



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE:
October 24, 1994

PRESS RELEASE

William H. Eldridge, a former Union County Freeholder and Mayor of Berkeley Heights Township, has been named Chairman of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) by Governor Christine Todd Whitman.

Eldridge, who has been serving as Vice Chairman of the Commission, is currently a professor of Business Law and Management at Kean College of New Jersey. Affiliated with the Kean College Small Development Center, he has counselled small businesses extensively.

"I am grateful for this opportunity to serve the Commission and the people of New Jersey in this new capacity," said Eldridge. "I have the greatest admiration for my fellow Commissioners and for the staff of the Commission and look forward to my continued association with them."

Eldridge said that "when people serve on this Commission they lose whatever partisanship they may have had and turn a new chapter in their lives. The Commission has always acted in a strictly neutral and nonpartisan way and I plan to continue in that fine tradition."

Eldridge, who holds a J.D. from Cornell Law School and an MBA from Rider College, also expressed praise for his predecessor as Chairman, Owen V. McNany.

"Owen McNany upheld the highest traditions of the Commission during very difficult times," said Eldridge. "I am proud to have served under him and look forward to his support and guidance in the future."

The Commission, at Eldridge's suggestion, elected McNany as its new Vice Chairman.

Eldridge said that the most important task for the Commission in the near future will be the continued implementation of the new Campaign Act passed in 1993 through the adoption of regulations and advisory opinions.

He said also that he is looking forward to conducting a review of the reform law following the Assembly elections of 1995.

"Insuring that the public has faith in its public institutions is a prerequisite of any disclosure law," said Eldridge, "making sure that the law is working in the way that it was planned is a critical responsibility of the Commission."

Eldridge, widely known as "Mr. Ethics" among his governmental colleagues, has published several articles on management, including ones in the Human Services Reporter, the Handbook of Strategic Management, the New Jersey Law Journal, and the Handbook of Public Finance.