

Press Aide Frustrated, Quits FBI

Post 8/27/73
Associated Press

FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley's top press aide has resigned, saying: "I never got the opportunity to be open."

William D. Ellingsworth, 35, who came to Washington with Kelley after serving as his press aide when Kelley was police chief in Kansas City, Mo., said Monday night that he just didn't fit into the FBI mold.

"I wasn't ready for the FBI and the FBI wasn't ready for me," he said in a telephone interview. "I was nonproductive at the FBI. I just never was able to have the opportunity to develop the rapport I was used to. I couldn't be as forthcoming as I wanted to be."

Ellingsworth, a former reporter for the Kansas City Star, said the final factor in his decision to leave the FBI was assigned to develop a course in police-media relations for the FBI's national academy at Quantico, Va.

"I had no desire to be a teacher and expressed the feeling to no avail," he said.

Asked if he felt he had been forced out of the FBI job, Ellingsworth replied: "Not directly — it wasn't as if anybody held a gun to my head."

Ellingsworth said he began work Monday as director of media relations for the Fairfax County, Va., police department.

His resignation was submitted to Kelley two weeks ago, effective last Friday, he said.

"They wanted a public relations program," he told the Boston Globe in an interview. "I wanted a public information program."

Ellingsworth said there were "natural barriers" in the FBI by which he felt constricted and indicated his access to Kelley had been cut off.

He said he did not know of any plans to replace him at the FBI.