

Office of the Governor

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NEWS RELEASE

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Whitman Statement on Essex County Prosecutor

The following is a statement from NJ Gov. Christie Whitman regarding her decision to direct Attorney General John Farmer to supersede the authority of the Essex County Prosecutor:

"Last night I directed Attorney General Farmer to take this action out of my concern for restoring the professional integrity and public confidence in the criminal justice system in Essex County. The Essex County Prosecutor's Office is the largest and most active prosecutor's office in the State and I believe that this action was warranted and appropriate," Gov. Whitman said.

"Attorney General Farmer has raised serious and significant concerns about the management and conduct of the office. With that knowledge in hand, I believe that any course of action less than superseding the authority of the Essex County Prosecutor would be irresponsible," she said.

