



April 12, 2019

Ms. Lori Torres  
Inspector General  
Office of the Inspector General  
315 West Ohio Street, Room 104  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

Inspector General Torres:

I am writing to request a formal investigation into whether Governor Eric Holcomb or First Lady Janet Holcomb accepted a gift in violation of the state's ethics rules. On March 28, 2019 the *Indianapolis Star* reported that in July and November of 2018 Governor Holcomb and Mrs. Holcomb travelled *gratis* via a private plane owned by Spectacle Entertainment. The story links to a memo sent by Holcomb Campaign Treasurer Kyle Hupfer who stated the flights were not in-kind contributions to the governor's campaign.

If the flights were not in-kind contributions and as no consideration was paid for the flights and as the flights were intended to carry the Holcomb's to a partisan political gathering and not utilized for State business, then the flights must be considered as gifts to the Holcomb's. On a 2018 financial disclosure form dated January 2019, the governor did not disclose any gifts received. I request that the Inspector General investigate whether the gift of these flights violated the ethical obligations of Governor Holcomb, particularly as the gifts included, and apparently required, uninterrupted access to the Governor by those seeking to lobby the State for changes in Indiana's gaming laws.

Sincerely,

John Zody  
Chair