

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, 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: Chris Ringer
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** ☒ None
b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: October 5, 2023 Return: October 15, 2023
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: October 5, 2023 - October 8, 2023 **OR** ☐ None
4. Departure City: Washington D.C. Destination: Japan: Tokyo and Hiroshima Return City: Washington D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Japan Center for International Exchange
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: _____
Meetings and roundtables with leading policy experts and high-level government, civil society, and private sector leaders.
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: Chris Ringer Date: 10/26/23

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: Rep. Jeff Duncan Date: 10/26/23

Signature of Supervising Member: Jeff Duncan

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 in the trip *within 10 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.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: Japan Center for International Exchange

2. Travel Destination(s): Japan: Tokyo and Hiroshima

3. Date of Departure: October 8, 2023 Date of Return: October 15, 2023

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Chris Ringer

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

5. 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	\$3,262.34	\$1,365.53	\$499.27	n/a
Accompanying Family Member	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

6. ☒ 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:  Date: 10/25/2023

Name: Kazuyo Kato Title: Executive Director

Organization: Japan Center for International Exchange

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

Address: Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 731, New York, NY 10115

Telephone: 212-679-4130 Email: kkato@jcie.org

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.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Chris Ringer
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Japan Center for International Exchange
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Japan
4. a. Date of Departure: October 5, 2023 Date of Return: October 15, 2023
b. Yes ☒ No ☐ Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?
If yes, list dates at personal expense: October 5, 2023 - October 8, 2023
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, invitation, 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.**
I am the Legislative Assistant to Congressman Duncan, who serves as Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security. As such, matters pertaining to the national, economic, and energy security of the Indo-Pacific region are of utmost importance to my duties and the Congressman's role.
9. **Yes ☐ No ☒ Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in 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: 9/11/23

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's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:
Japan Center for International Exchange
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, services, or in-kind assistance 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
5. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: October 8, 2023 Date of Return: October 15, 2023
7. a. City of departure: Washington DC
b. Destination(s): Japan: Tokyo and Hiroshima
c. City of return: Washington DC
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. _____

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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:

JCIE is the sole sponsor of the trip, meaning that we cover all expenses related to the program, select the participants, create the agenda for the trip, arrange all meetings and trip logistics, and attend to the delegation throughout the program. JCIE promotes US-Japan dialogue in areas of common concern, and this program is designed to provide senior staffers with a deeper understanding of the US-Japan relationship and the dynamics of Japanese policymaking."

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**

- a. Mode of travel: Air ☒ Rail ☐ Bus ☒ Car ☒ Other ☐ (specify: _____)
b. Class of travel: Coach ☒ Business ☐ First ☐ Charter ☐ Other ☐ (specify: _____)
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 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): Approx \$103

- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: Tokyo was chosen as it is Japan's capital city
Hiroshima is where Japan hosted the 2023 G7 summit and has historical significance in US-Japan relations

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: Hotel New Otani City: Tokyo Cost Per Night: \$242

Reason(s) for Selecting: Affordability and proximity to the Japanese Diet

Hotel Name: ANA Crowne Plaza Hiroshima City: Hiroshima Cost Per Night: \$142

Reason(s) for Selecting: Affordability and proximity to downtown Hiroshima and various locations we will visit

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.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$3,200	\$1352	\$518
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A

	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	\$0	
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	

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: _____

Date: 09/13/2023

Name: Kazuyo Kato

Title: Executive Director

Organization: Japan Center for International Exchange

Address: 475 Riverside Dr #731, New York, NY 10115

Email: kkato@jcie.org

Telephone: 212) 679-4130

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Keelie Broom
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1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
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October 2, 2023

Mr. Christopher Ringer
Office of the Honorable Jeff Duncan
2229 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Ringer:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Japan,¹ scheduled for October 5 to 15, 2023, sponsored by Japan Center for International Exchange. We note that this trip includes three days at your personal expense.

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 \$480 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 \$480] 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.

¹ 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. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Guest". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michael Guest
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Wild". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S".

