



**ASSOCIATION OF FORMER NEW JERSEY STATE TROOPERS, INC.**  
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## **N.J. SUPREME COURT OPINION SUMMARY**

June 7, 2021

The New Jersey Supreme Court issued its opinion this morning in the matter of the release of names of law enforcement officers involved in “major discipline” dating back twenty-years and moving forward.

The decision holds that from the date of the Directives (June 19, 2020) and moving forward, the names of officers may be released.

Troopers’ names associated with historical cases dating back twenty-years prior to June 19, 2020, shall not be released at this time.

The court has ordered that the matter of historical cases is a serious issue that deserves more attention. Specifically, the attorneys representing the State Troopers Fraternal Association, Non-Commissioned Officers Association, Superior Officers Association, and the Former Troopers Association made compelling arguments that Troopers have always been offered the promise of confidentiality in exchange for settling their disciplinary matters through negotiated plea agreements and without going to trial, known as the doctrine of promissory estoppel.

Therefore, the Court has ordered a single Superior Court Judge hear arguments in the near future with respect to our promissory estoppel claims as they relate to historical trooper discipline prior to June 19, 2020.

The Court explained that the judge will make “appropriate findings,” and may decide that promises of confidentiality were made and block the release of names for the entire group of historically disciplined Troopers. The Judge may also find the record does not support such a conclusion for the entire group at which point Troopers may make individual challenges based on the specific circumstances of their case within 45 days of notice of pending release of their names.

The Court’s sixty-page opinion is currently being examined by legal counsel and additional information will be posted upon our receipt.

For your information...

For the President  
Nicholas C. Soranno, Jr.

Thank you,

George J. Wren, Jr.