

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

BOARD OF ETHICS
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Ethics Board Announces Selection of Interim Executive Director

PHILADELPHIA - The Philadelphia Board of Ethics has announced the selection of J. Shane Creamer, Jr., Esquire as Interim Executive Director to the Board. Mr. Creamer's selection is the result of an extensive and rigorous search and screening process, during which the Board considered over 100 applicants.

Mr. Creamer has 17 years of diverse advocacy and policy-making experience, most recently as Assistant Secretary of Education and Assistant Managing Director for the City of Philadelphia. He was previously a litigation partner at the law firm of Duane, Morris & Heckscher. A Philadelphia native, Mr. Creamer is a graduate of Gettysburg College and Villanova University School of Law.

"Mr. Creamer's legal background, his experience in City government and devotion to high ethical standards should prove invaluable in his work for the Board," said Charisse R. Lillie, Esquire, Chairperson of the Board of Ethics. "With Shane's support and direction, our Board will be able to fulfill its mission of helping city officials, employees and candidates foster integrity and trust in public service."

Mayor John F. Street reconstituted the Board of Ethics by Executive Order on August 12, 2004. The Executive Order gave the Board clear responsibilities and authorized the Board to hire staff, including an Executive Director, to assist the Board carry out its duties, which include:

- Providing education and training to all city employees on the city's ethics rules and regulations.
- Reviewing for conflicts of interest financial disclosure forms that many city officials and candidates for city offices are required to file. The Board will advise the City Solicitor and the Inspector General of any potential problems detected, for further investigation.

- Reviewing ethics questions concerning the conduct of city officials. The Board will work closely with the Law Department on any issues that arise, and will make advisory opinions to requesting officials or employees.
- Recommend improvements or advances in laws and policies that would strengthen confidence in government and promote public trust.

In addition to Ms. Lillie, who is Vice President for Human Resources at Comcast Corporation, the Ethics Board members include:

- Daniel P. McElhatton, Esquire, managing partner of McElhatton & Associates, P.C., a center city law firm,
- Rev. James Allen, pastor of the Vine Memorial Baptist Church; and
- City Solicitor Romulo L. Diaz, Jr., Esquire.

Ms. Lillie, Mr. McElhatton and Rev. Allen were appointed to the Board in August 2004. Solicitor Diaz recently joined the Board as an *ex-officio* member. There is one vacancy on the Board.

“I am honored to have this opportunity to work with the Board as it continues its mission to strengthen public confidence in city government,” Mr. Creamer said.

It is anticipated that he will assume his new duties later in May.

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