



Matteo L. Lumetta

New clerk named by surrogate

BY ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

The appointment of Matteo L. Lumetta of Eltingville as chief clerk of the Surrogate's Court was announced yesterday by Surrogate Charles J. D'Arrigo.

Lumetta succeeds Theresa Drouin Fearon, who retired Feb. 20 following a quarter of a century of public service, including eight years as the court's chief clerk.

Lumetta, 53, resigned as the Democratic commissioner of the Island office of the Board of Elections to accept his new position. He had been with the board for nine years.

As chief clerk, Lumetta will be responsible for supervising the court's clerical staff and monitoring the court's operations. He also will serve as the court's liaison with other agencies.

The appointment was made by the Office of Court Administration (OCA) after a special four-person panel had interviewed about 35 candidates for the vacancy. The panel voted unanimously to select Lumetta. "He came out head and shoulders above every other candidate," said D'Arrigo.

The position of chief clerk carries an annual salary of \$36,041.

Lumetta said he was "elated" by the appointment.

He brings to his new job a widely diversified background. In addition to his service with the Board of Elections, he had served for 16 years as the manager of the Columbian Lanes, a bowling center which the Columbian Lyceum owns and operates at its facility in West Brighton. He also has been a general contractor and had worked as a foreman for the Standard Toch Chemical Co. in Elm Park.

Lumetta has been the recipient of several awards for his efforts on behalf of retarded children and for other forms of service. He was honored last year by the Bowling Proprietors' Association of New York as its Man of the Year.

Lumetta is a member of numerous civic, educational, religious, service, youth, political, veterans and bowling organizations. His affiliations include the presidency of the Board of Visitors of the Staten Island Developmental Center, Willowbrook.

He is a member of the advisory board of the Staten Island Aid for Retarded Children and a member of the land use committee of the Stapleton Community Local Development Corporation. He was among the first organizers of the Special Olympics on Staten Island. He also is a member of the executive board of the Richmond County Democratic Organization.

Lumetta served for more than four years in the U.S. Army. He was discharged as a master sergeant.

The new chief clerk and his wife have four children.