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CONTACT: Missi Tessier
(202) 879-9375

Key Appropriations Staff Director to Join Podesta Group

Tony Podesta, Chairman of the Podesta Group, today announced that David Morrison will be joining the firm on January 1, 2008, to chair its national security and international practice area.

"Our international and national security practice area is poised for growth. With David's leadership, our clients in that space will receive expert strategic vision and advice," said Podesta. "David is recognized throughout Washington by key decision-makers as a master analyst and leader. He has it all: senior experience in the House, the Senate, and OMB."

Morrison currently serves as the Staff Director/Clerk of the House Appropriations Committee's Defense Subcommittee. He is the senior Democratic staff member on the Appropriations Committee responsible for developing legislation to fund all US military and national, foreign and defense intelligence activities. He is the principal defense advisor to Chairman John P. Murtha (D-PA) of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, and to House Appropriations Committee Chairman David Obey (D-WI). He also serves as a key advisor to Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) on defense and intelligence matters.

Morrison began his federal government career in 1985 as a budget analyst with the Office of Management and Budget's National Security Division. In 1990, he became a professional staff member on the Senate Appropriations Committee/Defense Subcommittee, under Subcommittee Chairman Daniel Inouye (D-HI). Over the course of his service at OMB and the Senate Appropriations Committee, Morrison's analysis and oversight responsibilities grew. At different points in his career, he has overseen virtually all of the Defense Department's operations and investment programs. In particular, Morrison is considered one of the leading experts on military readiness and DoD operations and support programs.

From 1995 to 2000, Morrison returned to the Office of Management and Budget in senior positions. His career culminated there with his service as the Deputy Associate Director of OMB for National Security – the chief of the National Security Division and the President's senior civil servant advisor on the defense budget.

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