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MTA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ANNOUNCES HIS RESIGNATION

MTA Chief Executive Officer Joseph E. Drew today announced his resignation.

"I made this very personal decision in the best interests of my family," said Drew. "In recent weeks I have become a focal point for controversy, and I do not want the focus on me to detract from the positive work being performed by MTA day after day as it carries out its vital mission."

The MTA Board of Directors and Drew will meet in closed session Thursday,
Dec. 5, at noon to discuss his tendered resignation and the transition of leadership.

"It is with deep regret that I received word of Mr. Drew's decision," said MTA Board Chairman Larry Zarian. "In his short tenure as CEO, Mr. Drew has served the Authority and the people of Los Angeles County well."

"The Board needs to settle several leadership issues including the morale of the agency, transition to new leadership and the response of the public to this turn of events," Zarian said. "I respect Joe Drew's decision. We must go on and continue to deliver the best rail and bus service to our paying public. That's our goal."

"As Chairman, I intend to work with all members of the Board as we move forward and press for continued support in Washington, D.C. and in Sacramento for our very critical transportation programs," he added.

Drew was appointed as MTA's Deputy Chief Executive Officer in May, 1995. In December of last year the Board appointed Drew Interim CEO and offered him the permanent position in March.

Drew said his resignation would be effective Friday, Dec. 6, but he has said he would be willing to stay on during a transition period if the Board so desires.

MTA-260