



Binghamton PEF Division 399
OTDA – DDD

Glendale Technology Park–Bldg 16 · Endicott, NY 13761-9009
Leader – Kathy D’Arminio 607-741-4170
Assistant Leader – Richard Fletcher 607-741-4207

September 7, 2005

Thomas W. Libous, New York State Senator

1607 State Office Building
44 Hawley Street
Binghamton, NY 13901

Dear Senator Libous:

I am writing to you as the Council Leader for PEF Division 399. I represent 265 of your constituents for OTDA/DDD at the Glendale facility. We have been at this facility since it's inception in 1996.

The OTDA/DDD occupies the second and third floor at the facility and has over 300 employees. As you know there are no eating facilities in the Glendale Park that an employee can sit and enjoy his/her break or lunch time. Within our allotted space there is one break room that has **not** been inspected as an appropriate lunch space and **does not** have the capacity to accommodate our 300 plus employees.

Since this office's inception, we were able to have a table in each of our units, which accommodated 8-9 people per unit. These tables were in the center of each of the units and were used for meetings, breaks and lunch. Ms. Gloria Toal, who was recently appointed as Acting Deputy Commissioner in the wake of Commissioner Avenius's retirement, has ordered that each table be removed. Attempts to negotiate with Ms. Toal have been unsuccessful and leave our members without an area to enjoy their breaks and lunch. Ms. Toal's reasoning is Health and Safety issues, it is unprofessional, and she wants all of the processing centers in the state to be uniform.

PESH recently visited our office and our units were in compliance. Senator Libous, you can be **proud** that you were an advocate to bring this growing agency to Glendale. This office has shown the **utmost professionalism** and has performed an **outstanding service** for the disabled population of NYS. Our members **deserve to be treated** with that same professionalism. Glendale Technology Park is not in a location like Manhattan or downtown Albany where eateries are plentiful or a part of the facility.

I am asking for your assistance in this matter for all our members and your constituents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kathy J. D'Arminio
Council Leader PEF Division 399
607-741-4170 - W
607-648-2830 – H

cc Mr. Roger Benson – President of PEF
Ms. Mary Twitchell – Region 5 Coordinator
Ms. Donna Lupardo
Mr. Clifford Crouch