

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

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FEC ADVISORY PANEL TO MEET MARCH 6-7

WASHINGTON -- A panel of 17 state and local election officials, including the Secretaries of State of Georgia and Nebraska, will meet in Washington, March 6 and 7, for the 10th meeting of the Advisory Panel to the Federal Election Commission's National Clearinghouse on Election Administration. The Panel advises the FEC on the best ways to utilize its resources to help improve the administration of elections throughout the nation.

All of the Panel's sessions, which will be at the Capitol Hill Quality Inn Hotel, are open to public participation.

FEC Chairman Lee Ann Elliott and Vice Chairman Thomas E. Harris will open the meeting at 9 a.m. Tuesday. That day's sessions will be devoted to a report by Staff Director John Surina on 1984 election activities by the FEC, and to a discussion of the Commission's on-going projects on state campaign finance laws, computer application in elections, a directory of Federal and State election officials and a Congressional-mandated study on voting systems standards.

Also on the Tuesday agenda is a discussion of technical election assistance to foreign governments.

On Wednesday, the Advisory Panel will hear wrap-up reports on the five Regional Conferences on Election Administration and Campaign Finance conducted in 1983 by the FEC; will discuss Commission plans for state workshops; consider proposed Federal legislation relating to assistance to handicapped voters, financial assistance to state and local election officials for voter registration activities, use of Federal mail frank for election materials and voter education.

Final discussion of the session will be on the Federal Election Commission's pilot project testing remote access to Federal campaign finance data which, presently, is available in totality only at the FEC.

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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. Kusper, 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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