NEWS RELEASES

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President Obama Appoints Ike Skelton to Battle Monuments Commission

Skelton Also Joins Center for a New American Security, American Lung Association and Truman Library Institute Leadership Teams

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President Barack Obama named Husch Blackwell Partner and former U.S. Congressman Ike Skelton a member of the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC).

The ABMC oversees the operation and maintenance of U.S. Armed Forces cemeteries and memorials abroad. The ABMC Commissioners control the design and construction of permanent U.S. monuments and markers, and ensure that the 24 overseas military cemeteries and the 25 memorials, monuments and markers throughout the world honoring America's fallen are well-maintained.

As former Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Skelton supports ABMC's mission to honor the service, achievements and sacrifice of military men and women. While visiting various countries during his time in Congress, Skelton laid wreaths at numerous U.S. cemeteries, including Normandy, Cambridge and Luxembourg cemeteries and memorials.

Skelton was appointed to the Center for a New American Security's (CNAS) Board of Advisors in May. The Board of Advisors is made up of 24 individuals dedicated to assisting CNAS in its goal to develop "strong, pragmatic and principled national security and defense policies." An independent and nonpartisan research institute, CNAS utilizes the expertise and experience of its staff and advisors to engage policymakers, experts and the public regarding national security.

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In April, American Lung Association (ALA) President and CEO Charles Connor invited Skelton to join his President's Council, a team of 14 advisors who promote the Association's mission to improve lung health and prevent lung disease. One of ALA's biggest priorities currently is advocating the implementation and enforcement of the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Act.

Skelton was elected to the Harry S. Truman Library Institute's Board of Directors in April, joining Husch Blackwell attorneys and fellow board members Larry L. McMullen and Maurice A. Watson. Skelton's father was a friend of President Truman; as an admirer of the former President, Skelton shares the Board's desire to promote the Truman Library as a center for research and provider of educational and public programs. Former U.S. Congressman James Symington (D-Missouri) is also on the Board.

Prior to joining Husch Blackwell's Washington, D.C., office as a Partner in March, Skelton served 17 terms as a U.S. Representative from Missouri's 4th District. He spent his last four years in Congress serving as the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. Skelton concentrates his practice in the areas of Government Contracts and Governmental Affairs law. He advises clients on a variety of legal and public policy issues, especially matters relating to national defense, small business and international trade.

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