



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, by email at [gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov](mailto:gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov), within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: Raul Martinez

2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None

b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

3. a. Dates: Departure: 9/10/22 Return: 9/17/22

b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR** None

4. Departure City: Miami, FL Destination: Fukuoka, Jap Return City: Miami, FL

5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress

6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended:

We met with companies and universities that are focusing on energy solutions as well as government officials from Japan where we discussed how our two countries can continue to work together in a mutually beneficial manner. We had a meeting with U.S. Embassy officials and met with officials from JUSFC.

7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box:*

a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;

b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;

c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**

d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.

8. a.  I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda.

**Signify statement is true by checking the box.**

b. If not, explain:

**I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature of Traveler: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 10/03/2022

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Date: 10/03/2022

Signature of Supervising Member: \_\_\_\_\_



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original  Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within ten days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

- Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (FMC)
- Travel Destination(s): Fukuoka and Tokyo, Japan
- Date of Departure: September 10, 2022 Date of Return: September 17, 2022
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): Raul Martinez

*Note:* You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

- Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$5880.54	\$873.01	\$448.49	\$739.69 (Meeting Rooms, Interpreter, Tour Guide, Entrance/Admission Fees, etc)
Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

- All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. *Signify statement is true by checking box.*

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Sabine Schleidt Date: 09/29/2022

Name: Sabine Schleidt Title: Chief Operating Officer

Organization: FMC

**I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.**

Address: 1401 K Street NW, Suite 901, Washington, DC 20005

Email: sschleidt@usafmc.org Telephone: 301-675-1022

**Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.**

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Raul Martinez, Jr.

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:  
U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress

3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel : Tokyo and Fukuoka, Japan

4. a. Date of Departure: 09/10/22 Date of Return: 09/17/22

b. Yes  No  Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?

If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_

5. a. Yes  No  Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? If yes:

(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Yes  No  Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:

6. a. Yes  No  Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?

b. If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:

7. Yes  No  *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

*NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.*

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties.

Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.

As District Director this study group will give me the opportunity to learn more about the US-Japan relations and how our countries can work together to address many of the global challenges we are facing today including supply chain issues, specifically to semiconductors and technology as well as public health, and immigration. These topics are relevant to our district and important to our constituents.

9. Yes  No  Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?

10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member  Date 8/10/22



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website ([ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.**

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (FMC)

2.  I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Signify that the statement is true by checking box.

3. **Check only one.** I represent that:

a.  The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip: **OR**

b.  The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds: **OR**

c.  The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors:

4. Provide names and titles of ALL House Members *and* employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary):

See attached addendum

5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of departure: September 10, 2022 Date of return: September 17, 2022

7. a. City of departure: See attachment

b. Destination(s): Tokyo and Fukuoka, Japan

c. City of return: See attachment

8. **Check only one.** I represent that:

a.  The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: **OR**

b.  The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: **OR**

c.  The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following:**

a.  I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**

b.  I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**

c.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**

d.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

10.  Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*
11. **Check only one of the following:**
- a.  I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box; OR*
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For *each* sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip *and* its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
- See attachment

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: Chartered Van)
- b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: Economy and Economy Premium)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

14.  I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a.  The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b.  The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If "b" is checked:
- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided):  
\$130.00 (Good faith estimate)
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:  
See attachment

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: ANA Intercontinental Tokyo City: Tokyo Cost Per Night: 198.39  
Reason(s) for Selecting: Nearby government meeting partners' offices and American embassy.
- Hotel Name: ANA Crowne Plaza Fukuoka City: Fukuoka Cost Per Night: 89.16  
Reason(s) for Selecting: Accessible to central Fukuoka where partners are based.
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

### 18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates			
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	See attachment	\$862.65 (see attachment for per night)	\$505.47
For each Accompanying Family Member			

  

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$1,500	Translators, Guide, Room Fees, Testing
For each Accompanying Family Member		

