

400 MAIN STREET
CHATHAM NEW JERSEY 07928

GINA MENDOLA LONGARZO, ESQ.
KARA A. MACKENZIE, ESQ.
FRANCESCA N. MENDOLA, ESQ.

LAW OFFICES OF
GINA MENDOLA LONGARZO, LLC

ADMITTED NJ & NY BARS

August 6, 2012

Via Hand Delivery
Chatham Township
c/o Mayor Nicole Hagner
58 Meyersville Road
Chatham, NJ 07928

Chatham Township Police Department
c/o Chief John Paton
401 Southern Boulevard
Chatham, NJ 07928

John & Jane Does
(Unknown Chatham Township Employees)
c/o Chatham Township
58 Meyersville Road
Chatham, NJ 07928

Re: Michael Giannone v. Chatham Township
Employment Dispute

Dear Sir & Madam:

Enclosed please find a Notice of Claim for Damages on behalf of Michael Giannone. Please be guided accordingly. We note that we have forwarded a copy to Chatham Township's attorney as a courtesy.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,


GINA MENDOLA LONGARZO

GML:avw

Enclosure

cc: Kerrie R. Heslin, Esq. ✓

III. Date, place and other circumstances of the occurrence or transaction which gave rise to the claim asserted:

Claimant, Officer Michael Giannone is an employee of the Chatham Township Police Department [the "Department"] in the Township of Chatham [the "Township"]. Ptl. Giannone has been employed by the Department for 15 1/2 years. In January 1997, Ptl. Giannone worked as a dispatcher for his first seven months with the Department, after which he became a Patrolman in August 1997, and has been a Patrolman ever since. Ptl. Giannone was also the Policemen's Benevolent Association ["PBA"] President until mid-June 2012.

Throughout Ptl. Giannone's employment at the Department, he was always treated differently, held to a higher standard of performance than others, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] However, despite Ptl. Giannone's numerous complaints and the Department's awareness that such conduct was ongoing, and being committed against him including by an agency supervisor, the Department failed to take proper corrective action to stop said behavior or remedy the situation.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ptl. Giannone has also endured harassment and retaliation for reporting acts of misconduct within the Department. Chief Paton did not take any steps to stop the retaliation and was in fact a party to it. Moreover, due to Ptl. Giannone's complaints of harassment in 2011 and his efforts to take legal action in order to obtain his Internal Affairs Files, he has suffered retaliation from the Department members and its leaders. Ptl. Giannone has also been harassed and targeted for technical policy violations and minor typos in reports. In general, Ptl. Giannone is now under heightened scrutiny. Finally, since the summer of 2011, Ptl. Giannone has also endured retaliation because he is the PBA President.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

IV. General Description of the injury, damage or loss incurred so far as it may be known at the time of presentation of this claim:

The course of conduct of the Department, the Township, and all the individuals named above has caused Claimant to suffer damages. Furthermore, the aforesaid unlawful conduct has resulted in intentional retaliation and harassment; civil rights violations; intentional infliction of emotional distress; discrimination; intentional interference with economic advantage; invasion of privacy violations; intentional interference with contractual relations resulting in deprivation (and/or impossibility) of continued employment; invasion of privacy; severe emotional distress; loss of reputation; defamation; loss of income; bailment; constitutional rights violations; 42 USC §1983 violations; violations of the New Jersey Conscientious Employee Protection Act; violations of the New Jersey Civil Rights Act; Violation of the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination (NJLAD); breach of contract; gross and intentional negligence, promissory estoppel; undue coercion; breach of fiduciary duty; and conspiracy.

V. The name or names of other public entity, employee, or employees causing the injury, damage or loss, if known:

1. State of New Jersey, Dept. of Labor
John Fitch Plaza
P.O. Box 110
Trenton, NJ 08625

2. State of New Jersey, Dept. of Labor
Labor Standards & Safety Enforcement (formerly Workplace Standards)
225 E. State Street
P.O. Box 054
Trenton, NJ 08625
Chatham, NJ 07928

VI. The amount claimed as of the date of presentation of the claim, including the estimated amount of any prospective injury, damage or loss, insofar as it may be known at the time of the presentation of the claim, together with the basis of the computation of the amount claimed:

The amount claimed is \$2,500,000.00 dollars. However, the extent of the injuries is ongoing and will continue to be revealed and ascertained through continuing discovery. Upon the completion of discovery, a proper presentation of the claim can be further ascertained.

If there are any supplemental forms to answer, please provide a copy of said forms to my office immediately.

LAW OFFICES OF GINA MENDOLA
LONGARZO, LLC

By: 

GINA MENDOLA LONGARZO, ESQ.
Attorneys for Claimant
Michael Giannone

Dated: August 6, 2012