

EMPLOYEES STATEMENT OF GRIEVANCE:

There was a very serious fire at Garden State Correctional Facility on August 09, 2005. Dozens of staff members were sent to outside medical facilities for evaluation and treatment. Pursuant to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CAB), the Majority Representative immediately reported the incident of unsafe conditions at Garden State, in complaint form, to Commissioner Devon Brown. The Majority Representative, in its letter dated August 10, 2005, asked that the complaint of unsafe working conditions be promptly investigated, and that corrective action be initiated to bring the unsafe conditions of work within established guidelines. The Majority Representative also requested to be provided with documentation of the fire incident on August 9th, as well as any documentation associated with the investigation into the incident.

As of this filing, the State has refused and/or failed to respond to the report and complaint of unsafe working conditions associated with the fire at Garden State Correctional Facility on August 09, 2005. The CAB is clear in that “complaints of unsafe or unhealthful conditions shall be promptly investigated. Corrective action shall be initiated at the earliest time practicable to bring such conditions within established safety guidelines providing necessary resources are available.” The State is clearly in violation of promptly investigating the complaint and/or providing reasonable assurances to the bargaining agent and it’s members that the work environment is safe.

TO CORRECT MY GRIEVANCE THE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE DONE:

The State shall abide by the CAB and will promptly investigate the complaint of unsafe working conditions at Garden State Correctional Facility.

The State shall provide the bargaining agent with a copy of the full investigative package resulting from the investigation.

If any conditions of unsafe or unhealthful conditions of work are identified during the investigation, the State shall immediately take appropriate action to remedy them.

The State shall provide, to the bargaining agent, those unsafe or unhealthful conditions that were identified, what action is being taken to remedy them, as well as proof that they were remedied.