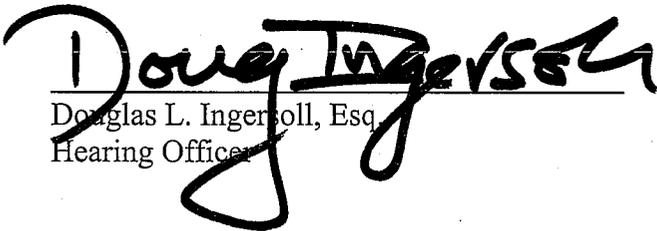


District from the American Arbitration Association indicates that the arbitration process will continue absent a court order to the contrary.

In its objection the Association has not provided any specific evidence to support the likelihood of the claimed delay in conducting the requested arbitration. Additionally, the possibility of additional expense to the District does not outweigh the District's entitlement in this case to have the PELRB determine the question of arbitrability in accordance with the cited New Hampshire Supreme Court cases. Finally, these cases do not contemplate that the PELRB should engage in a potentially meaningless exercise because the involved parties are simultaneously proceeding with the arbitration process.

Accordingly, the parties shall cease and desist from any activity in furtherance of the arbitration proceedings and those arbitration proceedings are stayed pending a determination on the merits of the District's unfair labor practice charge. This case is scheduled for final hearing on April 13, 2007, and I anticipate that a decision will issue in a reasonably timely manner thereafter.

So ordered.
April 11, 2007.


Douglas L. Ingersoll, Esq.
Hearing Officer

Distribution:
Jay C. Boynton, Esq.
James F. Allmendinger, Esq.