

STATE OF NEW JERSEY PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

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December 18, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Robert E. Anderson

General Counsel

SUBJECT: Supplemental Report on Developments in the Counsel's Office Since

November 17, 2003

Commission Cases

_____The Association has appealed the Commission's decision in North Hudson Regional Fire and Rescue and North Hudson Firefighters Ass'n, P.E.R.C. No. 2004-17, 29 NJPER ____ (¶___ 2003). The Commission's decision affirmed an interest arbitration award setting the terms and conditions of employment for the initial contract covering the Regional's firefighters. The Regional replaced five fire departments with separate negotiations units.

The Appellate Division has denied a motion to dismiss the Board's appeal in <u>Irvington Bd. of Ed. and Irvington Ed. Ass'n</u>, P.E.R.C. No. 2003-83, 29 <u>NJPER</u> 218 (¶65 2003), app. pend., App. Div. Dkt. No. A-005244-02T3, for failure to file a brief on time. The Court set a preemptory date for the brief to be filed.

Other Cases

In <u>In Re Juvenile Detention Officer Union Cty.</u>, 2003 <u>N.J.Super.</u> LEXIS ____ (App. Div. 2003), the Appellate Division affirmed a Merit System Board decision granting eight bona fide occupational qualification designations for male-only juvenile detention officer positions. The Court held that having males only in the eight positions was necessary to protect the privacy rights of juvenile male detainees. The juvenile detention officers were required to maintain constant visual contact with the detainees, even when they were showering, changing clothes, or using the toilet, and to perform intimate searches of all detainees daily. The MSB found that no reasonable accommodations could be made to eliminate the need for the exemptions.