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:tn

JAPAN CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE (JCIE)
US Congressional Staff Exchange Program
2023 Delegation to Japan

October 8–October 16, 2023

ITINERARY

Thursday, October 5

12:30 (EST) Chris Ringer departs Washington Dulles International Airport (UA803)

Friday, October 6

15:25 (JST) Chris Ringer arrives at Haneda Airport

Saturday, October 7

12:30 (EST) Steven Clark departs Washington Dulles International Airport (UA803)

Sunday, October 8 **official Program travel day*

12:30 (EST) Brenna Marie Gautam, Jen Curt, and Rahmon Ross depart Washington Dulles International Airport (UA803)

**Participant to arrange their own transportation*

15:25 (JST) Steven Clark arrives at Haneda Airport

Monday, October 9 **official Program begins*

15:25 Brenna Marie Gautam, Jen Curt, and Rahmon Ross at Haneda Airport
Travel via minibus to Hotel New Otani The Main

18:30 Welcome Dinner

**Review of the week's activities and meeting interlocutors with JCIE staff*

JCIE Members: Hideko Katsumata, Executive Director
Hifumi Tajima, Chief Program Officer
Dai Funaki, Senior Program Officer
Stephen McHugh, Program Officer (JCIE/USA)

Location: Restaurant Satsuki, "The Main," Hotel New Otani

Accommodation: Hotel New Otani The Main
4-1 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8578, Japan
Tel: 81-3-3221-2666 | Fax: 81-3-3221-4149
<https://www.newotani.co.jp/en/tokyo/>

Tuesday, October 10

08:45 Meeting in the Banquet Lobby and travel to JCIE

09:00-09:30 Overview of JCIE

Welcome and brief background of JCIE and political exchange program: its programs in the context of US-Japan relations

Speaker: **Isao Kano**, President and CEO, JCIE

Location: JCIE

10:00-11:30 Meeting with Ambassador Rahm Emanuel / US Embassy Briefing

A discussion providing US government perspectives on the state of US-Japan relations and key issues affecting the relationship including the role of the US-Japan alliance in addressing regional security challenges, trade relations, and areas for US-Japan global collaboration, etc.

Location: US Embassy in Tokyo

12:00-13:30 Luncheon Meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Japan's Foreign Policy including the Hiroshima G7 outcomes and next steps

Discussions with a senior MOFA official(s) and several younger diplomats from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) on the key outcomes of the Hiroshima G7 meetings and next steps, the current geopolitical landscape surrounding Japan, and the role of US-Japan relations.

Speakers: **Yukiko Harimoto**, Director, North American Exchange Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Foreign Ministry officials

Location: Japanese Restaurant "Kichiza"

14:00-15:00 Meeting on Japan's Domestic Landscape & its Implications for US-Japan relations

Key issues in Japan's domestic landscape including political, economic, and social issues, as well as introduction to Japan's stance on nuclear non-proliferation issues, and their implications for US-Japan relations by a leading journalist who covers these issues.

Speaker: **Masakatsu Ota**, Senior and Editorial writer, Kyodo News

Location: JCIE

16:00-17:00 Prospects and Challenges for the Japanese Economy in the Asia-Pacific Region

Meeting on key issues affecting Japanese businesses, trade and economy, in the turmoil of global economy and the emerging Global South. In particular emphasis of impact in the Asia Pacific Region.

Speaker: **Shujiro Urata**, Chairman, Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI)

Location: RIETI 1119 Meeting Room

18:30-20:30 Japan's Relationship with its Neighbors

Discussion with one of Japan's leading foreign policy strategists on Japan's relationship with China, Korea, Taiwan and Japan-US-ROK relations as well as on his personal experiences conducting high-level negotiations with North Korea

Speaker: **Hitoshi Tanaka**, Senior Fellow, JCIE; Special Advisor, Institute for International Strategy (IIS), Japan Research Institute, Ltd; Former Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Location: Ark Hills Club. Continental Dining

