

JON S. CORZINE GOVERNOR

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL

ROLANDO TORRES, JR. COMMISSIONER

**Merit System Board** 

# MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE MERIT SYSTEM BOARD MAY 24, 2006

Rolando Torres, Jr., Chairman Flavella Branham John Currie Margaret E.L. Howard Robert Long

# MAY 24, 2006

A regular meeting of the Merit System Board was held on Wednesday May 24, 2006, in Trenton, New Jersey.

PRESENT: Chairman Rolando Torres, Jr., Merit System Board Members, John Currie, Flavella Branham, Margaret E. L. Howard and Robert J. Long; Pamela Ullman, Deputy Attorney General; and Henry Maurer, Director, Division of Merit System Practices and Labor Relations.

In accordance with L.1975, c.231, Chairman Rolando Torres Jr., opened the meeting with the following statement:

Notice of this meeting was filed with the Secretary of State and sent to the Trentonian, Trenton Times, Courier-Post and Star Ledger on December 12, 2005, and posted at the Department of Personnel, 3 Station Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey. All actions were by unanimous vote unless otherwise specified.

## WITHDRAWAL OF APPEALS

The following appeals were withdrawn and removed from the hearing calendar:

**Jeffrey Crawford,** Electrician, Essex County, Department of Public Works, removal.

**Shirley Crawford,** Human Services Assistant, New Lisbon Developmental Center, Department of Human Services, suspension.

**James Fogle,** Cottage Training Technician, Hunterdon Developmental Center, Department of Human Services, indefinite suspension.

**James Hudson,** Plumbing Subcode Official, Construction Department, Borough of Sayreville, removal.

**Clairetha Jackson,** Principal Clerk Typist, Department of Inspections, City of Trenton, two suspensions.

**Lloyd Martin,** Youth Worker, Department of Human Services, County of Mercer, suspension and removal.

Lena Hornes Matthews, Food Service Worker, County of Cumberland, removal.

**Gregory Moody,** Child Care Quality Assurance Inspector 2, Division of Youth and Family Services, Department of Human Services, release at the end of the working test period.

**Joseph Nasatka,** Truck Driver, Single Axle, Department of Transportation, list bypass.

**Charles Nelson,** Associate Supervisor 3, New Jersey City University, release at the end of the working test period.

**Christopher Pesci,** Fire Fighter, Department of Public Safety, Township of Nutley, reconsideration.

**Matthew Reyes,** Juvenile Detention Officer, Department of Youth Services, County of Passaic, suspension.

**Carolyn Rothlisberger,** Probation Officer, Department of the Judiciary, Ocean Vicinage, two suspensions.

**Sally Scherer,** Principal Clerk Typist, Department of Public Works, Township of Woodbridge, resignation not in good standing and removal.

**Edward Wengerter,** Fire Fighter, North Hudson Regional Fire/Rescue, Department of Public Safety, removal.

# **DISMISSAL OF APPEALS – FAILURE TO APPEAR**

The Merit System Board dismissed the following cases without prejudice for failure to appear at the scheduled hearing before the Office of Administrative Law:

**Karen Nelson,** Family Service Worker, Department of Citizen Services, County of Essex, release at the end of working test period.

Larry Pyner, Cottage Training Technician, New Lisbon Developmental Center, Department of Human Services, removal.

Charles Slade, Laborer, Department of Public Works, City of Paterson, removal.

**April Swift,** Public Safety Telecommunicator Trainee, Township of Lakewood, release at the end of working test period.

