NEWS from FEPC

Fair Employment Practice Commission

State of California

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS • DIVISION OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

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WILLIAM HASTIE JR. APPOINTED TO NEW FEPC POSITION

The California Fair Employment Practice Commission has announced (June 21) the appointment of William Henry Hastie Jr. as its executive and administrative review officer. Selection of Hastie, a co-founder of Public Advocates, Inc., for this new position is one phase of the Commission's general move toward strengthening its effectiveness and outreach, according to Chairperson John A. Martin Jr.

During his recent affiliation with Public Advocates, the West's first public interest law firm, Hastie specialized in civil rights litigation, primarily focusing on employment and housing discrimination, as well as directing research. He also served as special counsel to the western region NAACP, and in 1969-71 was assistant to Litigation Director Robert L. Gnaizda of California Rural Legal Assistance. He was co-counsel in the 1971 massive statewide complaint filed with FEPC challenging discriminatory practices in the utility and transportation industries.

The Commission's new appointee is a graduate of Philadelphia schools, received his bachelor's degree in 1968 from Amherst College in Massachusetts, and completed his law studies at University of California's Boalt Hall in 1971. Hastie also holds a certificate from the International Institute of Human Rights, University of Strasbourg, France.

He is active in local and state bar associations, a past board member of the National Conference of Black Lawyers, and a member of the Charles Houston Law Club. Other activities include service on the boards of the Project on Corporate Responsibility, Law Students Civil Right Research Council and San Francisco Lawyers' Committee on Urban Affairs.

Hastie makes his home in Mill Valley with his wife, Cassandra Flipper, an attorney for Levi Strauss. He is the son of the late Judge William Hastie, civil rights leader, former governor of the Virgin Islands, and the first black appointed to a federal appeals court.

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