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

### 19. Check only one:

- a.  I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

### 20. I certify by my signature that

- a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
- b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and
- c. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Sabine Schleidt Date: 08/09/2022  
 Name: Sabine Schleidt Title: Chief Operating Officer  
 Organization: U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (FMC)  
 Address: 1401 K Street NW, Suite 901, Washington, D.C. 20005  
 Email: SSchleidt@usafmc.org Telephone: (202) 507-4849

## INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the agenda, invitation list, any attachments, and any *Additional Trip Sponsor Forms* directly to the Travelers.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

**Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.**

For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

[ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov](mailto:ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov) | 202-225-7103  
More information and forms available at [ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)



# U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Washington, DC 20515

September 2, 2022

Mr. Raul Martinez  
Office of the Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
777 Sawgrass Corporate Parkway  
Sunrise, FL 33315

Dear Mr. Martinez:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Japan,<sup>1</sup> scheduled for September 10 to 17, 2022, sponsored by United States Association of Former Members of Congress.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$415 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House employees may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$415] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

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<sup>1</sup> Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or [ohsstaff@mail.house.gov](mailto:ohsstaff@mail.house.gov). House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Theodore E. Deutch in blue ink.

Theodore E. Deutch  
Chairman

Handwritten signature of Michael Guest in blue ink.

Michael Guest  
Acting Ranking Member

TED/MG:kjf





# FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

## The Congressional Study Groups

### 2022 U.S. Congressional District Director Study Tour to Japan Agenda

Saturday, September 10, 2022 to Saturday, September 17, 2022

Tokyo and Fukuoka, Japan

Last Update: 9/29/2022 2:42 PM | Meeting partners subject to change

#### Hotels

##### Hotel in Tokyo

##### **ANA Intercontinental Tokyo**

1 Chome-12-33 Akasaka  
Minato City, Tokyo, 107-0052

##### Hotel in Fukuoka

##### **ANA Crowne Plaza Fukuoka**

3 Chome-3-3 Hakata Ekimae  
Hakata Ward, Fukuoka, 812-0011

#### Saturday September 10, 2022

#### [Travel Day] {Casual Attire}

##### **Morning**

Delegation's departure from the U.S. (respective airports) to Fukuoka, Japan (FUK)

##### **7:55 PM**

**Tyler Baker (FMC) and Haruka Noishiki (FMC) Arrive in Fukuoka**  
Flight NH267

Bring: Passport & COVID Vaccine Card

District Directors' Agenda

**Sunday, September 11, 2022 @Fukuoka**

**{Casual Attire}**

**Evening**                      **Delegation Flights Arrive in Japan**

**5:45PM**                      **Charity Howell**  
Flight NH0261

**6:55 PM**                      **Judith Tankel**  
Flight NH0265

**7:55 PM**                      **Darian David, Courtney Heitkamp, Raul Martinez, and Heidi Matthews**  
Flight NH0267

**9:45 PM**                      **Megan Beste**  
Flight NH0273

**Evening**                      **Pick Up from Airport and Transfer to Hotel**

**Late Evening**                      **Check in at ANA Crowne Plaza Fukuoka Hotel**

*3 Chome 3-3 Hakata Ekimae, Hakata Ward, Fukuoka, 812-0011, Japan*

**8:00 PM – 10:00 PM** **Informal Meet the Delegation**

Informal Dinner via Room Service

**Bring: Passport & COVID Vaccine Card**

**District Directors' Agenda**

**8:00 AM – 9:15 AM Japan and Kyushu 101**

*Lead: Judith Tankel*

Breakfast briefing with Mr. Rao Shankar from the US Consulate providing an introduction to Japan and overview of the region's significance both in the Japanese economy and in the development of trade partnerships across the Asia-Pacific.