#### SECTION A – HEARING MATTERS

#### A-1 SETTLEMENTS

In the Matter of Marjorie Acheampong The College of New Jersey Resignation not in good standing

In the Matter of John Bokelman Borough of Belmar Department of Public Works Removal

In the Matter of Laquan Bush Adult Diagnostic Treatment Center Department of Corrections Suspension and Release at the end of the working test period In the Matter of Joseph Caiati Borough of Lodi Police Department List Bypass, Suspension and Demotion

In the Matter of Evern W. Dock William Paterson University of New Jersey Suspension

In the Matter of Virginia Rynone Veteran's Memorial Home, Menlo Park Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs Suspension

In the Matter of Michael Scarlata County of Union Department of Public Safety Suspension

In the Matter of Nadine White Department of Environmental Protection Release at the end of the working test period

# RECOMMENDATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE IN THE ABOVE CASES – SETTLEMENT

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board acknowledged the settlements.

# A-2 LARRY L. MARTIN

Larry L. Martin, Police Officer, City of Jersey City, Police Department, 60-day suspension on charges of violating rules and regulations regarding untruthfulness and failure to safeguard a firearm.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge – Modify the 60-day suspension to a 45-day suspension.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board modified the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge and upheld the 60-day suspension.

# A-3 GUSTAVO SANCHEZ

Gustavo Sanchez, County Correction Officer, County of Middlesex, Department of Corrections, 60-day suspension on charges of professional conduct and responsibilities, insubordination and withholding information or giving false information.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge – Modify the 60-day suspension to a 10-day suspension.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board modified the 60-day suspension to a 30-day suspension.

#### A-4 CLAUDINE A. SCOZZARI

Claudine A. Scozzari, Civil Engineer Trainee, Department of Transportation, release at the end of the working test period effective September 30, 2004.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge - Uphold the release at the end of the working test period.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board affirmed the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge.

## A-5 CHESTER SOLOWIEJ

Chester Solowiej, Police Officer, City of Newark, Police Department, ten-day suspension on charges of insubordination, neglect of duty and other sufficient cause.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge – Modify the ten-day suspension to a seven-day suspension.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board modified the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge and upheld the ten-day suspension.

## A-6 ELVIS L. GOODEN, SR.

Elvis L. Gooden, Sr., Supervisor of Accounts, Township of Monroe, Finance, removal effective March 3, 2005, on charges of incompetency, inefficiency or failure to perform duties, insubordination, inability to perform duties, neglect of duty and other sufficient cause.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge - Grant Summary Decision and dismiss the appeal.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board affirmed the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge.

## A-7 JOHN W. KELLY

John W. Kelly, County Correction Officer, County of Gloucester, Sheriff's Department, removal effective May 1, 2005, on the charge of conduct unbecoming a public employee.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge - Uphold the removal.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board affirmed the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge.

## A-8 REGAN LORE

Regan Lore, Senior Correction Officer, South Woods State Prison, Department of Corrections, removal on charges of other sufficient cause and use, possession or sale of any controlled dangerous substance.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge - Reverse the removal.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board affirmed the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge.

#### A-9 NATHANIEL NIXON

Nathaniel Nixon, Custodial Worker, Newark School District, removal effective July 8, 2002, on charges of chronic or excessive absenteeism or lateness and other sufficient cause.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge – Uphold the removal.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board affirmed the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge.

# A-10 EDWARD C. STANSFIELD, JR.

Edward C. Stansfield, Jr., County Correction Officer, County of Monmouth, Department of Corrections and Youth Services, removal effective March 22, 2005, on charges of violation of Department policy, rules and regulations.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge – Uphold the removal.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board affirmed the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge.

#### A-11 ERIC WHISNANT

Eric Whisnant, Human Services Assistant, Trenton Psychiatric Hospital, Department of Human Services, removal effective December 11, 2003, on charges of neglect of duty and falsification.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge – Uphold the removal.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board affirmed the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge.

## A-12 TIMOTHY MITCHELL

Timothy Mitchell, Correction Sergeant, South Woods State Prison, Department of Corrections, removal effective August 6, 2004, on charges of conduct unbecoming a public employee, neglect of duty, physical or mental abuse of inmates, patients, clients, residents, or employees, negligence in performing duties resulting in injury to persons or damage to property, intentional abuse or misuse of authority or position and other sufficient cause. This matter was held over from the April 26, 2006 Merit System Board meeting.

Recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge - Reverse the removal.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board reversed the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge and upheld the removal.

#### SECTION B - MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

## **B-1** MICHAEL BANNAN

Michael Bannan appeals the removal of his name from the (S9999D) eligible list for the title of Correction Officer Recruit, Department of Corrections on the basis of psychological unfitness.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

## **B-2 JOSEPH CAREY**

Joseph Carey appeals the rejection as a Fire Fighter candidate by the Village of Ridgewood and its request to remove his name from the eligible list for Fire Fighter (M2051A) on the basis of psychological unfitness to perform effectively the duties of the position.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be granted.

#### B-3 MICHAEL IADAROLA

Michael Iadarola appeals the removal of his name from the (S9999F) eligible list for the title of Correction Officer Recruit, Juvenile Justice Commission on the basis of psychological unfitness.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### B-4 CHRISTOPHER LEE

Christopher Lee appeals the removal of his name from the (S9999D) eligible list for the title of County Correction Officer, County of Bergen on the basis of psychological unfitness.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### B-5 FERNANDO LUGO

Fernando Lugo appeals the removal of his name from the (S9999F) eligible list for the title of Police Officer, City of Paterson on the basis of psychological unfitness.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

# **B-6 SHAKIRAH MCGHEE**

Shakirah McGhee appeals the removal of her name from the (S9999D) eligible list for the title of County Correction Officer, County of Essex on the basis of psychological unfitness.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### B-7 FRANK RUBINO

Frank Rubino, represented by Ciro A. Spina, III, Esq., appeals the removal of his name from the (S9999D) eligible list for the title of Police Officer, City of East Orange on the basis of psychological unfitness.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

# B-8 JEFFREY M. TERRY

Jeffrey M. Terry, represented by Peter J. Cresci, Esq., appeals his rejection as a Police Officer candidate by Morristown and its request to remove his name from the eligible list for Police Officer (S9999D) on the basis of psychological unfitness to perform effectively the duties of the position.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### **B-9** MARIAM S. TIZOL

Mariam S. Tizol appeals the removal of her name from the (S9999D) eligible list for the title of Police Officer, Bilingual in Spanish and English, City of Orange on the basis of psychological unfitness.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### B-10 JOSEPH M. VANNELLA

Joseph M. Vannella appeals the removal of his name from the (S9999D) eligible list for the title of Sheriff's Officer, County of Ocean on the basis of psychological unfitness.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

## **B-11 JOHN E. VENCE**

John E. Vence, represented by Glenn C. Slavin, Esq., appeals his rejection as a Fire Fighter candidate by the City of Elizabeth and its request to remove his name from the eligible list for Fire Fighter (M2273E) on the basis of psychological unfitness to perform effectively the duties of the position.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board referred this matter for an independent psychological examination.

## **B-12 DONALD E. JACKSON**

Donald E. Jackson, a Senior Probation Officer with the Judiciary, Camden Vicinage, represented by Mark Cimino, Esq., appeals the denial of sick leave injury (SLI) benefits.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### **B-13 IVY JORDAN**

Ivy Jordan, a Human Services Technician at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital, Department of Human Services, appeals the denial of sick leave injury (SLI) benefits.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### **B-14 DESIREE MACHO**

Desiree Macho, an Assistant Food Service Supervisor 1 with South Woods State Prison, Department of Corrections, represented by Michele Long Vickers, Staff Representative, CWA Local 1040, appeals the denial of sick leave injury (SLI) benefits.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### **B-15 BRIAN MCGOWAN**

Brian McGowan, a Senior Correction Officer at New Jersey State Prison, Department of Corrections, represented by Robert C. Wolf, Esq., appeals the denial of sick leave injury (SLI) benefits.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be granted.

