

JOHN T. MITCHELL (1999-2006)

At the time of his appointment to the PERB Board, John T. Mitchell, known as “Terry” to his friends, was a partner in the Albany law firm of Tobin & Dempf. At the firm, which dates back to the 1880s, Mr. Mitchell’s areas of concentration were litigation and labor law matters. Some of John’s clients at the firm were the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany, Siena College, the NYS Catholic Conference and the Delmar Fire District. For a time, Mr. Mitchell served as Counsel to the Town of Bethlehem Planning Board.

Mr. Mitchell enjoyed a distinguished legal career during which he received the highest ratings for legal skill and professionalism from his peers (Martindale-Hubbell AV rating), an accomplishment achieved by only about 1% of all attorneys. He served a term as President of the Albany County Bar Association, as a member of the House of Delegates of the New York State Bar Association and as a founding member of the Albany County Bar Foundation. In addition, John served on various committees of the state and county bar associations. Mr. Mitchell also served on the Board of the YMCA of the Capital District and served one term as the Board’s President.

Mr. Mitchell is a graduate of Canisius College (where he was a member of the Canisius National Jesuit Honor Society) and Albany Law School; he also attended University College in Dublin, Ireland. Before college, Mr. Mitchell served his country as a member of the U.S. Army Artillery Corp from 1961 – 64.

Mr. Mitchell’s appointment to the Board, brought the Board back to a full complement of three members. As a member of the PERB Board, Mr. Mitchell was known for his calm demeanor, extreme civility and professionalism, and his keen knowledge of civil and administrative procedure. He was always careful to meet with staff prior to Board meetings to discuss important cases and could be counted on to interrogate them at Board meetings on all proposed decisions.

After leaving PERB, Mr. Mitchell continued his public service by serving as a member of the NYS Commission on Public Integrity.

Michael, R. Cuevas, Chairperson 1998-2006,
NYS Public Employment Relations Board