

Ralph H. Demmler, Chairman, of the Securities and Exchange Commission, today announced the appointment of Mr. Francis J. Purcell as Regional Administrator of its New York Regional Office, effective December 14, 1953.

Mr. Purcell, a resident of White Plains, New York, has been a partner in the law firm of Murphy and Purcell of New York City. He is a graduate of Manhattan College and the Fordham University School of Law, and has done post-graduate work at the New York University School of Law. During World War II he served in the United States Army and was the recipient of the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster and two battle stars. In the practice of law, he specialized in corporation law and finance.

Mr. Purcell is succeeding Mr. Peter T. Byrne, who has been reassigned as Regional Administrator of the Commission's Washington Regional Office. Mr. E. Russel Kelly, Washington Regional Administrator, has been reassigned to the Office of the General Counsel of the Commission where he will act as Special Trial Counsel.

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