

## Michael Tadeo '99

Press Secretary,  
U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources



WASHINGTON D.C.

### It was another typical week in Washington, D.C.

for **Mike Tadeo '99**, press secretary for the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources – five committee meetings, drafting press releases, reaching out to media outlets about committee hearings, booking interviews for Chairman Doc Hastings (R-Wash.) ... Oh, and updating press, constituents, and colleagues on social media.

All in all, a regimen of 11-hour days. Mike has to be as versed on any proposed legislation as do the congressmen themselves and to convey that knowledge substantively so that all constituents have a full understanding of the committee's work.

The committee has jurisdiction over most federal land use and water policies, including national forests, national parks and monuments, wilderness areas, and national scenic areas. It also strives to be a good steward of national resources to achieve both economic growth and energy independence, "so that we don't have to purchase oil from people that hate us," Mike said.

It can be both exhilarating and frustrating inside the Beltway, where partisanship flourishes.

"The Rosemont School of the Holy Child motto is 'Actions Not Words,' and that is huge for me," Mike says. "People in Washington can talk about expanding energy, but I learned that you have to be open-minded and bring something to the table. Unfortunately, that's not always happening.

"I'm a Republican, and I definitely have an opinion to one side," Mike added with a chuckle. "A majority of the people I know from my experience on The Hill are interested in doing right by the American people. I'm a firm believer that you can accomplish more by giving a hand up rather than a handout."

Living the RSHC motto, Mike contended, "is the reason that I am where I am today. I learned from Sr. Mary that you lead by setting a good example and working hard. People will follow if you are a good leader and taught the right leadership skills. Rosemont School was incredibly supportive in fostering an environment

where people really develop leadership skills."

Mike went on to graduate from St. Joseph's Preparatory School and then Fordham University, believing that "the Catholic values instilled in me at Rosemont School made me want to continue a Catholic education."

"Living down here and getting this experience can open a lot of doors, whether in communications or a Fortune 500 company," he said. "I would love to serve in Congress some day, but that would be an incredible feat to take on. Whatever I do, I'm confident that I could be an asset working for the American people." ✦



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