*Champagne Conference Room, Second Floor, ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel*

**9:15 AM Depart for HyTReC (Hydrogen Energy Test and Research Center)**

**9:25 AM – 9:45 AM En Route Briefing on Hydrogen Research and HyTReC from Fukuoka Prefecture's International Division**

**10:00 AM – 11:00 AM HyTReC Site Visit**

*Lead: Raul Martinez*

Established under the auspices of the Fukuoka Prefectural Government, HyTReC is an independent research and development organization specializing in the laboratory testing and development of hydrogen related technologies, from vehicular applications to energy applications. The delegation will have the opportunity to discuss with Dr. Shogo Watanabe the organization's current projects, tour the facility, and learn more about cutting-edge applications of hydrogen power and their implications for alternative energy and sustainable development.

*915-1 Tomi, Itoshima-shi, Fukuoka 819-1133*

**11:00 AM Depart for Kyushu University International Research Center for Hydrogen Energy**

**11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Kyushu University International Research Center for Hydrogen Energy**

*Lead: Courtney Heitkamp*

Roundtable discussion with Professor Stephen Lyth, who heads a research laboratory within the research center, on hydrogen as a desirable alternative fuel, the research center's status as the only high-level research center concerning hydrogen as a renewable energy source and the path forward for adoption and widespread usage of hydrogen in daily life.

744 Motooka, Nishi-ku, Fukuoka-shi, 819-0395

**12:30 PM**

**Depart for JUSFC Lunch**

**1:15 PM – 2:15 PM**

**JUSFC Lunch with Paige Cottingham Streeter**

*Lead: Megan Beste*

Working lunch discussion with Paige Cottingham-Streeter, Executive Director of the Japan-US Friendship Commission, on the work of the commission and the importance of deeper and broader ties in the Japan-U.S. relationship.

*1-9-18 Hakataekiminami, Hakata-ku, Fukuoka-shi, Fukuoka 812-0016*

**2:15 PM**

**Depart for Fukuoka International Exchange Foundation**

**2:45 PM – 3:15 PM**

**A Multicultural Japan? Fukuoka and Foreign Residents**

*Lead: Darian David*

Roundtable conversation with the Fukuoka International Exchange Foundation on inclusion and support initiatives for foreign residents in Fukuoka and Kyushu and to discuss foreigners' experiences.

*ACROS Fukuoka 8F/ 3F, 1-1-1 Tenjin, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka 810-0001*

**3:15 PM**

**Depart Fukuoka International Exchange Foundation for Fukuoka Growth Next**

**3:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

**Local Startups to Global Players: Startups in Fukuoka**

*Lead: Heidi Matthews*

Roundtable discussion with leadership from Fukuoka Growth Next, a public-private partnership focused on the development and support of Fukuoka-based startups. Additional meetings with individual startups within the center, especially with those owned by foreign nationals, to understand the ground-level perspectives on the city's implementation of strategies towards innovative growth and attraction of new businesses and talent to the region.

*2-6-11 Dainyo, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka-city, Fukuoka 810-0041*

Bring: Passport & COVID Vaccine Card

District Directors' Agenda

**4:30 PM – 5:30 PM    Revitalizing for the City of Tomorrow**

*Lead: Charity Howell*

Presentation and roundtable discussion on Kyushu University's former Hakozaki Campus and designated site for Fukuoka Smart with Mr. Kajihara, head of FUKUOKA Smart EAST Promotion Consortium Office, with a focus on smart city developments as a blueprint for infrastructural and city development.

*2 Chome 6-11 Dainyo, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka-city, Fukuoka 810-0041*

**5:45 PM                    Depart for Dinner**

**6:00 PM – 7:30 PM    Informal Dinner**

*Kawasho*

*5-13 Nishinakasu, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka city, Fukuoka 810-0002*

**Tuesday, September 13, 2022 @Fukuoka**

**{Business Casual Attire}**

**6:30 AM Individual Breakfast**

**7:45 AM Depart Hotel for Site Visit**

**9:00 AM – 9:30 AM Promoting Local Crafts and Preserving Traditions: Yame City**  
Visit to the Yame City Cultural Center to discuss the city's historic crafts, as well as the center's role in preserving and promoting the city's traditions.

