

Elated Mandel joins Arundel firm

By Tom Linthicum

Former Governor Marvin Mandel, four days out of a federal prison in Florida, went to work yesterday as fiscal adviser to a building and development firm in Anne Arundel county.

"It's a wonderful feeling. I can't describe to you how it feels to be back and to be active again," Mr. Mandel said in a telephone interview from the offices of Charles J. Cirelli & Son, Inc., in Severna Park.

Mr. Mandel declined to say how much he will be paid in his new job, except that it is "somewhat more" than the \$12 a month he made as a federal prisoner, "which wasn't enough to buy my pipe tobacco."

He also said he hopes the job will be permanent and not just something to tide him over until December 20, when his presidential commutation takes effect and ends his brief period of residence in a federal halfway house in Baltimore.

The former governor moved into the

work-release center last Friday after President Reagan commuted the remaining five months of Mr. Mandel's three-year federal prison term for mail fraud and racketeering.

Mr. Mandel, who declined an offer to work for the city budget department, said he met Charles Cirelli about three years ago when the Mandels moved into the same suburban development near Annapolis where Mr. Cirelli lives.

"He talked to my wife some time ago and said he would like to talk to me about a job when I was released," Mr. Mandel said. "We discussed it over the weekend and we met again yesterday [Monday] to finalize things."

In his new job, the former governor said, he will be involved in long-range financial planning, evaluating business proposals submitted to the company and monitoring the expenses of projects already under way.

"I think it will work out for both of us," Mr. Mandel said. "I hope I can be involved

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MARVIN MANDEL
... back at work, "a wonderful feeling"

Mandel starts a new job with Arundel building firm

MANDEL, from D1

in steering a clear path for the company from the fiscal point of view so they don't have problems with projects they are interested in."

The Cirelli business is actually several corporations and joint ventures, Mr. Mandel said, which are involved in commercial and industrial real estate, as well as construction. The business employs from 75 to 140 people, he said, depending on how many projects are under way.

Although the firm does some government work, Mr. Mandel said most of those contracts are with county governments, and not the state.

"That's all bid work anyway," Mr. Mandel said. "But I won't be involved in that. That's a technical thing."

Mr. Mandel's new job also means he can spend less time in the Baltimore federal work-release center operated by the Volunteers of America. Before he was employed, he could leave at 6 a.m. and had to return at 3 p.m., but with a fulltime job, Mr. Mandel can leave at 6 a.m. and not return until 10 p.m.

"That makes it very nice because now he can work a full day at the office and go home for dinner and relaxation with his family before he has to go back to Baltimore," said Bruce C. Bereano, a lawyer who helped Mr. Mandel win the presiden-

tial commutation.

Mr. Bereano also said that the former governor continues to enjoy his newfound freedom.

"This morning he met someone for breakfast at the new Hyatt Hotel," Mr. Bereano said. "After breakfast, he said he just walked around some in downtown Baltimore and went over to Harborplace.

"It was all new to him and he said it was exhilarating—not just what he saw but how people reacted to him. He said people came up to him and greeted him very warmly. He was flabbergasted by it all," Mr. Bereano said.