

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FEC MEMBERS ELECT NEW OFFICERS

WASHINGTON -- Commissioner Lee Ann Elliott of Skokie, Illinois, today was elected Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, succeeding Commissioner Danny L. McDonald of Oklahoma.

Commissioner Thomas E. Harris of Arkansas, was elected Vice-Chairman, succeeding Commissioner Elliott.

By statute, the Commission elects a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from among its members. Terms of office are for a calendar year. A member may serve as Chairman only once during the six-year term to which he or she may be appointed, and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall not be members of the same political party.

Mrs. Elliott, a Republican, has been a member of the FEC since December 17, 1981. Prior to her appointment, she served as Vice President of Bishop, Bryant & Associates, Inc. From 1961 to 1979, she was Associate Executive Director of the American Medical Political Action Committee, the Board of Directors of the American Association of Political Consultants, the Chicago Area Public Affairs Group, and the Public Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. In 1979, she was presented the Award for Excellence in Serving Corporate Public Affairs by the National Association of Manufacturers.

A native of St. Louis, Missouri, Chairman Elliott is a graduate of the University of Illinois, and Northwestern University Medical Association Management Executives Program.

Vice Chairman-elect Harris, a Democrat, is one of the original members of the Commission. He was appointed to the FEC on January 29, 1975, by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate James Eastland upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader of the Senate Mike Mansfield. Following the reconstitution of the Commission in May 1976, Mr. Harris was re-appointed

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to the Commission on May 11, 1976, by President Ford, and served as Chairman and Vice-Chairman during that appointment. On May 1, 1979, Mr. Harris was re-appointed by President Carter, to a six-year term on the Commission. Mr. Harris served as Associate General Counsel of the AFL-CIO from 1955 to 1975. Prior to this, he held the same position with the CIO from 1948 until it merged with the AFL in 1955. He previously worked as an attorney in both private practice and with various government agencies.

A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, Commissioner Harris is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and the Columbia University Law School. Following graduation, he served as a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Harlan Stone.

Chairman Elliott's and Vice-Chairman Harris's terms on the FEC, expire in 1987 and 1985, respectively.

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