*2-123-2 Motomachi, Yame, Fukuoka 834-0031*

**9:45 AM – 11:15 AM Kitaya Sake Site Visit**

*Lead: Judith Tankel*

Site visit and discussion with Kitaya Sake company leadership on the innovative history of the over 200 year-old sake brewery, their decision in 1999 to focus their regional product on the international market, and the lessons learned now that they've expanded their international footprint to over 13 countries.

*Honmachi 374, Yame City, Fukuoka Pref. 834-0031*

**11:15 AM Depart Kitaya Sake for Kumamoto Station by Bus**

**12:15 PM – 12:40 PM Informal Lunch**

**1:00 PM – 2:30 PM Kumamon and Kumamoto's Tourism Success Story**

*Lead: Megan Beste*

Roundtable discussion with Tourism Bureau and governor of Kumamoto, highlighting the genesis of the prefecture and city's successful tourism campaigns to attract new visitors, challenges faced during COVID, and how they see the future of the prefecture's tourism industry.

*Kumamoto Kencho*

*6 Chome-18-1 Suizenji, Chuo Ward, Kumamoto, 862-8570*

**2:45 PM – 4:15 PM The Past as a Springboard: Kumamoto Castle**

Guided tour of the historic Kumamoto Castle, a symbol of the city recently finished with renovations following a devastating series of earthquakes in 2016. Discussion with a local guide will cover its history and role in the region, from feudal defense to modern landmark.

**Bring: Passport & COVID Vaccine Card**

**District Directors' Agenda**

Kumamoto Castle is a hilltop Japanese castle located in Kumamoto, Kumamoto Prefecture. It has been an important fixture for the region, most famously hosting government soldiers during the Satsuma Rebellion in the Meiji Era. The castle keep is a concrete reconstruction built in 1960, but several ancillary wooden buildings remain of the original castle. Kumamoto Castle is considered one of the three premier castles in Japan, and thirteen structures in the castle complex are designated Important Cultural Property by the government of Japan. The castle is considered an important part of city and prefectural identity, and its reconstruction and renovation are seen as a prime example of utilizing a local landmark as a regional driver of growth and development.

*1-1 Honmaru, Chuo Ward, Kumamoto, 860-0002*

**5:02 PM**

**Depart Kumamoto Station for Fukuoka**

**6:00 PM**

**Return to Hotel and Ship Luggage to Tokyo**

**6:30 PM – 8:00 PM**

**Hakata Ramen: From Regional Cuisine to Worldwide Renown**

*Lead: Charity Howell*

Working dinner at Ichiran Ramen, a Hakata-style ramen restaurant, discussing with Ichiran's External Affairs staff the creation of ramen, what makes Hakata-style unique, and how the style achieved popularity both domestically and abroad. Participants will gain important insight into the role of culinary diplomacy in a nation's soft power projection, especially the potential to boost regional cuisine as part of a nation's overall identity abroad.

*2 Chome-2-1, Fukuoka Center Building, B2F, Hakata Ekimae, Hakata Ward, Fukuoka 812-0011*

**7:30 AM** Check Out from Hotel and Depart

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM** Hakata Ningyou – Traditional Trades in a Modern World

*Lead: Darian David*

Visit to a workshop for *Hakata Ningyou*, a regional craft originating from Fukuoka, and presentation from the proprietor on the importance of the traditional craft in sustaining local business and preserving regional identity. The delegation also was able to experience the craft firsthand and ask the proprietor questions on the intricacies of the craft.

**10:30 AM – 11:30 AM** Kyushu Electric Headquarters Visit

*Lead: Raul Martinez*

Site visit to Kyushu Electrics headquarters and discussion of the role alternative energy plays in the region, with the perspective as Japan's largest producer of alternative energy, while also discussing Kyushu Electric's alternative energy projects in Asia, Africa, and the Americas.

