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## **Ashley Austin Completed Congressional Operations Certificate from TheCapitol.Net**

**ALEXANDRIA, VA** – (September 21, 2010) – Ashley Austin completed her Certificate in Congressional Operations from TheCapitol.Net. The Certificate in Congressional Operations is awarded to participants in the program who have completed more than 75 hours of congressional related training.

Ashley Austin is currently serving as a Congressional Liaison Assistant in the Congressional Affairs Office (CAO) at the U.S. Census Bureau where she is primarily responsible for assisting congressional staff with Census Bureau-related research and providing direct support for senior Congressional Liaisons within CAO.

“This coursework has improved my job performance immensely by connecting textbook knowledge of congressional operations with real-world experience” she said.

Ms. Austin began her career with the Census Bureau in 2006 as a summer intern for the International Programs Center where she assisted in researching international statistical data for the compilation of “The CIA World Factbook”.

In 2007, Ashley graduated Cum Laude from the College of Charleston with a B.A. in Communication, where she focused her studies on both organizational and corporate communication theory. She is a member of both the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and the Golden Key International Honour Society.

After graduation, she began her career in policy by working as a legislative aide for an independent Maryland lobbyist where her primary role was to assist with legislative projects for over 38 client groups.

TheCapitol.Net’s Congressional Operations Certificate gives professionals the background they need to effectively participate in the legislative arena. The courses help participants understand the legislative process, prepare congressional testimony, draft

federal legislation, research legislative histories, monitor legislation, communicate with Congress, and work with federal regulatory agencies.

To receive more information about the Congressional Operations certificate go to [http://www.thecapitol.net/PublicPrograms/certificate\\_congressionaloperations.html](http://www.thecapitol.net/PublicPrograms/certificate_congressionaloperations.html)

**ABOUT THE COMPANY:**

TheCapitol.Net is a privately held, non-partisan publishing and training company based in Alexandria, VA. For over 30 years, TheCapitol.Net and its predecessor, Congressional Quarterly Executive Conferences, have been training professionals from government, military, business, and NGOs on the dynamics and operations of the legislative and executive branches and how to work with them.

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