NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

NEWSDAY, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2001

Kelly to Be Top Cop

Former NYPD commissioner to return to job

By Leonard Levitt
STAFF WRITER

Ray Kelly, whose calm, bull-like presence on national television following the bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993 reassured a shocked and frightened nation, will become the city's next police commissioner, Newsday has learned.

A source close to Mayor-elect Michael Bloomberg says Kelly has accepted the job.

Ed Skyler, a spokesman for Bloomberg, refused yesterday to confirm Newsday's report.

Kelly, who headed the Police Department under Mayor David Dinkins from October 1992 until January 1994, would become the first city police commissioner in history to serve two separate terms.

Kelly did not return a phone message left yesterday at his office at Bear Stearns, the Wall Street firm where he is senior managing director of global security.

Kelly endorsed Bloomberg for mayor last month. At that time, Bloomberg said he and Kelly would "double-team" Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik to try to persuade him to remain as commissioner because of what Bloomberg said was "continuity."

See KELLY on A67

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