



# NEWS RELEASE

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## PRESS ADVISORY

Jerry Fitzgerald English, Chair of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), announced today the appointment of Jeffrey M. Brindle as Executive Director of the Commission.

Brindle will succeed Frederick M. Herrmann, who is retiring after 25 years as Executive Director. Brindle will assume his duties on July 1, 2009.

To replace Herrmann the Commissioners undertook a national search, which involved a two-tier interview process.

The selection committee was chaired by Vice Chair Peter J. Tober and included former ELEC Commissioners Paula A. Franzese, Susan S. Lederman, and Ralph V. Martin. The final selection was made by ELEC Commissioners Albert Burstein and Amos C. Saunders along with Chair English and Vice Chair Tober. Commissioner Burstein assisted also in organizing the search committee.

“As a bi-partisan Commission with significant and multi-faceted responsibilities in terms of New Jersey’s electoral and governmental processes,” said English, “the Commissioners determined to pursue a course that would result in the most qualified person being selected.”

“As a result, the Commissioners agreed that Brindle’s extensive background in New Jersey government, the State’s electoral process, and with the Commission as Deputy Director, makes him the right choice at this time in the agency’s history,” added English.

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ELEC is a statutorily independent State agency charged with the responsibility for enforcing the State's campaign finance laws, regulating lobbyists, and administering the Gubernatorial Public Financing Program. The Commission also enforces the State's Pay-to-Play Law, primarily in the area of disclosure.

As Deputy Director of the Commission, Brindle authored numerous white paper analytical reports, as well as articles published in periodicals, magazines, and newspapers. A number of proposals contained in the reports on campaign financing and lobbying became law.

Moreover, Brindle has been interactive with the Legislature and executive branches, dealing with budgetary, personnel and various public policy issues, and has dealt with the press and public.

Brindle will continue performing these duties as Executive Director as well as oversee day-to-day operations.

English said that "Brindle combines a concern for bringing about necessary reforms with an interest toward encouraging people to become informed voters and involved in the electoral process."

"Nothing is more important to the health of our State than to have an informed electorate and good people participating in the political and governmental processes," said Brindle.

He said that he "looks forward to working with the members of the Commission and staff to build upon ELEC's solid reputation as an agency that shed's light on the process, and, in so doing, encourages a more informed and participatory citizenry."

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