



Office of the Mayor
Richard M. Daley
Mayor

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MAYOR DALEY APPOINTS JOSEPH FERGUSON AS CITY'S NEW INSPECTOR GENERAL

Has Spent Past 15 Years in the U.S. Attorney's Office in Chicago

Mayor Richard M. Daley today named Joseph M. Ferguson as the new Inspector General for the City and said there is only one standard for every employee and every business that has a contract with the city -- abide by the law.

Since 1994, Ferguson, 49, has served in the Office of the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois.

"The government you want is the government I want -- one that works for you and every person in our city -- one that is open, transparent, accountable and free of wrongdoing," Daley said.

"Joseph Ferguson is a solid manager who brings with him an impressive background in law enforcement," he said.

During his time in the U.S. Attorney's office, Ferguson has served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in both the Civil and Criminal Divisions.

He has also served as Deputy Chief of the Money Laundering and Forfeiture Section, Deputy Chief of Financial Crimes and Special Prosecutions and, most recently, as Chief of the Money Laundering and Forfeiture Section.

"I understand that people across the nation today are frustrated and even angry about the misconduct they see at every level of government and business. Many of them don't believe that their elected officials or business leaders put the needs of the people first," Daley said.

"To the people of Chicago I want to say that I understand your frustration. It matters to me personally that you have confidence in the actions and decisions my Administration makes," he said.

The Mayor said the City has taken many steps over the years to reform government and help prevent wrongdoing. Those steps have helped prevent misconduct before it happens and uncover it.

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He pointed to the creation of the City's Office of Compliance, the broadening of the authority of the Office of the Inspector General itself and the creation of the Independent Police Review Authority to investigate police misconduct as examples of such steps.

"It's unfortunate, but even with all the reforms we've implemented, history shows that there will always be a few -- whether in government or business -- who will engage in wrongdoing for their own benefit," Daley said.

"Today I want to again make it loud and clear to any city employee or business with city contracts who wants to game the system or abuse their responsibility to the taxpayers that, one way or another, their misdeeds will be uncovered," he said.

Daley thanked David Hoffman, who recently resigned, for the work he did serving as Inspector General since September, 2005.

Ferguson's appointment must be approved by the City Council.

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