

AH&LA Governmental Affairs Team Adds Two New Staff

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Director of Legislative Communications and HotelPAC Coordinator Join Hospitality Lobbying Force

Two new employees - Director of Legislative Communications Robert Baylor and HotelPAC Coordinator Jon Simons - have joined the Governmental Affairs department of the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AH&LA). These additions round out AH&LA's growing communications and fundraising presence in Washington.

As the department's main press contact, Baylor will handle the media relations and public outreach strategy on legislative and regulatory issues. In this role he represents AH&LA's positions and policies to other associations, legislative representatives, regulatory agencies, the media, and the general public. Baylor comes to AH&LA with over eight years of experience working as director of communications for the National Propane Gas Association and as the senior writer for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's membership magazine. He also has worked in the U.S. House of Representatives and for the public relations firm Hill & Knowlton.

Simons will be actively engaged in coordinating efforts of the association's non-partisan political action committee, HotelPAC. He is responsible for organizing and executing HotelPAC fundraising events and handling day-to-day inquiries. Simons joins AH&LA after his previous position of program coordinator of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Space Enterprise Council. His other professional experience includes work on the Congressional campaign of Jeb Bradley from his native New Hampshire.

'As the lobbying force for the American hospitality industry, we are thrilled to have the superior caliber and expertise of these two new members of our team. Robert's experience will be a tremendous asset as we continue to build and strengthen our role as the voice of the industry on Capitol Hill,' said Marlene Colucci, AH&LA executive vice president of public policy. 'And with our ambitious HotelPAC fundraising goals, Jon will be actively engaged in both our fundraising efforts and responsible for tracking Members of Congress and their voting records on our issues.'

For more information on AH&LA and its Governmental Affairs initiatives, please visit www.ahla.com.

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