

Julie Ellen Aaronson

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Capitol Hill Association of Merchants and Professionals (CHAMPS)

Executive Director

January 2018 – present

- Advocates for Capitol Hill businesses by developing relationships with DC agencies and elected officials, providing testimony on legislation and comments through the regulatory process. Educates business members on critical DC policies such as retailer property tax credit and DC Paid Family Leave.
- During COVID, pivoted to increase retail outreach, develop new promotional strategies for businesses, and provide members with information on DC and Federal grant and loan opportunities.
- Growing our regional footprint through strategic partnerships and consistent social media presence.
- Responsible for membership development, event planning and implementation, and administrative and marketing functions of the chamber.

U.S. Department of Labor

Associate Assistant Secretary for Budget and Appropriations,

Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs

August 2014 to January 2017

- Developed, coordinated, and executed outreach to Congress to promote the Department of Labor annual budget request, including funding levels and policy priorities. Served as the initial point of contact for Congress at DOL for all budget and appropriations questions.
- Established, developed, and maintained relationships on a bipartisan basis with Congressional members and staff, including appropriations staff.
- Coordinated with other Departments, agencies, and OMB to provide timely, accurate, and forthright responses to questions from Congressional staff through briefings, meetings, written correspondence, or phone calls as appropriate.
- Regularly briefed Department leadership on Congressional actions, providing advice, insight, and analysis of Congressional activities and the appropriations process, and managed expectations.
- Monitored actions of the appropriations committees and coordinated efforts to strategically engage Congress to leverage opportunities for policy priorities and funding levels.
- Served as a senior legislative officer for issues related to the Mine Safety and Health Administration – managed communication with Members of Congress and committee staff; organized briefings and outreach on MSHA policy issues; oversaw the preparation and development of material and testimony for the Assistant Secretary for hearings; and advised the Assistant Secretary for MSHA and Departmental leadership on the political climate and Congressional attitudes toward MSHA.

Chief of Staff, Mine Safety and Health Administration

September 2010 to August 2014

- Managed the day-to-day priorities of the Assistant Secretary for MSHA, a federal agency with a \$375 million budget and 2,300 employees. Evaluated and assigned tasks to appropriate offices or individuals for follow up. Adjusted workload, identified bottlenecks, and suggested alternate timelines or redirected staff when critical projects faced logjams.
- Followed up on directives from the Assistant Secretary and provided clarifying insight or important context when staff had questions on how to complete projects.
- Supervised 5 staff whose duties focused on Congressional correspondence, outreach activities and events, special projects, and administrative tasks.
- Coordinated messaging on policy initiatives, both to Congress and external stakeholders, as well as internally to staff.
- Served as MSHA's liaison to the Department of Labor on Congressional and Departmental inquiries and clearances, public outreach, and internal communications, ensuring appropriate groups were notified and engaged in a timely and accurate manner about initiatives.
- Exercised diplomacy, discretion, and collaboration to achieve positive, actionable results through others at all levels of the organization.

U.S. Representative Alan Mollohan

Legislative Director

July 2006 to September 2010

Appropriations Associate

January 2002 to September 2010

Legislative Assistant

January 2002 to July 2006

Legislative Correspondent

February 2001 to January 2002

- Served as chief legislative and policy adviser to Congressman representing the 1st Congressional District of West Virginia, who also served as Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman.
- Recruited, hired, trained, and supervised 4 legislative staff in the Congressman's personal office.
- Managed and monitored performance of legislative staff. Set milestones, provided guidance, and ensured the Congressman's legislative goals were carried out.
- Drafted legislative language and worked with committee staff to facilitate enactment.
- Supervised constituent communications operations including editing letters, directing mass mailings, and overseeing use of telephone town halls.
- Served as liaison between the personal office and the appropriations subcommittee.
- Advised Chairman on key policy issues under the subcommittee's jurisdiction.
- Responded to and assisted other Congressional offices and advocacy organizations, advising them through the appropriations process.
- Analyzed agency budget documents and drafted statements, questions for witnesses, and questions for the record.
- Identified, vetted, and recommended earmark projects, tracking them through budget process and enactment.

EDUCATION

George Washington University, M.A. in Political Management

University of Kansas, B.S. in Journalism and B.A. in Political Science