Wednesday, October 11

7:45-9:15 Breakfast Roundtable with Up-and-Coming Leaders in the Diet

Roundtable discussion with 4-6 Diet members to exchange views on a couple of possible topics: 1) key legislative issues and domestic political challenges in the United States and Japan and their implications for foreign policy including US-Japan relation; and 2) perspectives on shared regional and global security and economic challenges

Speakers: Hideki Makiyama, Member, House of Representatives
(Liberal Democratic Party-LDP)

Hiroe Makiyama, Member, House of Councillors
(Constitutional Democratic Party-CDPJ)

Keitaro Ohno, Member, House of Representatives (LDP)

Alex Saito, Member, House of Representatives
(Democratic Party For the People -DPFP)

Shu Sakurai, Member, House of Representatives
(CDPJ)

Isamu Ueda, Member, House of Councillors (Komeito)

Miki Yamada, Member, House of Representatives (LDP)

Location: Room ACERO, Banquet Floor, The Main, Hotel New Otani

10:00-11:00 Meeting on Japan's Energy Policy and Challenges from a Politician's Perspective

Speakers: **Ken Saito**, Member, House of Representatives (LDP);
Former Minister of Justice

Location: No. 2 Meeting room, Diet member's No. 1 building

11:00-12:00 Meeting on Current and Future Outlook of Japan's Energy policy
Japan's current energy mix and key imports, developments in Japan's efforts to increase renewable sources of energy, role of nuclear energy, goals and challenges in diversifying Japan's energy sources, impact of geopolitical affairs on Japan's energy policy.

Speakers: **Futoshi Kohno**, Director, Policy Planning and
Coordination Division, Agency for Natural Resources
and Energy

Location: No. 2 Meeting room, Diet member's No. 1 building

**12:15-13:30 Lunch Meeting with members of JCIE's Women Leaders
Dialogue Diet Delegation**

Speakers: **Aiko Shimajiri**, Member, House of Representatives
(LDP)

Kiyomi Tsujimoto, Member, House of Councillors
(CDPJ)

Location: No. 8 Meeting room, Diet member's No. 1 Building

15:45-16:45 Briefing on the National Strategy of Japan

Speaker: **Keiichi Ichikawa**, Assistant Chief Cabinet Secretary

Location: Room 519, Cabinet Office Building

17:30-19:00 Chinese Diaspora Community in Japan

Speakers: **Tomoko Ako**, Professor, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo

Li Yinuo, Co-Founder, ETU Education

Location: Room 110, Komaba International Building for Education and Research, Komaba Campus, University of Tokyo

19:30 Individual Dinner

Thursday, October 12

8:30 Depart Hotel and Travel to National Defense Academy by minibus

10:00-12:00 Visit to the National Defense Academy, Yokosuka
Discussion on Japan's Security and Defense Policy & US-Japan Relations and tour

Japan's national security and defense strategies and prospects and challenges for implementation. Outlook on the US-Japan alliance including future challenges and opportunities for strengthening collaboration.

Speakers: Fumiaki Kubo, President, National Defense Academy

Takakazu Kurokawa, Director, Institute for Advanced Studies

Hirofumi Shimizu, Director, Center for International Exchange

Campus Visit

12:00-13:15 Lunch with National Defense Academy students

14:00-15:30 Visit to US Navy Yokosuka Base

Travel to Kamakura

16:00- Tsurugaoka Hachiman / Kotoku-in

Kamakura is the ancient historical capital of Japan, so we will take the opportunity to visit this important historical site. Staff will inform participants about the role of religion in Japanese society, including differences between Shinto and Buddhism and the way religion is treated in modern society

18:30 Dinner at Zushi

Location: Seaside Italian Restaurant Cantina

21:30 Return to the hotel

Friday, October 13

- 06:50 Depart Hotel for travel to Haneda. Please check out by this time.
** We recommend bringing an overnight bag, and leaving the rest of your luggage at the check-out counter*
- 7:00-7:30 Minibus from hotel to Haneda airport
- 8:15 Depart from Haneda by ANA 673
- 9:40 Arrive at Hiroshima airport
- 11:30-11:50 **Meeting with Hiroshima Mayor**
Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima
- 12:30-14:00 **Lunch Discussion on "Peace and Hiroshima"**

