

NEWS FROM...

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



1325 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463

FOR RELEASE MONDAY
MAY 21, 1979

CONTACT: FRED EILAND
SHARON SNYDER
(202) 523-4065

WASHINGTON - Informality will mark the change today of officers of the Federal Election Commission. The annual balloting took place the past ^{Thursday} ~~Friday~~ with Robert O. Tiernan being named chairman and Max L. Friedersdorf vice-chairman.

Tiernan takes over from Joan D. Aikens who served as presiding officer for the one year limit written into the law that created the FEC.

One of the first six Commissioner named by President Ford in 1975, Tiernan last year served as vice-chairman. Friedersdorf is one of the newest members of the Commission, having been sworn into office the past March 1. Tiernan is a Democrat and Friedersdorf is a Republican. Under the law which created the FEC, no one may serve as chairman more than a year during the six year term, and the two top positions are alternated yearly between three Democrat and three Republican Commissioners, who choose their own officers.

The new chairman is a native of Providence, Rhode Island. He served in the House of Representatives from 1967 to 1975 and was a member of the Rhode Island Senate from 1961 to 1967. He is a graduate of Providence College and Catholic University Law School, and is a member of the American and Rhode Island Bar Associations.

Friedersdorf is a native of Indiana. He is a graduate of Franklin College and holds a MA degree from American University. A working journalist from 1952 to 1960, he served as top aide from 1961 to 1970 to former Representative Richard L. Roudebush. Between 1971 and 1977 Friedersdorf served in the Executive Branch, including Deputy Assistant to Presidents Nixon and Ford. From 1977 until his appointment to the FEC, he was Staff Director of the Senate Republican Policy Committee.

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