

STATE OF NEW JERSEY PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

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November 23, 2004

<u>MEMORANDUM</u>

TO: Commissioners

- FROM: Robert E. Anderson General Counsel
- SUBJECT: Supplemental Report on Developments in the Counsel's Office Since October 28, 2004

Commission Cases

The Appellate Division has scheduled oral argument for December 15 in <u>Waldwick Bd.</u> of Ed. and Waldwick Ed. Ass'n, P.E.R.C. No. 2004-61, 30 <u>NJPER</u> 104 (¶41 2004), app. pending, App. Div. Dkt. No. A-004477-03T5. The Commission held that a successor contract proposal presented by the Association was not mandatorily negotiable. That proposal would have required the Board to grant extended paid sick leave to all employees who are absent due to a catastrophic illness and who have exhausted their annual and accumulated leave.

The employer has filed an appeal in <u>Warren Hills Reg. Bd. of Ed. and Warren Hills Reg.</u> <u>H.S. Ed. Ass'n</u>, P.E.R.C. No. 2005-26, 30 <u>NJPER</u> 298 (¶105 2004). The Commission held that the Board violated <u>N.J.S.A</u>. 34:13A-5.4a(5) when it subcontracted the work of its bus drivers to avoid negotiations with their newly elected majority representative.

Other Cases

In <u>Bumbaca v. Edison Tp</u>., App. Div. Dkt. No. A-6279-02T3 (11/19/04), an Appellate Division panel held that New Jersey's Law Against Discrimination does not prohibit discrimination in employment conditions based on nepotism. The Court thus upheld summary judgment against a volunteer firefighter who claimed that a practice of hiring relatives kept him from being hired as a paid firefighter.

REA:aat