

# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION



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## FEC ADVISORY PANEL SCHEDULED TO MEET MARCH 6-7 IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON -- Problems associated with the administration of Federal elections will be discussed March 6 and 7 at a meeting in Washington of the Advisory Panel to the Federal Election Commission's National Clearinghouse on Election Administration.

Comprised of state and local election officials, the 17-member Advisory Panel defines problem areas and information needs with respect to the administration of Federal elections, and helps identify ways the Federal Election Commission can assist state and local elections officials in administering Federal elections. This year's meeting will be held at the Capitol Hill Quality Inn starting at 9 a.m., Tuesday, March 6.

FEC Chairman Lee Ann Elliott of Illinois said the two-day session will focus on three major areas being studied in FEC research projects: 1) Voting System Standards Project, mandated by Congress, will establish voluntary technical standards for all vote-counting equipment used in Federal elections. The study will include standards for hardware, software and management of such equipment; 2) State campaign finance laws is a summary of all state campaign finance laws and applicable regulations; and 3) use of computers in elections consists of a survey of all computer applications to voter registration and elections now being employed by state and local election officials.

Also the Panel will discuss the FEC's state workshop program, a pilot test by the Commission of remote access to campaign finance data, and proposed Federal legislation affecting election administration.

The March meeting will be the tenth since the Advisory Panel was created in 1975 to advise the FEC on the best ways to utilize its resources to help improve the administration of elections

throughout the nation. The FEC is the only agency specifically charged by Congress with conducting research in the administration of elections.

All of the Advisory Panel's sessions will be open and the public is invited to participate both in the panel meetings and in the discussions that accompany them.

Members of the 17-member Advisory Panel are: Allen J. Beermann, Nebraska Secretary of State; Joseph Max Cleland, Secretary of State, Georgia; John Countryman, former member Illinois Election Board; Pat Crawford, Executive Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Ray Farabee, State Senator, Texas; Jose Garza, Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund, San Antonio, Texas; Jean Marc Hamel, Chief Election Officer of Canada; William Huish, Utah County Clerk, Utah; Charles Kaniss, Supervisor of Elections, Pinellas County, Fla.; Carolyn Kenton, Kentucky House of Representatives; Stanley T. Kuser, Jr., Cook County Clerk, Ill.; Ray Ortiz, Registrar-Recorder, San Diego County, Calif.; Leonard Panish, Registrar-Recorder, Los Angeles County, Calif.; Ray Phelps, Director of Elections, Office of Oregon Secretary of State; Lyall Schwarzkopf, City Clerk, Minneapolis, Minn.; Jeffrey Teitz, State Representative, Rhode Island General Assembly; Thomas Wallace, Director, New York State Board of Elections.

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