funds are funds of a public charity as to which the donor, or person(s) he or she names, may suggest grants for charitable purposes, subject to the approval of the charity. The term "non-advised funds" is used to refer to funds that may be

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unrestricted or restricted as to purpose. The Trust's professional grant staff reviews proposals submitted by charitable organizations, conducts site visits, and recommends grants from these funds to The Trust's Board of Directors.

- 8. The Trust makes grants in the following program areas:
 - Community Development and the Environment
 - Health and People with Special Needs
 - Education, Arts, and Human Justice
 - Children, Youth, and Families
- 9. The Trust is exempt from federal income tax pursuant to § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions by donors to the Trust are generally tax deductible pursuant to § 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.
- 10. In my role as President, I oversee the raising of funds, the giving of grants, and management of The Trust's endowment. I personally review all grant recommendations developed by staff from non-advised funds. If I concur with a grant recommendation, it goes to the Board of Directors for approval. If I do not agree, which happens infrequently, the grant recommendation is not presented to the Board. The Board is advised of all grant proposals that are declined.
- 11. The Trust is governed by a Board of Directors, which has 12 members. The Board approves all grants of more than \$10,000 made by The Trust.
- 12. The Trust makes approximately 13,000 grants per year from both donor-advised and non-advised funds.
- 13. The Trust typically receives between 1100 and 1400 proposals for discretionary, non-advised grants each year, and approves approximately 500 of them, aggregating approximately \$34 million.
- 14. The amounts of the non-advised grants approved by the Trust vary, and typically range between \$5,000 and \$600,000.
- 15. I first learned about the Rangel Center at City College of New York when I was invited to a luncheon hosted by the Ford Foundation in January 2007.
- 16. The foundation community, particularly the New York foundation community, often works together on projects and informs other foundations of projects that may be of interest to them.. It is not uncommon for a foundation to host luncheons or other

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- meetings for other foundations that include presentations on a particular project and/or charitable organization.
- 17. I typically am invited to 50 such lunches and meetings in a year and attend 10-12 of those meetings.
- 18. I decided to attend the Rangel Center lunch, primarily for two reasons. First, I am a personal friend and professional colleague of Susan Berresford, then-President of the Ford Foundation. Second, Representative Rangel is an important Member of Congress. I expected the lunch would provide an opportunity for foundations to show their interest in projects such as the Rangel Center and help educate Representative Rangel about the work done by foundations.
- 19. The lunch was held at the offices of the Ford Foundation. The attendees sat around one large table. Representative Rangel arrived after the luncheon began and left before it ended. He sat directly to my left at the table. He spoke for approximately 15 to 20 minutes, not about the specifics of the Rangel Center, but rather about his own personal life story, about how his life was changed by education, and about the transformative power of opportunity for poor and minority children. Presentations were also made by officials from City College of New York.
- 20. The Rangel Center sounded like an interesting program that appeared to be consistent with The Trust's goals. Following the luncheon, I provided information to my program staff for their consideration of whether a grant would be appropriate.
- 21. I had no further involvement with the Rangel Center grant until I received a recommendation from my program staff that a grant in the amount of \$130,000 for scholarships be made. I concurred with that recommendation, and the board approved a grant in that amount.
- 22. Following the board's approval of the grant, I wrote a letter to Representative Rangel informing him of the grant. It is not uncommon for me to personally notify someone of a grant approval when I was personally involved in the earlier stages of the grant process.
- 23. Representative Rangel wrote back, thanking The Trust for the grant to CCNY for scholarships for the Rangel Center.
- 24. Other than seeing Representative Rangel at the Ford Foundation Luncheon and exchanging the correspondence described above, I did not have any contact with



either Representative Rangel or anyone from his staff in connection with the Rangel Center grant. To the best of my knowledge, no one else from The Trust had any contact with Representative Rangel or members of his staff either. All communications regarding the grant proposal and all requests for information were with CCNY.

- 25. The grant to the Rangel Center was handled in the same manner as any other grant and there was nothing unusual about the way in which the grant proposal was reviewed or approved. Additionally, my involvement in the grant was the same as for any other grant. The grant was made solely because the Rangel Center fit The Trust's mission and matched The Trust's needs. I continue to believe that the Rangel Center was a worthwhile recipient of a grant from The Trust and I would not hesitate to recommend approval of the grant under the same circumstances.
- 26. Prior to attending the luncheon at the Ford Foundation, I had met Representative Rangel previously, including when he spoke at Council on Foundation meetings.
- 27. Representative Rangel and his wife, Alma, are founders of a donor-advised fund at The Trust. The fund was established by the Rangels many years ago.
- 28. On occasion, Representative Rangel has written to The Trust and requested that it send out a grant application to various nonprofit organizations providing important services in his district and seeking funding. The Trust routinely receives such requests from public officials, both elected and appointed, at the City, State and Federal level.
- 29. I have met with members of Representative Rangel's staff, including Jon Sheiner, in the past on matters unrelated to the Rangel Center. I recall a meeting several years ago with Mr. Sheiner on tax legislation.
- 30. In March 2006, I wrote to Representative Rangel regarding the conference on H.R. 4297 and S. 2020. These were bills that impacted public charities, and particularly donor-advised funds.
- 31. In the summer of 2007, I made a submission to the Subcommittee on Oversight, Committee on Ways and Means regarding provisions in the Pension Protection Act of 2006, after the Subcommittee solicited comment regarding the impact of the Act. I have never personally testified before the House Ways and Means Committee.
- 32. A memorandum to The Trust's board for its October 2007 board meeting informed them of the correspondence with Representative Rangel regarding The Trust's grant to the



