

JUN 18 2014

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
BEFORE THE STATE LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

In the MATTER of *
*
RHODE ISLAND STATE *
LABOR RELATIONS BOARD *
*
-AND- *
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*

TOWN OF NORTH KINGSTOWN *

CASE NO. ULP-6137

COMPLAINT

It having been charged by North Kingstown Fire Fighters, Local 1651, International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), hereinafter referred to as the Complainant that the Town of North Kingstown, through its Town Manager, Michael E. Embury and its Town Council, Elizabeth S. Dolan, President, Kevin Maloney, Carol Hueston, Kerry McKay, and Richard Welch, hereinafter referred to as the Respondents, have been and are now engaging in certain unfair labor practices as set forth and defined in Title 28, Chapter 7, Section 13 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 1956, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Act, the Rhode Island State Labor Relations Board, hereinafter referred to as the Board, acting pursuant to Section 21 of the Act, hereby issues its Complaint and alleges the following:

1. That the Town of North Kingstown is a municipal corporation, duly organized under the Constitution and the General Laws of Rhode Island, with its headquarters at the North Kingstown Town Hall, 80 Boston Neck Road, North Kingstown, RI.
2. That the North Kingstown Fire Fighters, Local 1651, International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), is a labor organization which exists and is constituted for the purpose, in whole or in part, of collective bargaining and of dealing with employers in grievances or other mutual aid or protection.
3. That the Employer violated R.I.G.L. 28-7-13 (6) and (10) when, on March 27, 2014, the Town Council sent a letter, via first class mail, to all members of IAFF Local 1651 seeking to bypass the Union and deal directly with the members; which contained a proposal for a new collective bargaining agreement and a signing bonus with terms that were different from the proposal the Town made to the Union, as well as the letter urging the members to accept the proposal.
4. That the aforesaid unfair labor practices engaged in by the Respondents have resulted in the denial of the rights of employees as guaranteed them by law and has tended to lead to strife and unrest inimical to the public safety, health and welfare. Such practices are in violation of the policies and provisions of the Rhode Island State Labor Relations Act and are in violation of Title 28, Chapter 7, Section 13 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 1956, as amended.

WHEREFORE, the Rhode Island State Labor Relations Board on the 17th day of June 2014 issues its Complaint against the said Respondents.

RHODE ISLAND STATE LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
BY: 

Administrator- Rhode Island State Labor Relations Board