#### **B-16 HELEN SANCHEZ**

Helen Sanchez, a Communications Operator, Secured Facilities with Mountainview Youth Correctional Facility, Department of Corrections, appeals the denial of sick leave injury (SLI) benefits.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be granted.

## **B-17 LINDA SCYTHES**

Linda Scythes, a Senior Correction Officer with South Woods State Prison, Department of Corrections, represented by Robert C. Wolf, Esq., appeals the denial of sick leave injury (SLI) benefits.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### B-18 DEBORAH STOUT-MURPHY

Deborah Stout-Murphy, a Family Service Specialist 1 with the Department of Human Services, appeals the denial of sick leave injury (SLI) benefits.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### **B-19 STACY ZBIKOWSKI**

Stacy Zbikowski, a Senior Correction Officer, Juvenile Justice with the Juvenile Justice Commission, appeals the denial of sick leave injury (SLI) benefits regarding two separate incidents.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### B-20 DEODAT SUKNANAN

Deodat Suknanan appeals the request of Jersey City to remove his name from the Security Guard (M0190D), Jersey City eligible list based on a claimed inability to communicate effectively in English in order to perform the duties of the position.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board granted a hearing at the Office of Administrative Law.

#### **B-21 ANGELA VENICE**

Angela Venice appeals the decision of Human Resource Information Services which removed her name from the Sheriff's Officer (S9999D), Hudson County eligible list, due to her failure to complete the pre-employment process.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be granted.

## **B-22 HENRY VANCE DAVIS**

Ramapo College of New Jersey, represented by Melissa E. Hager, Deputy Attorney General, petitions the Merit System Board for reconsideration of the decision rendered on September 21, 2005 which referred the matter of Henry Vance Davis to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing in order to determine if he violated the New Jersey State Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment, or Hostile Environments in the Workplace (State Policy).

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board denied the request.

## B-23 TRACY MEDWIN AND PHILIP DIGAVERO

Tracy Medwin and Philip DiGavero, represented by Benjamin Benson, Esq., request reconsideration of the final administrative determination in *In the Matter of Richard Ferraro*, et al., Sheriff's Officer Sergeant (MSB, decided September 7, 2005).

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board denied the request.

## **B-24 SONYA JACKSON**

Sonya Jackson petitions the Merit System Board for reconsideration of its decision rendered on March 22, 2006 in which her request for admittance to the examination for Supervising Program Support Specialist (Assistance Programs) (PS6211K), Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, was denied.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board denied the request.

## **B-25 WINIFRED ALLEN**

Winifred Allen, a Technical Assistant 3 with Ancora Psychiatric Hospital, Department of Human Services, petitions the Merit System Board for enforcement of the settlement agreement acknowledged by the Board at its meeting on October 22, 2003.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this request for enforcement be granted in part.

#### **B-26 ANTHONY CONSIGLIO**

The appeal of Anthony Consiglio, an Institutional Trade Instructor 2 (Cooking) with the Adult Diagnostic and Treatment Center, Department of Corrections, of his 10-day suspension on charges, was considered by Administrative Law Judge Leslie Z. Celentano, who rendered her initial decision on January 9, 2006, recommending acknowledgment of the settlement of the parties.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board remanded the matter to the Office of Administrative Law.

#### **B-27 FRED FISCHBACH**

The appeal of Fred Fischbach, a Recycling Operator with the County of Ocean, of his demotion on charges, was considered by Administrative Law Judge Stephanie M. Wauters, who rendered her initial decision on March 3, 2006, recommending acknowledgement of the settlement of the parties.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board remanded the matter to the Office of Administrative Law.

#### **B-28 PAUL KLEIBER**

Paul Kleiber, a Police Officer with the Borough of Ringwood, represented by Todd J. Gelfand, Esq., petitions the Merit System Board for interim relief of his indefinite suspension, commencing on October 31, 2005, pending the disposition of criminal charges.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board denied the request.

