



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 3, 2021

Dr. Anthony Harper
InterMountain Christian News
goodnews127@gmail.com

Dear Dr. Harper,

I am writing with regard to the COVID-19 testing requirements at the White House. As described in more detail below, the White House is willing to waive payment for the COVID-19 testing you have received at the White House to date, but moving forward, you will be required to cover the costs of testing to access the complex, consistent with our policy for members of the press announced in February 2021.

Since the inauguration, the Biden-Harris administration has sought to ensure that members of the press maintain access to the White House complex, while simultaneously protecting the safety of everyone on campus. To this end, in February 2021, the White House issued a policy titled New COVID-19 Testing Procedures for Press (the “Policy”), which the White House Correspondents Association circulated to the press corps on February 27, 2021. The Policy reaffirmed that all members of the press would be required to obtain a COVID-19 test before accessing the White House complex. The Policy provided that the White House would cover the costs of testing for journalists serving in the pool or assigned a seat in the briefing, but that all other journalists accessing campus would have to cover the costs of testing given the White House’s budget constraints. As the Policy explained, members of press could have testing done at the White House, or the White House would accept the results of approved tests done off site (e.g., a commercially available test taken at home the same day).

According to our records, you have accessed the White House complex at least 40 times since issuance of the Policy. Our understanding is that you used the White House’s testing services in connection with these visits, but have not provided payments for the costs of testing.

While the terms of the White House Policy were clear regarding payments for testing, the White House will agree to waive reimbursement for the tests you have received at the White House to date. However, pursuant to the Policy, you will be required to cover the expenses for any COVID-19 testing moving forward for visits to the complex during which you are not part of the pool or assigned a seat in the briefing room.

It bears emphasis that you need not utilize the White House’s testing services to access the complex. The White House will also accept results from an FDA-authorized same-day at-home or point of care antigen test, which costs less than the White House’s testing services. In other words, you can fulfill your testing obligation by taking one of these tests at home and then



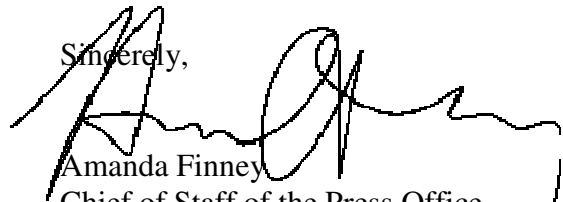
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presenting the results upon arrival at the White House. If you have any questions regarding the test results that the White House will accept, you may contact presstesting@who.eop.gov.

Finally, in response to your November 22, 2021 request for an exemption from a purported vaccination requirement, please note that the White House has not required that you or any other journalist be vaccinated to access to the complex. Unvaccinated hard pass holders may still access the complex as long as they comply with the testing requirements set forth above.

If you agree to the terms of this letter, please sign your acknowledgement below and return the signed form to me. If you obtain future COVID-19 testing at the White House and do not provide reimbursement as required by the Policy, your hard pass will be suspended.

Sincerely,



Amanda Finney
Chief of Staff of the Press Office

Acknowledged by:

Dr. Anthony Harper