

**Ripon Society and Franklin Center Host Bipartisan House Chiefs of Staff Association to Kick Off New Year**

WASHINGTON, DC – To kick off the New Year and the second session of the 118th Congress, The Ripon Society and Franklin Center for Global Policy Exchange held a meeting last night with the bipartisan House Chiefs of Staffs Association.

The meeting featured remarks by the Association’s Co-Chairs Jonathan Day and Mitchell Rivard. Day serves as Chief of staff for Representative Joe Wilson (R-SC-02), and across the aisle Rivard serves as Chief of Staff for Representative Dan Kildee (D-MI-08).

“With more than 30 years as a Chief of Staff, I know the dedication and hard work that goes on behind the curtain to ensure your bosses are ready for anything the day may bring,” shared President & CEO of The Ripon Society and Franklin Center James Conzelman.

“Prior to 1973, Chiefs of Staff were known as Administrative Assistants. However, in 1973, that all changed with the founding of the House Chiefs of Staff Association. It is an organization that exists to help current Chiefs of Staff and Staff Directors in the U.S. House of Representatives foster bipartisan relationships with their congressional colleagues to strengthen the institution of Congress.”

**“It is an organization that exists to help current Chiefs of Staff and Staff Directors in the U.S. House of Representatives foster bipartisan relationships with their congressional colleagues to strengthen the institution of Congress.”**



The bipartisan House Chiefs of Staffs Association

According to Conzelman, yesterday’s reception was the first event hosted by The Ripon Society this year. The second event will be held today, when The Ripon Society hosts a luncheon briefing with Chief of the D.C. Police Union Gregg Pemberton, who is scheduled to discuss the current crime crisis in our nation’s capital. Conzelman added that later this month the group will also hear from Chairman of the House Financial Services Committee Patrick McHenry (NC-10) on the committee’s agenda for the remainder of the year and how Congress can responsibly keep the government open while enacting policies and reforms to rein in government spending.

Founded in 1978, The Franklin Center for Global Policy Exchange is a non-partisan, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization committed to enhancing global understanding of important international issues. The Franklin Center brings together Members of the U.S. Congress and their international parliamentary counterparts as well as experts from the Diplomatic corps, foreign officials, senior private sector representatives, scholars, and other public policy experts. Through regular conferences and events where leading international opinion leaders share ideas, the Franklin Center promotes enlightened, balanced, and unbiased international policy discussion on major international issues.

For more information on the organization, please visit its website at [www.franklincenter.us](http://www.franklincenter.us)



Jonathan Day (right), and, Mitchell Rivard (left)