Speakers: **Ryo Oshiba**, Director and Professor, Hiroshima Peace Institute,
Hiroshima City University
Robert Jacobs, Historian of Science and Technology
Makiko Takemoto, Associate Professor, Hiroshima Peace
Institute, Hiroshima City University

Location: Chinese Restaurant "Tori", 5F ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel
Hiroshima
- 14:30-15:30 **Lecture and Guided Tour of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum** by
Mr. Toshihiro Toya, Vice Director, Hiroshima Peace Memorial
Museum

*Guided tour of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum to see artifacts
from the bombing, to get explanations of the recovery process and the
legacy of the bombing, and to have a briefing on WMD nonproliferation
efforts that have been inspired by this experience*
- 15:30-16:00 **Wreath Laying & Guided Tour of the Atomic Bomb Dome**

*We will lay a wreath at the cenotaph that memorializes the victims of the
atomic bombing (including foreign residents and 12 US POWs). This is the
site of President Obama's May 2016 speech on nuclear disarmament and
reconciliation. Then, while explaining how the Hiroshima bombing has
shaped Japanese thinking about history and US-Japan relations, the
museum's deputy director will lead the participants through the memorial
park to visit the A-bomb Dome that was at the epicenter of the blast.*
- 16:00-17:00 **Discussion with Hibakusha/Atomic Bomb Survivor**

***Keiko Ogura**, a peace activist who was 8 years old at the time of
the bombing, will share her recollections of the bombing and how it
has impacted her life, her family, and Japanese views of US-Japan
relations.*
- 17:15 Check In at ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel Hiroshima
Accommodation: ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel Hiroshima
730-0037 Japan
Tel: 81-82-241-1111 | Fax: 81-82-241-9123

Group Dinner

Saturday, October 14

8:00 Check out of hotel, move to the Motoyasu Pier Ferry Station

9:10 Depart Motoyasu Pier for Miyajima

9:30-11:30 **Miyajima Tour guided by official volunteer guide of Miyajima**

Local volunteer guides, who have been learning English, will provide an English language tour of Miyajima an important historic world heritage site in the region.

Visit Itsukushima Shrine/World Heritage/Site on cultural preservation in an era of internationalization

The 6th Century Shinto Shrine at Itsukushima is considered one of Japan's most sacred sites, and its stewards have had to try to cope with damage from natural disasters and, increasingly now, from climate change and a flood of overseas tourism.

11:30-12:30 Lunch

13:15 Travel from Miyajima to Miyajimaguchi by ferry

13:30-14:45 Travel by bus to Hiroshima Airport

During travel from Hiroshima back to Tokyo surveys will be distributed to the group to provide feedback on the weeks activities and to prime them for discussion at the wrap-up dinner.

15:35-17:00 Flight from Hiroshima to Haneda Airport on ANA 680

17:00-18:00 Arrive at Haneda Airport/Tokyo, taxi to the hotel

18:00 Check-in at Hotel New Otani

19:30 -21:00 Wrap-up/Review dinner

A final dinner will be organized for the group to review the main challenges facing US-Japan relations and areas for greater collaboration identified during the trip, and exchange their thinking on what needs to be done to address those challenges and promote collaboration. In particular, the discussion will focus on having each participant share how he/she expects to apply their newly gained knowledge both in fulfilling their respective roles as Congressional staff and to strengthen US-Japan relations.

