

Appointment Expected Within Week

Santarelli to Head LEAA

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Donald E. Santarelli, author of the 1970 D.C. Crime Act and an associate deputy attorney general will be named administrator of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, Justice Department sources said yesterday.

The White House is expected to announce President Nixon's appointment of Santarelli to the key Justice Department post within the next week.

Under the terms of legislation sent to Congress by the administration this week, the two "associate administrators" of LEAA would be eliminated and Santarelli, 35, would be-

come the embattled agency's sole director if confirmed by the Senate.

He will replace Jerris Leonard, who recently resigned to enter private law practice in Washington.

Although LEAA has been under sustained attack from congressional committee and private organizations, the administration has repeatedly expressed its confidence in the agency as an important part of its war on crime.

At a time of substantial cut-backs in other federal spend-

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DONALD E. SANTARELLI
wrote D.C. Crime Act

Santarelli Selected For LEAA Top Job

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ing programs, the administration's proposed budget for fiscal year 1974, to begin July 1, would increase LEAA's spending authority by \$35.8 million to over \$891 million.

Control over how most of that money is spent would be passed to the states, however, under the President's proposed 1973 "law enforcement and special revenue-sharing act."

This proposal comes in the midst of debate over whether LEAA has already relinquished too much control over its funds, permitting the states to emphasize the purchase of riot-control equipment and other "hardware" instead of reforming courts and correction facilities.

A native of Hershey, Pa., and a graduate of the University of Virginia, Santarelli has been in an influential position at the Justice Department since Mr. Nixon first took office in January, 1969.

Under three different people who have held the job

of deputy attorney general during the past four years—including the current Attorney General, Richard G. Kleindienst—he has coordinated the administration's major anti-crime proposals and criminal justice policy.

His most sensitive task came in the first two years of his job—drafting and guiding through Congress a major revision of this city's court system and the tools available to the Metropolitan Police Department.

As finally passed by the House and Senate and signed into law by the President, the legislation included authority for "no-knock" raids on suspected criminals and "preventive detention" of those believed to be a particular menace to the community.

It also provided for a gradual transfer of jurisdiction over most local criminal and civil cases from the federal court system here to a strengthened D.C. Superior Court and D.C. Court of Appeals.