Rangel Center. I commonly include such information in the board meeting memorandum.

- 33. That memorandum also informed the board of my submission to the House Ways and Means Committee's call for comments. I routinely inform the board of any correspondence with Congress.
- 34. Issues affecting foundations and public charities include both those affecting the governance of the foundations and charities themselves, as well as issues affecting the deductibility of contributions to those entities.
- 35. Legislative issues affecting the governance of private foundations include, among others, the excise tax paid on investment income and the "pay-out" requirement, i.e., amounts that private foundations are required to pay out in grants every year.
- 36. No charitable organization may engage in electioneering of any kind. Further, there are restrictions on lobbying activities of foundations and public charities. Private foundations generally may not engage in lobbying activities. Public charities may support limited amounts of lobbying (see Section 501(h) of IRC). Private foundations and public charities may lobby on self-defense issues (i.e., issues that might affect the organization's existence, its powers and duties, its tax-exempt status, or the deductibility of contributions to it) and may engage in general advocacy.
- 37. The Trust's grant to the Rangel Center was not connected or related to any legislative or oversight activities.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on November 11th, 2010, in New York, New York.

Lorie A. Slutsky

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UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT ADJUDICATORY SUBCOMMITTEE

In the Matter of	
REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES B. RANGEL,	,
Respondent.	
	- /

AFFIDAVIT OF IVAN SEIDENBERG

- 1. I serve as the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Verizon Communications Inc. I also serve as Chairman of the Board of the Verizon Foundation.
- 2. The Verizon Foundation serves as the philanthropic arm of Verizon Communications Inc. The foundation is funded by Verizon Communications Inc. The Verizon Foundation makes charitable grants in several areas: (1) education and literacy; (2) domestic violence prevention; (3) Internet safety; (4) healthcare/accessibility; and (5) employee volunteerism. The Verizon Foundation makes approximately \$70 million in annual charitable contributions.
- 3. I regularly receive solicitations requesting that Verizon or the Verizon Foundation support a charitable activity.
- 4. My general practice is to refer such requests to Patrick Gaston, president of the Verizon Foundation. Mr. Gaston and his staff perform the appropriate background work to determine the suitability of a particular request in light of the Foundation's goals and requirements.
- 5. In June 2005, I received a letter from Representative Rangel regarding the Charles B. Rangel Center at the City College of New York.
- 6. Although I do not specifically recall reading Representative Rangel's letter, it is likely that I did read it given that it was only two pages and personally signed by Representative Rangel.
- 7. I construe Representative Rangel's letter as requesting monetary support for the Rangel Center at the City College of New York and, thereby and as stated in the letter, as asking me to join Representative Rangel "in the creation of a public policy center that will



motivate and prepare young people presently underrepresented in public life to pursue careers in public service." Given the mention of "funding" in the letter, I cannot take it any other way. The stated goals of the Rangel Center are consistent with the goals of the Verizon Foundation.

- 8. I took Representative Rangel's request seriously. I have known Representative Rangel for a long time and consider him to be an important constituent. I also attended the City University of New York, as did many other Verizon employees. I also generally believe that when the Verizon Foundation makes charitable grants, these grants should be large enough to make a positive impact for the recipient. For these reasons, I wanted any grant to the Rangel Center at the City College of New York to be meaningful.
- 9. Mr. Gaston recommended a grant of \$500,000. I agreed that this amount was appropriate and consistent with other grants made by Verizon Foundation. I, along with other members of the board of the Verizon Foundation, approved the grant to the Rangel Center in that amount.
- 10. The telecommunications industry is highly regulated. Verizon's business can be substantially affected by the actions of Congress.
- 11. Over the years, I have occasionally met or spoken with Representative Rangel, typically regarding major issues affecting the telecommunications industry generally or Verizon specifically. I have never discussed the Rangel Center with Representative Rangel or his staff.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on

Nov 15 2010 .

Ivan G. Seidenberg