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## **Connecticut Commission on Aging Elects Officers' Slate**

HARTFORD—The Connecticut Commission on Aging has elected its slate of officers to one-year terms ending in September 2008.

The commission, based at the State Capitol, is the independent state agency that serves as an advocate for Connecticut's present and future generations of older adults on issues that affect their well-being.

Elected at the commission's September meeting were Christine M. Lewis, MSW, of South Windsor, chair; Waldo C. Klein, Ph.D., MSW, of Storrs, vice-chair; Donald Dimenstein, of New Haven, secretary; William L. Eddy, of Simsbury, treasurer; and Mary Ellen Klinck, of East Haddam, member-at-large. Each of the officers also serves on the commission's executive committee.

The commission was established by the legislature in 1993 to give older adults a stronger voice within state government on issues including health care, long-term care, nutrition, housing, employment, transportation, legal assistance and economic security. The commission's 17 voting members are appointed by the governor or members of the General Assembly and its 16 ex officio members include state legislators and commissioners from several state departments.

Lewis, the former director of the State Unit on Aging at the Connecticut Department of Social Services, was appointed to the commission in 2003 by State Senate Majority Leader Martin M. Looney (D-New Haven.)

Dr. Klein, a professor at the University of Connecticut School of Social Work, was appointed to the commission by State Senate Pro Tempore Donald E. Williams (D-Brooklyn) in 2005.

Dimenstein, a former member of New Haven's Board of Aldermen and retired director of Elderly Services, was appointed to a second term in 2005 by Looney.

Eddy, a retired financial services industry senior executive, was appointed to the commission in 2005 by Gov. M. Jodi Rell.

Klinck, a business executive, served as the state's Commissioner on Aging from 1983 to 1991 and was appointed by state House of Representatives Majority Leader Christopher G. Donovan (D-Meriden) in 2005.

“Each of these dedicated commission members brings a wealth of experience and knowledge and a tremendous amount of dedication and enthusiasm to their advocacy work on behalf of Connecticut’s older adults,” said Commission on Aging Executive Director Julia Evans Starr. “We are truly fortunate to have such a talented leadership team helping to shape public policy that directly affects hundreds of thousands of people in Connecticut.”