

January 15, 2025 Immediate Release Contact: Kathy Riley, SCI 609-292-6767

SCI ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF NEW COMMISSIONER, CHAIR

TRENTON – The State Commission of Investigation announced today that Joseph E. Kelley, a New Jersey attorney with more than four decades of legal experience, has been appointed to serve as Commissioner, and Commissioner John P. Lacey has been named Chair at the New Jersey State Commission of Investigation.

Both appointments were made by Governor Phil Murphy who under the SCI's enabling statute has the authority to appoint two Commissioners and designate the Chair. The President of the State Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly each appoints one member.

A former Administrative Law Judge, Mr. Kelley spent his legal career working primarily as a trial attorney in private practice. For the past 16 years, Mr. Kelley worked as a senior trial lawyer for Zirulnik, Sherlock & DeMille in the law firm's Roseland office before his retirement in 2024. He is currently handling alternate dispute resolution in private practice. A graduate of Emerson College, Mr. Kelley received his law degree from Seton Hall University. Mr. Kelley is taking over the unexpired term of former Chair Tiffany Williams Brewer who resigned from the Commission.

Mr. Lacey has served on the Commission since his January 2022 appointment by Gov. Murphy. He is Chair of the White Collar Criminal Defense practice at Connell Foley LLP. The Governor also appointed Mr. Lacey to a four-year term on the Commission. He had previously been serving an unexpired term.

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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 public reports are available at the Commission's offices or via its Web site at <u>www.nj.gov/sci</u>.