

Notti named as director of legislative affairs

Emil Notti, the soft-spoken early leader of the Alaska Federation of Natives, was named last week to be Director of Legislative Affairs for Gov. Bill Sheffield.

The 49-year-old Notti, an Doyon shareholder, will serve as the chief liaison to the Alaska Legislature after the Legislature convenes on Dec. 1.

Notti has been a member of Sheffield's cabinet since the governor's inauguration. He is a member of a group of prominent businessmen recently named by the governor on top jobs of the state's new administration.

Notti was born in Reno, Nev. He has a long history of involvement in state government, private business, politics and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement movement.

According to Willie Hensley, another of the movers of the ANCSA passage, Notti was especially effective because of his calm, quiet yet determined demeanor.

Notti helped organize the AFN in 1966 and was the group's second president. Floie Lekanoff, an Aleut shareholder, was first president but Notti took over shortly thereafter.

He was deputy commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services from 1970-72 and was president of the Alaska Native Foundation from 1972-76. He is now chairman of the Foundation.

Notti also formed the Notti and Associates consulting and lobbying firm in Anchorage.

He has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Northrup University in Inglewood, Calif.