

*List includes distinguished leaders from across eastern Georgia; Committee will work with Rep. Barrow to evaluate applications for congressional nominations to the nation's military academies*

**Washington, DC** - As the 2005 application deadline for America's five military service academies approaches, Georgia's 12<sup>th</sup> District Congressman John Barrow today officially unveiled his Military Academy Nomination Advisory Committee.

The committee, consisting of over 20 leaders from across eastern Georgia, will work with Barrow to evaluate and select those service academy applicants from around the region who will receive a congressional nomination.

"Being nominated to one of our nation's service academies is an honor awarded to America's best and brightest," Barrow said. "These are individuals whose desire to serve our country is as strong as their commitment to their own community.

I formed this committee to help make sure that the applicants I have the opportunity to nominate reflect the long standing ideals and strength of character that matter to folks at home in Georgia."

“The members of this advisory committee may come from different backgrounds and different professions, but together they represent the values of eastern Georgia,” Barrow continued. “I’m honored that they’ve volunteered their time to take part in the selection process, and I look forward to working with them over the next few months.”

Every member of Congress is permitted to nominate 10 individuals for each of the nation's service academies, which include the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Military Academy (West Point), and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. The U.S. Coast Guard Academy does not accept Congressional nominations.

Some of the criteria that will guide the committee's selection process include strength of character, a sound commitment to country and community, and demonstrated academic success.

Applications for a congressional nomination are available on Congressman Barrow's website, at: <http://www.barrow.house.gov/academynominations.asp> , or you can call his office at 866-890-6236. Because there must be adequate time to assess each candidate's qualifications, the application deadline is November 1, 2005.

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