VOTE: Rolando Torres, Jr. (Yes)

Flavella Branham (Yes)

John Currie (Abstained)

Margaret E.L. Howard (Yes) Robert J. Long (Yes)

#### **B-29 ROBERT SUGRUE**

Robert Sugrue, a former Construction and Maintenance Technician 3 with the Department of Transportation, represented by Ilene J. McFarland, Esq., requests that the Merit System Board reinstate his appeal of a resignation not in good standing, which was dismissed based on his failure to appear at a scheduled settlement conference.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board granted the request.

# **B-30 DARYL GORDON**

Passaic County requests a retroactive permanent appointment date for Daryl Gordon, a Sheriff's Officer.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board granted the request.

VOTE: Rolando Torres, Jr. (Yes)

Flavella Branham (Yes)

John Currie (Abstained)

Margaret E.L. Howard (Yes) Robert J. Long (Yes)

## B-31 JILL A. BABASHAK

Jill A. Babashak appeals the determination of the Division of Selection Services which found that she did not meet the experience requirements for the promotional examination for Contract Administrator 1 (PS6538K), Division of Developmental Disabilities, Department of Human Services.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### B-32 ALKESH M. DESAI

Alkesh M. Desai appeals the determination of the Division of Selection Services which found that he did not meet the experience requirements for the promotional examination for Project Engineer, Maintenance (PS8052T), Operations, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### B-33 SYLVIA ELLIS

Sylvia Ellis appeals the determination of the Division of Selection Services which found that, as per the substitution clause for education, she did not meet the experience requirements for the promotional examinations for Driver Improvement Analyst 3 (PS5626T), Motor Vehicle Commission and Driver Improvement Analyst 2 (PS5625T), Motor Vehicle Commission. This matter was held over at the January 25, 2006 Merit System Board meeting for further review.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied but

the matter of Ms. Ellis' classification be referred to the Division

of Human Resource Management.

#### **B-34 NATALIE SENDLER**

Natalie Sendler appeals the determination of the Division of Selection Services which found that she was below the minimum requirements in experience for the promotional examination for Assistant Director of Public Health Nursing Service (PC0864G), Cape May County.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be granted.

#### B-35 GARY BUCHHEISTER AND DIANE STOLLER

Gary Buchheister and Diane Stoller appeal the determinations of the Division of Selection Services that they were below the minimum requirements in education and experience for the open competitive examination for Recreation Program Administrator (Senior Citizens) (M6139G), Township of Teaneck.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that these appeals be denied.

## B-36 NATASHA C. COLLINS AND LYNETTE L. WARE

Natasha C. Collins and Lynette L. Ware appeal the determinations of the Division of Selection Services which found that they did not meet the requirements for the open competitive examination for Senior Legal Stenographer (M0972G), City of Newark.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that these appeals be denied.

#### **B-37 CRYSTAL BURKE**

Crystal Burke appeals her non-admittance to the promotional examination for Unemployment Insurance Clerk (PS36667N), Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be granted.

#### B-38 TIMOTHY MULHOLLAND, ET AL.

Timothy Mulholland, Daniel Turner, and Louis Williams appeal their non-admittance to the promotional examination for Compactor Truck Driver (PC1189F), Monmouth County.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that these appeals be granted.

#### B-39 ALICE BALDWIN, ET AL.

Alice Baldwin, Jenice Bogado, Elmalean Bowser, Hannah Boyce, Louise Kolaski, Ottavia Lupinacci, and Dolores Shemelia appeal the validity of the promotional examination for Records Technician 2, Motor Vehicles (PS5627T), Motor Vehicle Commission.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that these appeals be denied.

