

State of New Jersey Commission of Investigation



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FORMER PASSAIC COUNTY JUDGE NAMED NEW SCI COMMISSIONER

TRENTON — Joseph F. Scancarella, a retired New Jersey Superior Court Judge, has been appointed by Governor Chris Christie to serve as a Commissioner of the State Commission of Investigation.

Mr. Scancarella, who retired in 2004 after serving as a Judge in Passaic County for more than 21 years, will be sworn in on November 28. His colleagues on the Commission, an independent watchdog agency that investigates organized crime, government waste and corruption, are Chairman Patrick E. Hobbs and Commissioner Robert J. Martin.

“Mr. Scancarella will be a welcome addition to the Commission,” said Chairman Hobbs. “His extensive knowledge of New Jersey government operations and his

familiarity with complex legal issues will prove to be tremendous assets in his work as a Commissioner.”

Under the SCI’s unique enabling statute, the Governor appoints two Commission members and designates the Chairman. The President of the State Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly each appoint one member.

Mr. Scancarella was first appointed to the Superior Court in Passaic County in 1982. During his tenure on the court, he oversaw cases in the Family Part, Special Civil Part and Criminal Division. During the latter part of his judicial career he sat in the Civil Division and, beginning in 1996, served as its Presiding Judge until his retirement.

A former member of the New Jersey Legislature, Mr. Scancarella was elected to serve in the New Jersey General Assembly as a representative of Passaic County in 1967 and served there until 1972. He served as Passaic City Attorney from 1971 to 1976, as Little Falls Planning Board Attorney from 1975 to 1982 and as Assistant Passaic County Counsel from 1977 to 1982. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Mr. Scancarella was an attorney in private practice in partnership with the late Sidney Reiss, former Criminal Presiding Judge in Passaic County.

He currently handles arbitration and mediation matters for several North Jersey law firms on an as-needed basis.

A graduate of Villanova University, Mr. Scancarella earned his law degree from Fordham Law School. He served in the 403rd Military Intelligence Detachment of the U.S. Army from 1962 to 1963 and was on Army Reserve duty from 1963 to 1968.

Earlier this year, Mr. Scancarella was appointed by Governor Christie to serve as a member of the Victims of Crime Compensation Board, a post he will relinquish in order to devote time to his new assignment.

Mr. Scancarella and his wife Joan have two children and five grandchildren.



The State Commission of Investigation is an independent New Jersey watchdog agency established in 1968 to investigate organized crime and corruption, waste of tax money and other abuses of the public trust. Copies of reports are available at the Commission's offices or via its Web site at www.state.nj.us/sci.