

Mr. Charles (Chuck) Atkins

Chief of Staff to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science and Technology, Retired

Chuck Atkins served as Chief of Staff to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science and Technology for five years until 2009 (minority 2005-2006, majority 2007-2009). The Committee is responsible for legislation and oversight of Federal government civilian research and development programs. These programs include space, aeronautics, energy, transportation, basic research, math and science education, cooperative industry-government R&D and the environment. As Chief of Staff he served as senior policy advisor to the Chairman, managing a staff of 45 professionals, including scientists, engineers and attorneys, in carrying out the oversight and legislative agenda for the Committee. He holds Top Secret and DOE "Q" security clearances.

Chuck began his service in Congress in 1993 after managing the successful campaign of former Congressman Scotty Baesler of Kentucky and serving as his Chief of Staff until 1999. In 1999 he became Chief of Staff to Congressman Bart Gordon of Tennessee.

In 1995 Chuck was elected and served one term as president of the House Administrative Assistants'/Chiefs' of Staff Association, a non-partisan professional and educational association of senior House staff leaders. In 1997 he was selected to serve as a John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Congressional Staff Fellow for the 105th Congress.

Other career milestones include founding a community development and housing consulting firm, Atkins-Elrod and Associates in 1977. In addition to consulting, he formed real estate investment partnerships to re-develop historic properties. Chuck also taught political science and public policy at the university level for ten years during his career as a consultant. Prior to consulting he served as Local Government Services Director for a Kentucky regional planning and development district.

He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1966-1968. His service included a tour of duty in Vietnam with the 2nd Battalion/4th Marine Regiment.

Mr. Atkins earned a B.S., with honors, from Georgia State University in 1972 with majors in Psychology and Urban Administration. He earned an M.A. in public administration from The Ohio State University in 1973.