

## Hanna appoints Ray Meier to act as liaison for federal agencies in Rome

**ROME, N.Y.** – Congressman Richard Hanna this morning announced former state Sen. Raymond A. Meier will be a liaison for several federal agencies in Rome to facilitate continued growth between the public and private sectors.

Hanna made the announcement before a crowd of about 300 people during a Rome Chamber of Commerce breakfast at The Beeches.

Hanna spoke about his commitment to fostering economic growth and strengthening the federal agencies in Rome including: the Air Force Research Laboratory, Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Eastern Air Defense Sector (EADS), the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) outpatient clinic.

“Ray cares deeply about this community and his leadership throughout the 1993 Base Realignment and Closure Commission’s decision to realign Griffiss Air Force Base speaks to why he’s the ideal liaison to work with these federal agencies,” Hanna said. “He helped organize and lead the community’s response during the 1995 and 2005 BRACC rounds, which sought to move significant assets from Rome. I am honored that Ray is willing to work volunteer in this role.”

Meier is an attorney who served in elected positions including Oneida County legislator, Oneida County Executive and New York state Senator.

Meier helped establish and served as first Chairman of Griffiss Local Development Corporation, he worked with other officials to craft and implement redevelopment plan, with a strong emphasis on private sector and academic synergies with Rome Lab.

“Ray brings with him superior institutional knowledge of the federal agencies in Rome and is

deeply commitment to our community and promoting its advancement and growth,” Hanna said. “There are few, if any, more qualified than Ray Meier to work in this capacity.”

Also this morning, Hanna met with representatives from the nonprofit Griffiss Institute in Rome to discuss ways to facilitate economic growth in the area, strengthen educational partnerships and focus on advancing technological development in the Mohawk Valley.

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