“TWC Internship Influenced My Career In Public Service”

John Katko ’82

After a distinguished career as a federal prosecutor, John Katko ’82 decided to trade the courtroom for the Capitol. In January 2015, John Katko ’82 became Rep. Katko (R-NY) as he began his service in the U.S. House of Representatives. In a May 2015 interview with The Washington Center, John explained that his journey was influenced, in part, by his internship program experience.

“My internship at The Washington Center provided me with a unique outlook on the federal government and public policy at a young age. As one of my early professional experiences, I believe this internship nudged me toward a career in public service.”

After graduating with honors from both Niagara University and Syracuse University College of Law, John began his legal career in private practice at a firm in Washington, D.C. Soon after, he applied his legal expertise in public service, serving first as a senior trial attorney at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and then as an assistant U.S. attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). During his distinguished 20-year tenure at DOJ, John consistently earned high praise for his work.

After spending more than two decades prosecuting gang members and drug traffickers as a federal prosecutor, John ran for and was successfully elected to Congress where he proudly provides strong and independent leadership in Washington for his district in central New York.

The Washington Center is proud to recognize the accomplishments of our alumni, like Rep. John Katko. Our premier experiential learning opportunities help shape students into globally capable, civically engaged leaders.

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