Official Program Ends

Sunday October, 15

12:30 Meet in the Lobby
Depart from Hotel New Otani to Haneda Airport by minibus

15:50 (JST) Steven Clark, Jennifer Curt, Brenna Marie Gautam, Christopher Ringer,
and Rahmon Ross Depart Haneda Airport (UA 804)

15:35 (EST) Steven Clark, Jennifer Curt, Brenna Marie Gautam, Christopher Ringer, and Rahmon Ross arrive at Washinton Dulles International Airport

JCIE Congressional Staff Exchange Program in Japan

House Invitees

Steven Clark, Legislative Assistant, Representative Alex Mooney (R-WV)

Steven Clark was chosen on the basis of recommendations by program alumni and the degree to which deeper knowledge of the role of US-Japan relations in Asia and the world would help him advise his boss on regional security and trade issues and their impact on the United States. Japan is the most important US ally in Asia, where the center of gravity in world politics and the global economy has shifted, and the US and Japan have forged a global partnership addressing global issues. A well-rounded understanding of the dynamics of US-Japan relations and Japan's political, economic, and foreign policy, as well as greater exposure to perspectives of Japanese experts and policymakers, will help him support the US Congress more effectively as it addresses geopolitical tensions and trade issues in the region. Steven Clark was also chosen based on his previous lack of opportunity to travel to Japan.

Jen Curt, Legislative Director, Representative Maxwell Frost (D-FL)

Jen Curt was chosen on the basis of recommendations by program alumni and the degree to which deeper knowledge of the role of US-Japan relations in Asia and the world would help them advise their boss on regional security and trade issues and their impact on the United States. Japan is the most important US ally in Asia, where the center of gravity in world politics and the global economy has shifted, and the US and Japan have forged a global partnership addressing global issues. A well-rounded understanding of the dynamics of US-Japan relations and Japan's political, economic, and foreign policy, as well as greater exposure to perspectives of Japanese experts and policymakers, will help him support the US Congress more effectively as it addresses geopolitical tensions and trade issues in the region. Their boss has expressed interest in Japan after travelling there himself earlier this year, and this program will allow Jen to better support him on following up on issues related to transportation policy after his trip to Japan.

Brenna Marie Guatam, Assistant Counsel, Office of the Legislative Counsel, House of Representatives

Brenna Marie Guatam was selected for the program based on the degree to which deeper knowledge of US-Japan relations and Japanese policy approaches will help her perform her role providing nonpartisan legal advice on drafting legislation. Given her background in nuclear policy, national security, and economic policy, this program featuring a visit to Hiroshima will help deepen her understanding of Japan's policy background and approaches in these areas, particularly around nuclear proliferation. In addition, as our program typically attracts staffers in members' offices or committees and we rarely have participants from staff in the Office of Legislative Counsel, we expect Brenna Marie to add diversity and a unique nonpartisan perspective to enhance the discussions with Japanese policymakers and experts during the trip.

Chris Ringer, Legislative Assistant, Representative Jeff Duncan (R-SC)

Chris Ringer was chosen on the basis of recommendations by program alumni and the degree to which deeper knowledge of the role of US-Japan relations in Asia and the world would help him advise his boss on regional security and trade issues and their impact on the United States. Japan is the most important US ally in Asia, where the center of gravity in world politics and the global economy has shifted, and the US and Japan have forged a global partnership addressing global issues. A well-rounded understanding of the dynamics of US-Japan relations and Japan's political, economic, and foreign policy, as well as greater exposure to perspectives of Japanese experts and policymakers, will help him support the US Congress more effectively as it addresses geopolitical tensions and trade issues in the region. Chris Ringer was also chosen based on his specific interest in energy policy, which is one of the main themes that will be addressed in the trip.

Rahmon Ross, National Security Advisor, Representative Jennifer L McClellan (D-VA)

Rahmon Ross was chosen on the basis of recommendations by program alumni and the degree to which deeper knowledge of the role of US-Japan relations in Asia and the world would help him advise his boss on regional security and trade issues and their impact on the United States. Japan is the most important US ally in Asia, where the center of gravity in world politics and the global economy has shifted, and the US and Japan have forged a global partnership addressing global issues. A well-rounded understanding of the dynamics of US-Japan relations and Japan's political, economic, and foreign policy, as well as greater exposure to perspectives of Japanese experts and policymakers, will help him support the US Congress more effectively as it addresses geopolitical tensions and trade issues in the region. Our scheduled visit to the US naval base in Yokosuka and other meetings on the US-Japan alliance will also be helpful for him in informing his boss, who sits on the Armed Services Committee, about issues related to Japan-US security cooperation.