EVENT BRIEFING MEMO: Business and Philanthropic Leaders
Community Foundation of Memphis ★ 1900 Union Avenue ★ Memphis, TN 38104

EVENT DATE AND TIME: Thursday, August 16, 2018 | 10:00 AM – 11:45 AM
Staff Lead: [Redacted]
HOSTS: Memphis Chamber of Commerce and the Community Foundation of Memphis
Commissioner Lead: Joe Heck Support Commissioner: Avril Haines

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:
Memphis is home to three Fortune 500 company headquarters: FedEx, AutoZone, and International Paper and is has a growing economy. A few companies highlighted below.

FedEx was founded in Memphis in the 1970s and has been a major fixture in the city ever since. FedEx employs approximately 30,000 people in Memphis, with employment opportunities spanning operations, marketing, inventory control, package handling, data science, project management and more. ServiceMaster officially relocated their headquarters, including over 2,000 employees, to downtown Memphis in 2017, continuing the city’s growth. The move included the opening of “Ground Floor” at ServiceMaster, a hub for IT innovation and an accelerator for local entrepreneurs and developers. AutoZone opened its first Auto Shack in Forrest City, Arkansas, in 1979; the company is now a leading auto parts retailer, employing more than 65,000 people, with more than 5,000 stores across the United States (including Puerto Rico), Mexico and Brazil. AutoZone is the largest retail operation headquartered in Memphis. International Paper, organized in 1878, is the largest paper and forest products company in the world, with operations in more than 24 countries. International Paper employs 55,000 people around the world including several thousand in Memphis. Memphis is proud to be the home of the world-renowned St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, chosen by Fortune Magazine as one of the 100 Best Workplaces for Millennials. “Millennials are committed to making a difference, and St. Jude, through its research and care, represents one of the best efforts for changing how medicine is practiced around the world,” said James R. Downing, M.D., St. Jude president and chief executive officer. St. Jude is a cancer center devoted solely to children, and is well known throughout the world for leading the charge in the fight to cure childhood cancers.

The purpose of this meeting is:
➢ To offer Commissioners an opportunity for structured conversations with local business and philanthropic leaders

PARTICIPANTS:
Participants will include executives from multiple industries and leaders from foundations in Memphis.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
The questions below are provided for guidance only and are not intended to serve as a protocol or script for the meeting.