

Jeffrey Smith  
*President*  
Edward Sullivan  
*Executive Vice President*  
Michael Mesi  
*Vice President*  
Lou Hall  
*Treasurer*  
Todd Faubert  
*Secretary*  
Peter Cessario  
*Sergeant-at-Arms*



Jeffrey Smith  
*President*  
P.O. Box 273  
Richwood, NJ 08074  
[www.NJSOA.org](http://www.NJSOA.org)  
Work (856) 459-8000  
Cell/Voice Mail (609) 805-6337  
FAX (856) 582-2449  
Office E-Mail [fop183@comcast.net](mailto:fop183@comcast.net)  
Work E-Mail [JeffreyS.Smith@doc.state.nj.us](mailto:JeffreyS.Smith@doc.state.nj.us)

## NEW JERSEY SUPERIOR OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

[www.NJSOA.org](http://www.NJSOA.org)

Friday, October 29, 2007

To: NJSOA Members

From: President Jeffrey Smith

### **NOVEMBER 5<sup>th</sup> RALLY IS CANCELLED**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

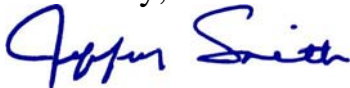
I wanted to take this time to personally thank all of our members that committed to supporting our State House rally on October 15, 2007. As I've communicated before, this rally was successful on many levels, and we owe its success to the memberships of all of our unions. We've received feedback that even the State recognized that the rally was well organized and successful. However, it is clear that the State has no intention of adjusting the initial contract offer made to PBA 105. They have also made it clear that they will not increase any cost-of-living increases and that they want to initiate health insurance premium sharing.

We initially planned to have two State House rallies, with a second rally being scheduled for November 05, 2007. All of the unions have been in almost constant communication regarding our plans for contract negotiations and any rally or event. After a meeting with all of the supervisory unions last week, we have come to a common consensus that a rally on November 5<sup>th</sup> would not serve as effective as an organized push to get all of our members out to the polls to vote on Election Day. The unions have put together a short listing of our endorsements for this election. The endorsement list is published on all of the supervisory union websites. We want to send the message to the legislators that we will hold them accountable if they are not attentive to our issues and concerns. Please VOTE on November 6<sup>th</sup>, and let your voice be heard.

Therefore, after much discussion, all of the unions decided to advise their respective memberships that **the rally planned for November 5<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled.** The cancelling of the November 5<sup>th</sup> rally will allow us all to focus completely on moving toward arbitration and toward a fair contract. The supervisory unions have agreed to work collectively in proceeding to arbitration. We will pool our resources and efforts. We will employ the best contract attorneys, expert witnesses, and tactics in securing the best contract possible. We have pledged to exhaust any and all means in accomplishing this goal. This is an unprecedented union collaboration that will certainly prove problematic for the State and its negotiators. This collaborative effort was also explained to PBA 105 and an offer to participate was extended. We hope that they accept our offer and come onboard with a unified approach to obtaining a contract.

Again, thank you for your support at our October 15<sup>th</sup> rally. Thank you also for the support you were ready and willing to provide at the November 5<sup>th</sup> rally. Lastly, I want to thank you all for the confidence that you've shown in your union leadership in their efforts to secure a fair and just contract. I've stated many times before; "a union is only as strong as its membership." Proudly I can declare that our membership has once again proven its strength and resolve. Thank you, and stay strong!

Fraternally,



Jeffrey Smith, President