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# *Committee Meeting*

## JOINT STATE LEASING AND SPACE UTILIZATION COMMITTEE

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**LOCATION:** Committee Room 6  
State House Annex  
Trenton, New Jersey

**DATE:** December 20, 2021  
2:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE PRESENT:**

Senator Nicholas P. Scutari, Chair  
Assemblyman Raj Mukherji  
Robert J. Shaughnessy, Jr.



### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Carmelo T. Costantino  
*Office of Legislative Services*  
*Committee Aide*

Gary A. Kotler, Esq.  
*Deputy Attorney General*  
*Committee Counsel*

Tony Teixeira  
*Senate Majority*  
*Committee Aide*

*Hearing Recorded and Transcribed by*  
The Office of Legislative Services, Public Information Office,  
Hearing Unit, State House Annex, PO 068, Trenton, New Jersey

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SENATOR NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI (Chair): Hello, everyone.

Welcome back to the Joint State Leasing and Space Utilization Committee meeting.

Roll call.

MR. COSTANTINO (Committee Aide): Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Assistant Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Here.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator, you have three votes in the affirmative (*sic*); you have a quorum.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

The first order of business is the reading of the Open Public Meetings Act.

MR. COSTANTINO: Notice of this meeting of the State Leasing and Space Utilization Committee was provided to the Secretary of State, *The Trentonian*, and the State House Press on December 16, 2021, as part of the Open Public Information (*sic*) Act.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Great.

MR. COSTANTINO: And next is the approval of the meeting minutes from the June 24 meeting.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Right; okay.

The next order of business is approval of the minutes from June 24, 2021.

Can I have a motion?

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: So moved.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call on the approval of the minutes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assistant Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Senator, you have three votes in the affirmative; the motion carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

Getting to the regular course of business, is the presentations of the Notices of Proposed Leases.

And we can start with No. 1 -- Various Departments.

**C H R I S T O P H E R C H I A N E S E:** Good afternoon.

I'm Chris Chianese, the Director of Property Management and Construction.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to present our proposed leases today.

First, I'd like to congratulate Senator Scutari on being chosen to be the next Senate President.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

MR. CHIANESE: I'd like to introduce Tom Edenbaum, who is the Acting Deputy Director of Property Management and Construction.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Welcome.

**T H O M A S E D E N B A U M:** Thank you.

MR. CHIANESE: I'd like to thank everyone on my staff -- Mark Kaminski, Carl Costantino, DAG Kotler -- for your hard work to help facilitate the Space Utilization Committee meeting today.

NPL 9032, No. 1: This is an expansion of an existing location for the Department of Community Affairs. The Housing Affairs Program is located at 100 Hamilton Plaza in Paterson. Advertisement was waived since this is an expansion of a DCA existing program.

The rent for the added space will commence upon occupancy, and the term run currently with the existing lease. The result of this expansion will be a consolidation of the Passaic County and Bergen County offices, and the termination of a DCA lease in Hackensack.

The reduction of total leased space for this program will be less than when compared to the rent for both Hackensack and the DCA space in Paterson.

Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay, great.

Any questions on NPL No. 9032? (no response)

Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: So moved.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Second?

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call, please.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the motion to approve NPL 9032;  
Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative;  
the motion carries, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

The next NPL is for the Department of Corrections.

MR. CHIANESE: NPL 4525. Advertisement was waived  
because this extension works out in cost savings for the current year and for  
the term of the lease.

This lease amendment is for the Department of Corrections for  
their administrative offices, Client Service Operations, and District Parole  
Reporting Unit. The lease is located at 114 Prospect Street in Passaic. The  
term is for 10 years. The New Jersey State Parole Board would like to  
continue its occupancy in Passaic to support its needs in Passaic County.

The lease expired on May 31, 2021, and the new lease will begin  
retroactively to June 1, 2021.

Some of our requirements for the landlord are that there will be  
re-carpeting, the landlord will also provide five additional parking spaces, and  
the State will receive cost savings yearly, of a little over \$1,839 for the first  
10 years.

Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

Any questions on the Department of Corrections lease? (no response)

Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion for NPL 4525.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Moved.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call, please.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the motion to approve NPL 4525; Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative; the motion carries, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

The next order of business is a lease regarding the Department of Human Services.

