

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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THOMSON TO SERVE AS NEW COMMISSIONER

WASHINGTON -- Vernon W. Thomson was sworn in this morning as a Commissioner of the Federal Election Commission. The swearing-in ceremony was held at the Commission, 1325 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., with FEC Chairman John W. McGarry presiding.

Thomson, a Republican from Wisconsin, was named by President Carter for an interim appointment to the Commission, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Republican Max L. Friedersdorf.

A former Member of Congress from Wisconsin, (1961 - 1975), Thomson was one of the original Commissioners of the FEC, serving on the agency board from 1975 - 1979.

Prior to his Congressional career, Commissioner Thomson served as Governor of Wisconsin. He also held a seat in the Wisconsin State Assembly for sixteen years, including three consecutive terms as Speaker of that body. In addition, Mr. Thomson's credentials include service in Wisconsin as Attorney General, Assistant District Attorney of Richland County, City Attorney, and three-term Mayor of Richland Center.

Mr. Thomson is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, and holds a law degree from the Wisconsin University Law School.