



ALASKA CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

"Walking Alaska's Toughest Beat"

September 22, 2009

Fellow Correctional Officers,

The Superior Court's Hearing on ACOA's petition for injunctive relief has been set for 2:00, Monday, September 28, 2009 in room 404 of the Nesbett Courthouse (825 W. 4th Avenue, Anchorage). Judge Ashman has allocated one hour for the Hearing.

At issue is our claim that the Department of Administration incorrectly declared that the monetary aspects of our contract must be renegotiated. The Administration claims that, since the Legislature did not vote on funding before they adjourned last April, they cannot vote on funding the contract after reconvening in January.

A lot of you have asked what you can do. If you are off and can attend the Hearing, please feel welcome to come and show your support. There will be reporters present. I believe Correctional Officers were appropriately reserved at last March's Legislative Hearing. However, the media's reporting of our having been cautioned after we responded audibly to one Legislator's positive comments, and to the Commissioner's negative comments, was not particularly helpful. We need to be the model of respectability in Judge Ashman's courtroom.

The arguments are technical ones involving laws, statutes, and applications of legislative rules. The Superior Court issue is not about the Administration's interference with the funding of the contract; that issue is set to be heard before the Alaska Labor Relations Agency (ALRA), December 1-3, 2009. We think that on the 28th the Administration might argue that the entire contract issue should be sent to ALRA for a decision. ALRA's workload is so extensive that if the case is sent there, we may not get heard until next year, which could be the State's goal. Another argument we expect to hear is a claim that the Legislature fully intended to reject the contract by not voting on it last year. We believe law and statute are on our side. If you would like, meet at the ACOA Office at 1:00 and you can walk over with us.

Come hear all the arguments on the 28th.

Look forward to seeing you there.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Daniel J. Colangelo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Danny

P.O. Box 210290 • Anchorage, Alaska 99521
Phone: 1 (907) 646-2262 • Fax: 1 (907) 646-2286
Website: www.acoa.us