

**Contact: Natalya Anfilofyeva  
(202) 719-1341**

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## **JIM THOMAS AND TODD HARRISON JOIN CSBA TEAM**

The Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments is pleased to announce the addition of Jim Thomas and Todd Harrison to its expert team.

**Jim Thomas** joins CSBA as Vice President for Studies, and will direct the organization's strategic studies and defense spending research and programs. Mr. Thomas brings to this leadership position a formidable amount of strategic planning experience in the public and private sector.

"Jim comes to CSBA at a critical point in time for our country, as the new administration grapples with the need to redirect our defense strategy in the face of ongoing conflicts, emerging security challenges and a financial crisis of epic proportions," said CSBA's President Andrew Krepinevich. "His in-depth involvement in the last two Quadrennial Defense Reviews, and his role as the principal author of the 2006 QDR Report to Congress, will enable him to hit the ground running as we grapple with these important issues."

Mr. Thomas most recently led the government service practice as Vice President at Applied Minds, a private company specializing in interdisciplinary technology prototyping. Previously, he served concurrently as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Resources and Plans and as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy in the Pentagon.

Mr. Thomas holds a B.A. in International Relations from the College of William and Mary; an M.A. in Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia; and an M.A. in Strategic Studies and Economics from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. He attained the rank of Lieutenant Commander as a former Reserve Naval Intelligence Officer. In 1997 he was awarded the DOD Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service, and, in 2006, the DOD Medal for Distinguished Public Service, the Department's highest civilian award.

**Todd Harrison** will lead the budget program as Fellow for Defense Budget Studies. He combines a rare synthesis of budgetary, programmatic and engineering experience with a strong background in systems analysis.

"Todd brings a fresh perspective to CSBA's budget assessments, with training as an engineer and experience in defense programs and acquisitions," said Krepinevich. "He is committed to upholding the CSBA's trademark expertise in defense budget studies at a time when thinking smarter about how we allocate scarce defense dollars is absolutely essential if we are to maintain a strong defense posture."

Most recently, Mr. Harrison worked on technology development efforts in the private sector, assessing challenges to modernization initiatives within the military services, expanding upon his earlier work on space systems and technologies.

Mr. Harrison holds a B.S. and an M.S. in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering and from MIT. From 1998 to 2003 he served in the US Air Force Reserve, reaching the rank of Captain in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Aerial Port Squadron.

*The Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments (CSBA) is an independent policy research institute established to promote innovative thinking about defense planning and investment strategies for the 21st century.*