



eNAPUS Legislative & Political Bulletin

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Postal Regulatory Commission Fortifies Congressional Ties

Over the years, Congress has been a consistent farm team for the Postal Rate Commission – and, now the Postal Regulatory Commission. Many postal observers believe that this provides the Commission with a degree of regulatory and legislative expertise. But more importantly, it provides the Commission with extraordinary prestige and access on Capitol Hill, and a deep understanding of congressional operations. Here are some examples of the PRC Congressional pedigree.

- Chairman Dan Blair served as senior counsel to the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, staff director for the House Postal Service Subcommittee, and Republican Counsel to the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee
- Commissioner Tony Hammond served on the staff of House Post Office and Civil Service Committee ranking member Gene Taylor (R-MO)
- Immediate past Chairman George Omas served on the Republican staff of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee and for the House of Representative Sergeant-at-Arms
- Former Chairman Edward Gleiman served as staff director for Sen. David Pryor's (D-AR) subcommittee
- Former Commissioner Wayne Schley served as staff director for Sen. Ted Steven's (R-AK) Postal and Civil Subcommittee
- Former Commissioner Dana Covington served on the staff of Rep. Webb Franklin (R-MS)

Moreover, the PRC has hired former Congressional staff to promote its mission. So, it was no surprise that the newly empowered PRC has tapped into Congress once again to retain the services of two Senate staff members who were pivotal in passing Public Law 109-435, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act. The complexity of the implementation of the new law, particularly as it applies to the PRC, requires a certain degree of knowledge of and diplomacy with Capitol Hill. Consequently, Chairman Dan Blair has hired deputy staff director of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Ann Fisher, as his chief of staff. In addition, the Commission signed up senior Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee staff member Nanci Langley as its Director of Public Affairs and Governmental Relations.

As NAPUS legislative activists know, both Ann and Nanci have extensive Capitol Hill experience and have forged a close bond with Postmasters. Ann and Nanci were instrumental in assuring the Postmaster Equity Act (Public Law 108-86)

was passed and signed into law, and, as the Senate deliberated over PL 109-435, they brought Postmaster issues to the attention of their Senators. Ann Fisher served on the staff of Senator Larry Pressler (R-SD), and on Sen. Thad Cochran's (R-MS) postal and civil service subcommittee staff. Ann also served a short time in the USPS' Governmental Relations Department, before coming back to Capitol Hill to work on the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, chaired by Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME). Nanci Langley served on the staff of late Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-HI) and is a veteran on the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, as a senior staff member to Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-HI).

Government Relations Plans Set for 2007 Leadership Conference

Unless otherwise noted, all events are at the Marriott Crystal Gateway and open to all Conference attendees.

Sunday, March 18

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM	NAPUS PAC: Raising the Bar for '07	Jackson Room
10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon	Government Relations: New Issues for 2007	Salon K
11:00 AM – 12 Noon	Saving Post Offices and Universal Service (PO Closing Committee)	Jackson Room

Monday, March 19

10:00 AM	Interview with <i>Washington Post</i> Columnist Steve Barr	General Session
2:00 PM	Interview with PRC Chairman Dan Blair and USPS Governor Thurgood Marshall, Jr.	General Session
2:45 PM – 4:00 PM	Preparing for Capitol Hill	General Session

Tuesday, March 20

8:30 AM – 9:45 AM	PL 109-435, the Road to the White House	Salon F/G
11:30 AM	White House Tour (<i>Chapter Legislative and PAC Chairs Only</i>)	White House

Wednesday, March 21

7:30 AM – 10:15 AM	Legislative Rally: House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer; Sens. Susan Collins and Mary Landrieu; and Reps. Danny Davis, Chris Shays, Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, and Kenny Marchant	General Session
10:30 – 10:45 AM	2006 PAC Awards	General Session

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