## **B-40 NICHOLAS LUCIVERO**

Nicholas Lucivero appeals the validity of the promotional examination for Safety Specialist 1, DMV (PS5608T), Motor Vehicle Commission.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

# **B-41 CHRISTINE SMITH**

Christine Smith appeals the administration and validity of the promotional examinations for Customer Service Information Specialist 1 (PS5623T), Records Technician 2, Motor Vehicles (PS5627T), and Records Technician 3, Motor Vehicles (PS5628T), Motor Vehicle Commission.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

## **B-42 MARLENE TAFFLER**

Marlene Taffler appeals the administration and validity of the promotional examination for Records Technician 3 (PS5607T), Motor Vehicle Commission.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

# B-43 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS: N.J.A.C. 4A:1-1.3 AND 4A:2-2.4 (SUSPENSIONS ON THE RECORD)

It is recommended that a Notice of Proposal regarding amendments to N.J.A.C. 4A:1-1.3 and 4A:2-2.4 (Suspensions on the Record) be approved for publication in the <u>New Jersey Register</u> and on the Department's web site for public notice and comment.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board approved the proposed amendment for publication.

#### **B-44 MERIT SYSTEM BOARD MINUTES**

The Merit System Board minutes of its meeting of May 10, 2006 are submitted for adoption.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board adopted the minutes of its meeting of May 10, 2006.

#### **B-45 JEAN GENDEK**

Jean Gendek, a Secretarial Assistant 3 with the Office of Children's Services, Department of Human Services, appeals the denial of sick leave injury (SLI) benefits.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

# B-46 COUNTY CORRECTION SERGEANT (PC2668G), PASSAIC COUNTY

The Passaic County Sheriff's Department Police Benevolent Association Local 197, represented by Merick H. Limsky, Esq., petitions the Merit System Board for interim relief so as not to permit several County Correction Officers to compete in the promotional examination for County Correction Sergeant (PC2668G), Passaic County.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this matter be held over.

#### **B-47 MATTHEW J. FOX**

Matthew J. Fox, a Fire Fighter with the City of Atlantic City, represented by Louis M. Barbone, Esq., petitions the Merit System Board for interim relief of his indefinite suspension, commencing on March 7, 2006, pending the disposition of criminal charges.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this request be denied.

#### **B-48 RICHARD GRILLO**

The appeal of Richard Grillo, a County Correction Officer with the County of Cape May, of his removal effective March 25, 2004, on charges, was heard by Administrative Law Judge Bruce M. Gorman, who rendered his initial decision on March 7, 2006. At its meeting on May 10, 2006, the Merit System Board adopted the ALJ's recommendation to uphold the removal. The proposed final decision is now submitted for the Board's review.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board adopted the final decision.

#### **B-49 HARRY LUCAS**

The appeal of Harry Lucas, a Budget Officer with Gloucester County, of his removal effective July 31, 2002, on charges, was heard by Administrative Law Judge Stephanie M. Wauters, who rendered her initial decision on December 20, 2005. At its meeting on May 10, 2006, the Merit System Board did not adopt the ALJ's recommendation to reverse the removal. Rather, the Board upheld the removal. The proposed final decision is now submitted for the Board's review.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board adopted the final decision.

#### **B-50 EDITH NOEL**

The appeal of Edith Noel, an Institutional Attendant at Runnells Hospital, County of Union, of her removal effective June 11, 2004, on charges, was heard by Administrative Law Judge Irene Jones, who rendered her initial decision on March 24, 2006. At its meeting on May 10, 2006, the Merit System Board adopted the ALJ's recommendation to uphold the removal. The proposed final decision is now submitted for the Board's review.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board adopted the final decision.

#### **B-51 PAUL MORAN**

Paul Moran appeals the determination of the Division of Selection Services that he did not meet the experience requirement for the open competitive examination for Public Participation Specialist (C1175G), County of Mercer.

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board directed that this appeal be denied.

#### **B-52 EARLY SETTLEMENT**

Dorita Gray Burlington County Board of Social Services Release at the end of the working test period

**ACTION:** The Merit System Board acknowledged the settlement.

There being no further business before the Merit System Board, the meeting was adjourned to convene on Wednesday, June 7, 2006 at 10:00 a.m., at 3 Station Plaza, Trenton, New Jersey.

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