
News Release



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FRANCIS J. BUCKLEY, JR., NAMED SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

Public Printer Michael F. DiMario has announced his intention to appoint Mr. Francis J. Buckley, Jr., as Superintendent of Documents, with responsibility for the public distribution of millions of Government publications in both print and electronic formats. Buckley comes to his position from the Shaker Heights Public Library in Shaker Heights, Ohio, where he served as Director since 1994. From 1968 to 1994, he was with the Detroit Public Library.

In naming Buckley as Superintendent of Documents, DiMario said, "Fran will bring to this position strong management skills and a lifelong commitment to ensuring public access to Federal Government information. As Superintendent of Documents, he will be completely dedicated to providing comprehensive and equitable public access to Government information, which has become so important in the daily lives of all Americans."

Buckley earned his bachelor's degree and his master's degree in library science from the University of Michigan. He is a member of the Beta Phi Mu International Library Science Honor Society. After service in the Army, including duty in Vietnam, he joined the staff of the Detroit Public Library, where he rose from reference librarian and documents specialist to associate director for public services.

Buckley has been an active member of the American Library Association (ALA) since 1974, serving several terms on the ALA Council and chairing a number of important ALA committees. These include the Government Documents Round Table, the Ad Hoc committee to Form a Coalition on Government Information, and the Lippincott Award Jury. He has served on the ALA's Legislation Committee and chaired its Subcommittee on Government Information. He has served on the ALA's Coordinating Committee on Access to Information and the Special Committee on Freedom and Equality of Access to Information. Buckley has also been active in the Special Libraries Association, the Michigan Library Association, the Government Documents Round Table of Michigan, the Michigan Library Consortium, the Southeast Michigan League of Libraries, and the Ohio Library Council. He is on the board of trustees of the Cleveland Area Metropolitan Library System, and served on the board of trustees of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC).

For the past 20 years, Buckley has written and spoken extensively on the importance of public access to Government information. In the late 1970's, he was a member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on the Revision of Title 44, U.S.C., the law which controls the dissemination of Federal publications. He was a member and chair of the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer, which provides advice on GPO's Federal Depository Library Program. He currently chairs the Inter-Association Working Group on Government Information Policy, representing the ALA and other national library Associations, which was formed to recommend and review proposed changes to Federal laws on information dissemination that are currently under consideration.

Buckley also has an active record of civic involvement. He served on the Literacy Advisory Committee of the Detroit Head Start Program, and was on the board of directors of the Detroit Literacy Coalition. He also served on the Research Committee of the United Community Services of Metropolitan Detroit, in addition to local community development and historic preservation organizations.

As a unit of the GPO, the Superintendent of Documents oversees a budget of more than \$100 million and a workforce of approximately 700. This organization operates a large mail order program as well as 24 bookstores nationwide for public sales of Government publications, including the popular Consumer Information Center in Pueblo, CO. The Superintendent of Documents distributes millions of copies of Government documents to approximately 1,400 Federal depository libraries nationwide, where they are available for public use free of charge. The organization also maintains the award-winning GPO Access service on the Internet, at www.access.gpo.gov, which the public uses to retrieve an average of 5 million publications monthly.