Melissa Decker Director, Washington D.C. Office for Governor Justice State of West Virginia



Melissa Decker leads Governor Jim Justice's Washington, D.C. office where she serves as the main liaison with West Virginia's Congressional delegation and the primary point of contact between federal officials and the State of West Virginia.

Decker has over 30 years of public service experience, serving as the Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary of Memorial Affairs within the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Deputy Cabinet Secretary and Deputy Director of California's Washington D.C.'s office under Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Legislative Analyst for the U.S. House Republican Conference under U.S. Representative John Boehner.

She has worked in a number of legislative positions and other roles in the offices of U.S. Sen. Mark Kirk of Illinois, U.S. Rep. Mike Turner of Ohio, U.S. Rep. Ed Schrock of Virginia, U.S. Rep. James Talent of Missouri, U.S. Rep. J.D. Hayworth of Arizona and U.S. Rep. Ed Whitfield of Kentucky. She has also worked in various capacities within the U.S. National Guard Bureau, California National Guard and the Ohio House of Representatives' Republican Caucus.

Originally from Ashland, Ohio, Decker has a bachelor's degree in politics and public policy from Bethany College and a master's degree in public administration from Syracuse University. She also holds an executive master's degree in international relations and a certificate of advanced study in security studies from Syracuse University.