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National

Health Chief Resigns, Meets with Clinton

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. (AP) - Dr. Joyceofficial shortly before flying to Washington with President Clinton, who has nominated her to become the nation's surgeon general.

Jim Guy Tucker on Sunday, then joined Clinton at the Hot Springs airport for the flight to Washington.

A hearing on her nomination as surgeon general was to have begun Friday at Washington. But the hearing was delayed a week after revelations that she was still on the state payroll though she was being paid as a full-time consultant to federal Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala.

Questions were also raised last week about the non-payment of Social Security taxes for a woman who took care of Elders' mother-in-law, and about her role as a director for an Arkansas bank.

Elders' husband, Oliver, took responsibility for not paying the Social Security taxes on money paid to a woman who took care of his 97year-old mother. Elders and other former members of the bank board had been sued by the bank, but the suit was settled recently, though terms of the settlement weren't disclosed.

Tucker spokeswoman Max Parker said lyn Elders quit her job as Arkansas' top health Elders submitted her resignation during a 40minute meeting Sunday morning with Tucker at the Governor's Mansion.

"The governor was surprised by the resig-Elders submitted her resignation to Gov. nation," Parker said. Named as acting director of the state agency, Parker said, was Dr. Tom Butler, who had been second-in-command to Elders.

> The meeting with Tucker was arranged by Elders on Saturday, Tucker's spokeswoman said. Elders said in her letter of resignation that she had been dividing her time between the state agency and DHS since April.

> "I have taken annual leave from Arkansas for the days I had to be Washington and I have always been able to give the (Arkansas Health Department) my fullest attention when required. As a consultant, I have had no direct line authority over any issues or programs that would impact the state of Arkansas," she said.

> "As work towards my confirmation process intensifies, I must now devote all my efforts and energy to my new federal role," she said.

> Her job at the state agency was "the most exciting and fulfilling job I have ever had," she said.

"She has been a committed, caring and ener- to flood-ravaged areas of the Midwest.

getic champion for the children of our state. We will miss her but will be very proud to have her as our surgeon general," he said in a news release.

"As surgeon general, she will have the opportunity to confront at the national level the many challenges to public health that she had battled here in Arkansas, such as AIDS, low birth-weight babies, teen pregnancies, clean drinking water, and our national failure to assure that all our children are immunized," he said.

On Wednesday, Tucker had expressed dismay upon learning that Elders was drawing federal pay. "I didn't know about this, didn't approve of this and wouldn't have approved of this," he said. On Friday, he blamed the controversy on White House staff members who should have realized it wouldn't be appropriate for her to accept a federal consulting fee.

"I think Dr. Elders should be confirmed, I think she will be an excellent surgeon general, and I hope the handling by the White House staff does not screw up her nomination." Tucker said Friday.

Clinton was driven from Little Rock to Hot Springs on Saturday to visit his mother and stepfather, Virginia and Richard Kelley. Clinton arrived in Arkansas on Saturday after a third visit



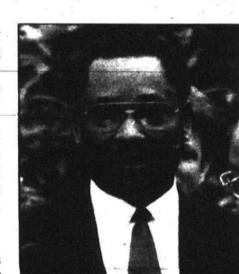
President Clinton and Dr. Joycelyn Elders walk across the tarmac Sunday afternoon, landing at Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

Mayor Dinkins Cleared in '91 Crown Heights Disturbance

NEW YORK (AP) - A City Hall staffer fleeing a rock-throwing mob in Crown Heights saw something equally disturbing: The police were running, too.

"All hell is breaking loose," Robert Brennan recalled urgently telling his boss, Deputy Mayor Bill Lynch, on the second night of the disturbances in the Brooklyn neighborhood nearly two years ago.

Brennan's warning and others like it were cited in a state report



Lee Brown

Raymond Kelly, for inaction. With under way to improve responses to Dinkins, Kelly accepted the report's any future civil disturbances. findings. They said steps were

news conference. "With that buck never happen again."

mayor's desk," Dinkins said at a August 1991 in Crown Heights will



that blamed the city for its slow response to the unrest. The report

released Tuesday tells how the death of a black child in a traffic accident and the subsequent killing of a Jewish man erupted into racial violence lasting nearly four days.

For Mayor

David Dinkins, who is making his re-election bid, the report was mixed. It cleared him of an oft-

repeated accusation that he held police back during the first days of the disturbances - some Jews have accused Dinkins, the city's first black mayor, of favoring the needs of blacks over those of their community.

But the report also showed Dinkins was quick to accept his top aides' assurances that Crown

Mayor David Dinkins was cleared in investigation.

Heights was under control, even as television reports flashed images of street violence.

The report portrayed then-Police Commissioner Lee Brown, now federal drug czar, as a leader somehow unwilling or unable to lead.

The report also criticized Brown's successor, Commissioner

Man Accused of Sexually Assaulting a Horse

SPARTA, Wisc. (AP) - For the second time in five years, Sterling Rachwal has pleaded innocent by reason of mental disease or defect to charges of sexually assaulting horses.

Rachwal was on parole when Monroe County sheriff's deputies arrested him in May and accused him of assaulting a horse grazing in a Leon area pasture. He was previously accused of assaulting two horses near Tomah in April. was charged as a habitual criminal with felony cruel mistreatment of animals and four misdemeanor counts of using horses for sexual gratifica-

tion.

Rachwal's attorney, Margarita Van Nuland, said during Friday's hearing she would arrange for an examination by a La Crosse psychiatrist.

Assistant District Attorney Denise McGrath said her office also would request a psychiatric evaluation.

Rachwal entered the so-called insanity plea to similar charges in 1988 in Outagamie County. He served four years in prison for those offenses.



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