

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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500 EXPECTED FOR NORTHEAST
REGIONAL ELECTIONS CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON --

New York Secretary of State Gail S. Shaffer and Comptroller

Edward V. Regan will be Monday banquet and Tuesday luncheon speakers, respectively, at the Northeast Regional Conference on Election Administration and Federal Campaign Financing to be held Monday and Tuesday in Albany.

Some 500 local and state election officials from the 12-state region, federal candidates, political party workers and others involved in the election process are expected to attend the two-day Conference at the Empire State Convention Center. Sponsors are the Federal Election Commission, the State Board of Elections of New York and the New York State Election Commissioners Association. Registration starts Sunday, September 25, at noon, with workshops and seminars to be conducted Monday and Tuesday.

FEC Chairman Danny L. McDonald of Oklahoma and State Board of Elections Chairman R. Wells Stout will welcome the participants during the Monday luncheon. Elections Board Executive Director Thomas W. Wallace will moderate the program which also will feature greetings from Commissioner John Eagan, Albany County Executive James J. Coyne and Albany Mayor Thomas M. Whalen, III.

At the Monday night banquet at the Albany Hilton Hotel, State Elections Board Chairman George D. Salerno will introduce Secretary of State Shaffer.

Comptroller Regan will be introduced at the Tuesday luncheon by Board of Elections Commissioner Donald Rattalata. FEC Vice-Chairman Lee Ann Elliott of Illinois and Elections Board Commissioner Thomas J. Sullivan will extend brief remarks.

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Also present will be three FEC Commissioners who are from states in the Northeast: Joan Aikens of Pennsylvania, John Warren McGarry of Massachusetts and Frank P. Reiche of New Jersey.

In pointing out the importance of the Regional Conferences on Election Administration and Federal Campaign Financing, FEC officials cited the increasing role of Federal election-related legislation and Federal court decisions in election-related cases, new state election laws and requirements, pressures from community groups for more and better election services, increased numbers of political party and political action committees, and more candidates seeking federal office.

These and other related topics will be included in the 36 workshops and roundtable discussions to be conducted by nationally recognized election authorities from throughout the nation, Commissioners and specialists from the FEC.

A series of 19 sessions will cover corporate and labor activities, federal candidates and their committees, political action committees, presidential elections, FEC enforcement, and the use of campaign finance disclosure reports.

Another 17 sessions will be devoted to election law administration, with emphasis on legislative and administrative functions required to run a well-organized, fair and open election.

Included in the Northeast Regional Conference are Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and New York.

This Conference is the second of five being sponsored throughout the country this year by the Federal Election Commission. The first was held earlier this month in the Chicago area. The others will be in Charleston, S.C., Tulsa, Okla., and Los Angeles.