*2 Chome-1-82 Denki Building Main Building, Watanabedori, Chuo Ward, Fukuoka city, Fukuoka 810-0004*

**11:30 AM** Depart Kyuden for Kitakyushu Eco-Town

**In Transit** Informal Bento Lunch On Bus

**12:00 PM – 1:00 PM** Delegation Midpoint Discussion

Discussion moderated by FMC staff on the delegation's experiences up to this point in Japan, with special emphasis placed on the regional issues and initiatives covered in the Kyushu region.

**1:30 PM – 3:45 PM** Visit to Kitakyushu Eco-Town

*Lead: Courtney Heitkamp*

Site visit to the Kitakyushu Eco Town Center, an environmental learning and exhibition center to highlight the concentration of companies and research facilities in the Hibikinada District carrying out environmental research and recycling programs, to discuss Kitakyushu's revitalization from a major polluter to a UN-designated Future City with robust eco projects, the potential for sustainable development, and the viability of more ecofriendly energy, building, and recycling projects. The delegation also participated in site visits to an electronics recycling facility and a wind farm within the Eco Town area.

Bring: Passport & COVID Vaccine Card

District Directors' Agenda



*10-20 Koyomachi, Wakamatsu-ku, Kitakyushu-shi*

- 4:00 PM**                    **Depart for Kokura Station**
- 5:10 PM**                    **Shinkansen to Tokyo; Dinner on Train**
- 8:20 PM – 9:20 PM**    **Cockpit Tour of Shinkansen**

*Lead: Judith Tankel*

Tour by JR Central staff of the bullet train's cockpit and discussion of the importance of high-speed rail as part of Japan's national infrastructure, as well as its role in promoting growth and economic activity throughout the country.

- 10:00 PM**                    **Depart Tokyo Station to Hotel and Check In**

Thursday, September 15, 2022 @Tokyo

{Business Attire}

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM Japan in an Hour**

*Lead: Raul Martinez*

Roundtable discussion with Tokyo-based correspondent Ben Dooley from the New York Times to discuss pressing issues in Japan, such as the recent Upper House elections, constitutional reform, covid-measures, energy security, and Pacific political relations.

*Libra Meeting Room, ANA Intercontinental Tokyo*

**9:30 AM Depart Embassy by Foot for Hotel**

**10:15 AM – 11:30 AM Understanding Japan's Role in the World**

*Lead: Darian David*

Country team briefing with a representative from the Trade and Economic Policy Unit at the Embassy of the United States in Tokyo

*1 Chome-10-5 Akasaka, Minato City, Tokyo 107-8420*

**11:30 AM Depart Hotel for Lunch**

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM A Look from the Inside: Understanding Japanese Culture and Customs**

*Lead: Charity Howell*

Candid lunch roundtable discussion with former JET Program participants currently living and working in Japan on their experiences bridging the gap between Japanese and American cultures, how their experiences have changes or stayed the same since their time in the JET program, and their perspective of the Japanese cultural context as a non-Japanese resident of Japan.

JET stands for the Japan Exchange and Teaching program. It's a structured program that was founded in 1987 by the Japanese government, with the goal of bringing English-speaking teachers to work as Assistant Language Teachers (ALTs) in schools throughout Japan. JET is aimed at young professionals with an interest in Japanese culture, and promotes cultural exchange between the participant's country and Japan.

