



New York State
**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
FEDERATION AFL-CIO**

1168-70 Troy-Schenectady Road
P.O. Box 12414 Albany, NY
12212-2414

(518)785-1900
(800) 342-4306
Fax (518) 785-1814

Officers:

Roger E. Benson
President
Jane Hailum **Secretary-**
Treasurer

Vice Presidents:

Patricia Baker Kenneth D.
Brynien Joe Fox

Regional Coordinators:

Joyce Degenhardt **Region**
1

James Carr
Region 2

Frank Besser
Region 3

Donald Kehoskie
Region 4

Mary Twitchell
Region 5

Michael DelPiano
Region 6

William Crotty
Region 7

Louis G. Matrazzo
Region 8

Neila Cardus
Region 9

Jennifer Faucher
Region 10

Jemma Marie-Hanson
Region 11

Doris Dodson
Region 12

Trustees:

Artea J. igoe Robert
H. Reynolds
Olubiyi Sehindemi

February 14, 2006

Mr. Robert Doar, Commissioner
NYS Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance
40 North Pearl Street
Albany, New York 12243-0001

Dear Commissioner Doar,

Last week I attended a meeting with Mr. Paul Rickard, Ms. Lee Ryan, Ms. Donna Faresta and Mr. Randy Harris. The reason for this meeting was to establish better communications between PEF and the agency. I felt that this meeting was very fruitful and hoped that we had come to an agreement on the Labor Management (LM) meetings for DDD.

However, I received a call advising me that the management of DDD has refused to allow travel and overnight lodging for members attending the DDD Labor Management scheduled for February 22, 2006. It is my understanding that there is a current labor management agreement that stipulates that the Agency will allow necessary travel time and also overnight lodging for members to attend the pre-meeting and the actual Labor Management Meeting. It has been the past practice that labor travels the day before for their pre-meeting and meet in the morning hours with a post meeting following and time allowed to travel home at a reasonable hour.

The agency informed the members that they will have to travel in the morning on the day of the meeting to participate in the pre-meeting and then have the full LM meeting in the afternoon, after which they would travel, back home. Needless to say, that this imposes a genuine hardship on those that must travel a long distance to come to Albany. While the agency advises that they would make an exception for the person from Buffalo, this is an unreasonable burden to bear and thus Ms. Hart said she will not be attending the LM meeting.

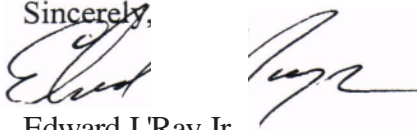
At the above mentioned meeting, I believed that we decided that we would discuss changing the current Labor Management Agreement at the meeting as an agenda item, not that we would just agree to a full change for this meeting.

The Labor Management process is an important function of both Labor and Management; this is evidenced by the fact that there is an Article 24 in the PEF/State contract. We wish to make this process work but, if mutual agreements are changed without the consent of both parties this process is not working according to the contract. While the contract does not allow the filing of a grievance to enforce the MOU, we can and will if necessary move this up the LM ladder until we reach a satisfactory solution.

I am hoping that you may use your discretion to exert your authority, as the agency head, to bring this to a satisfactory conclusion that both parties can live with.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edward J. Ray Jr.', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Edward J. Ray Jr.
PEF Field Representative

Enc;
CO

- L. Ryan
Statewide LM
P. Rickard
A. Igoe - Council Leader
K. Darminio
File