

**Executive Briefing Series**  
**Supporting High Performance Government:**  
**Leading Large Scale Change**  
**Biographies**  
**September 22, 2004**

**Thomas R. Frieden MD, MPH**

Commissioner, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Thomas R. Frieden was appointed by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg in January 2002. Foremost among his priorities is the strengthening of systems to accurately monitor each community's health status. With information from these systems, the Department will work with communities to improve health status.

A world-renowned expert in tuberculosis control, Dr. Frieden became Commissioner after working in India for five years assisting the government there in its efforts to control tuberculosis. As the Medical Officer for the World Health Organization on loan from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), he helped India develop one of the world's most effective tuberculosis control programs.

Prior to his tenure in India, Dr. Frieden was instrumental in stopping the tuberculosis epidemic in New York City. He began his career at the New York City Department of Health in 1990 as a CDC Epidemiologic Intelligence Service (EIS) Officer working on a wide range of health issues. His success in documenting the spread of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis led to his appointment as Director of the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control and Assistant Commissioner. A graduate of Oberlin College, Dr. Frieden received degrees in Medicine and Public Health from Columbia University. He completed specialty training in Internal Medicine at Columbia and subspecialty training in Infectious Diseases at Yale University.

**Joel I. Klein**

Chancellor

Joel I. Klein is the first Chancellor of the Department of Education. Previously, Chancellor Klein was the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Bertelsmann, Inc., and Chief U.S. Liaison Officer to Bertelsmann AG. Bertelsmann, Inc. As Chairman and CEO in the United States, Klein has had responsibility for a wide range of management and strategic matters from the day-to-day management of corporate finances to the integration of corporate functions to increase efficiency.

In 1997, Klein was appointed the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division. While at the helm of the 700-lawyer division with a \$100 million annual budget, Klein brought landmark cases against Microsoft, WorldCom/Sprint, Visa/MasterCard, American Airlines, and General Electric, prevailing in a large majority of them. By fiercely enforcing the nation's antitrust laws to protect the rights of consumers and the integrity of America's commercial markets, he is widely credited with transforming the division into one of the Clinton Administration's greatest successes.

Klein possesses considerable experience in the field of education. During a leave of absence from law school in 1969, he studied at New York University's School of Education and then taught math to sixth-graders at a public school in Queens. Klein has also served as a visiting and an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Law Center, where he taught Civil Procedure, Federal Jurisdiction, and a seminar on complex constitutional litigation. He received his BA from Columbia University and he received his JD from Harvard Law School.

**Katherine N. Lapp**

Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Katherine N. Lapp was appointed Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority in January 2002. She is responsible for the operations, finances and long-term business strategies of North America's largest regional transportation network consisting of New York City Transit, Metro-North Railroad, Long Island Rail Road, Long Island Bus, MTA Bridges and Tunnels and the MTA Capital Construction Company.

Previously, Ms. Lapp had been New York State's Director of Criminal Justice and Commissioner of the Division of Criminal Justice Services serving as the Governor's chief advisor and policy maker for all areas of criminal justice, and overseeing the State's criminal justice agencies.

Prior to that position, Ms. Lapp was the Chief of Staff and Special Counsel to New York City's Deputy Mayor for Public Safety from 1990 through 1993. She served as Law Secretary to the Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department from 1986 to 1990, following tenure as a law assistant from 1983 through 1985. She holds a B.A. in History from Fairfield University and received her Juris Doctorate degree from Hofstra University School of Law in 1981.

**Gino P. Menchini**

Commissioner, Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications

Mr. Menchini was appointed on December 28, 2001 by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg as Commissioner of the New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications. Mr. Menchini began his civic career in 1980 at the Board of Education as a Special Assistant to the Chancellor developing an enterprise data model and installing the first office automation systems at the Board of Education.

Before assuming his current position with the Bloomberg Administration, Mr. Menchini worked in the private sector as a Major Account Manager for Cisco

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Systems, Inc. for several public sector accounts. In this role, Mr. Menchini assisted the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management with the implementation of data and voice communication at its Emergency Operations Center and Family Assistance Center following the September 11th tragedy. Mr. Menchini currently serves on the Board of the Brooklyn Public Library. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Pace University and attended the Pace University Graduate School of Business.

**Diana Fortuna**

President, Citizens Budget Commission

Since 1998, Diana Fortuna has been the President of the Citizens Budget Commission, a nonpartisan, nonprofit civic organization devoted to influencing constructive change in the finances and services of New York State and New York City governments. Ms. Fortuna has extensive experience in budget and policy analysis at all levels of government.

Ms. Fortuna served on the White House Domestic Policy Council staff and as Assistant to the Administrator of the U.S. Health Care Financing Administration in Washington, D.C. At New York State's Office of Federal Affairs, she analyzed federal issues for the State. Before that, she was a Deputy Director for the City of New York's Office of Management and Budget.