*Kaikagetsu*

*Villa Nogizaka Bldg. B1F, 1 Chome 15-20 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo*

Bring: Passport & COVID Vaccine Card

District Directors' Agenda

**2:00 PM – 3:30 PM Visit to Meiji Shrine**

*Lead: Heidi Matthews*

Guided tour and discussion on the Meiji Jingu grounds by the *kannushi*, spiritual leader of the Shrine

Meiji Jingu, dedicated to Emperor Meiji, the first emperor of modern Japan, is of Shinto origin, a religion native to Japan which centers on polytheistic nature worship and whose origin goes back to primitive times. Over its long history, Shintoism has developed into a religion that has become truly unique in the world, adopting continental influences to combine with its own indigenous traditions. Japanese spiritual and daily life is deeply rooted in Shintoism, and participants will learn of the significant role it plays in the life and mindset of Japanese citizens and politicians

*1-1 Yoyogikamizonocho, Shibuya City, Tokyo 151-8557*

**3:30 PM Return to Hotel by Subway**

**4:00 PM – 5:30 PM Free Time**

**5:30 PM Depart Hotel for Dinner Meeting**

**6:00 PM – 7:30 PM Government Exchange Dinner with Ministry of Foreign Affairs Staff**

*Lead: Megan Beste*

A dinner conversation with rising Ministry of Foreign Affairs staff to share best practices of building the bilateral partnership in the broader context of local historical, industrial, and economic ties from both the Ministerial, central government, and local district office perspectives

*Andy's Shin Hinomoto  
2 Chome 4-4 Yurakucho, Chiyoda City, Tokyo 100-0006*

**8:00 AM Individual Breakfast**

**9:30 AM Depart Hotel for NEC Headquarters**

**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Innovating Tomorrow: Site Visit to NEC Headquarters**

*Lead: Heidi Matthews*

Roundtable conversation with executives of NEC, a Japanese electronics and technology company, and visit to NEC's Future Creation Hub in Tokyo to witness the frontlines of innovative technology in the heart of Tokyo. This visit to NEC will allow members an opportunity to see firsthand the innovations coming out of Japanese electronics companies and understand the vision business leaders have for the future of technology in Japanese society and beyond.

*5 Chome 7-1 1F NEC Head Office Building, Shiba, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 108-0018*

**1:00 PM – 2:30 PM The Future of Work: Business and Commerce in Japan**

*Lead: Darian David*

Discussion with board members William Swinton and Eric Sedlak from the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) concerning the current business environment in Japan, both for foreign and domestic companies, the future of work given Japan's shifting demographics, the challenge of immigration, and existing diversity and inclusion initiatives, and the role of local and central government in advancing these efforts of economic development.

*DOZO Akasaka*

*5 chome 3-1 Biz Tower B1F, Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 07-6901*

**3:00 PM – 4:00 PM Tour of the National Diet**

*Lead: Megan Beste*

Tour of the National Diet Building, the seat of Japan's legislative body, with discussion of the history and importance of the legislature in Japanese politics and society, with attention to similarities and differences to the U.S. Congress.

*1 Chome 7-1 Nagatachō, Chiyoda City, Tokyo 100-0014, Japan*

**4:30 PM**                    **Depart Meeting for Hotel**

**6:00 PM – 7:30 PM**   **Lessons Learned**

Closing dinner with delegation and discussion led by FMC staff offering an opportunity to reflect on their time in Japan and what they have taken away from the experience. Topics of discussion will include semiconductors and their importance in the global supply chain, soft power as an economic engine, and the integral role trade and exchange play in the modern economy, with Fukuoka as a prime example.

*Dynamic Kitchen & Bar "Hibiki Futei" Akasaka  
1 Chome 11-44 Akasaka InterCity 2F, Akasaka, Minato City, Tokyo, 107-0052*

**Bring: Passport & COVID Vaccine Card**

**District Directors' Agenda**

Saturday, September 17, 2022 @Fukuoka - Tokyo {Casual Attire} [Travel Day]

**Morning** Check out from ANA Intercontinental Tokyo Hotel

**Morning - Evening** Airport Transfer Departs from Hotel

**Morning - Evening** Delegation Departs Airport

**10:20 AM** Megan Beste  
Flight UA7910

**3:45 PM** Judith Tankel  
Flight UA0876

**4:50 PM** Charity Howell  
Flight UA7958

**5:45 PM** Darian David, Courtney Heitkamp, Raul Martinez, and Heidi  
Matthews  
Flight UA0882