MR. CHIANESE: NPL 4300. The advertising for this NPL was waived, as it presented cost savings for a lease extension -- the Department of Human Services Commission for the Blind program.

The NPL is located at 375 McCarter Highway in Newark. The term for this lease is 10 years beginning January 1, 2022, and is for 13,931 square feet. Also located on the site is the George F. Meyer Technology and Resource Center, which has a great deal of books, materials, and equipment

for the blind and visually impaired students who are served by CBVI. The move to the second floor will add 1,280 square feet to the total square footage.

The extension will result in a reduction of \$1 per square foot from the current rate. The State will realize \$126,510 in savings over the 10-year lease. The landlord will provide renovation and moving services, which are estimated between \$300,000 and \$400,000.

Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

Any questions on the NPL, Notice of Proposed Lease 4300, for the Department of Human Services? (no response)

Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: So moved.

SENATOR SCUTARI: And a second.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call on the motion.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the approval of NPL 4300; Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative; the motion carries, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

The next order of business is the Department of Labor-- I'm sorry, the Department of Law and Public Safety, for the Division of the Law and Public Safety for State Police.

That's a Notice of Proposed Lease 4740; yes.

MR. CHIANESE: This is an interim rental agreement for Law and Public Safety for the New Jersey State Police Emergency Management Unit. The NPL is located at 45 Fernwood in Edison, and will have 37,571 square feet of warehouse and 5,000 square feet of office space.

The term of the lease is three years with two, one-year renewal options. Advertisement was waived due to the emergent nature of the need. Law and Public Safety had a need for the warehousing to house the equipment and supplies that were used at the COVID mega sites and vaccination centers.

This site will house seven employees. Parking has been provided at no additional cost to the State. The site allows in the aid of readiness, and is centrally located in the state.

Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

Any questions on the Proposed Lease 4740? (no response)

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Moved.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Moved by Assemblyman Mukherji; can I have a second?

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call, please.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the motion to approve NPL 4740; Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative; the motion carries, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

Next, we have two NPLs for the Department of Children and Families. That is Notice of Proposed Leases 4668 and 4677.

MR. CHIANESE: For 4668 -- this NPL is to add two, five-year lease extensions for DCF, as well as additional parking for the fully integrated training facility to handle the mandatory 40-hour-per-year training requirements for approximately 3,500 employees.

This NPL provides Children and Families training for DCF staff and the Department of Law and Public Safety; and with the potential of adding other governmental training programs.

The proposed lease is located at 30 Van Dyke Avenue in New Brunswick, and is for a not-to-exceed 107,312 square feet. In exchange for the early exercise of the two existing renewal options, the State will receive many benefits, including the option to purchase the building; the landlord establishing a capital reserve fund of \$150,000 a year to be used towards improvements; the landlord agreeing to perform identified fit ups and carpet replacements at several areas -- that's just to name a few.

Advertisement for this NPL was waived, as it is for a specialized facility.

For 4667 -- the NPL is for a lease amendment for an expansion of space for Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency. It is located at 50-58 Burnett Avenue in Maplewood; the terms to coincide with the existing term expiring on January 31, 2027. DCF feels this location is ideal, and the site is in an Administrative and Client Service Office for the Executive County area.

The renovations required will be paid for by both the lesser and the State, with the State's contribution being \$100,000.

Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

Any questions regarding either lease, as explained, regarding the Department of Children and Families? (no response)

Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion for NPL 4668.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: So moved.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the motion to approve NPL 4668 and 4677; Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative; the motion carries, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Just to confirm -- that vote was on both leases--

MR. COSTANTINO: Correct.

SENATOR SCUTARI: -- 4677 included.

Any exceptions to that? Okay.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: No.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Great.

Okay, the next order of business is a lease -- proposed lease for the Department of Labor.

MR. CHIANESE: NPL 4734 -- this NPL is for the Department of Labor's Division of Income Security Workforce Development.

This lease was advertised.

The NPL is located at 30 Moran Street in Newton, and Labor has demonstrated long-term need for this area.

The term of the lease is for 10 years with two, five-year renewal options. The square footage is not to exceed 7,905.

Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Is this a new lease, or an extension? I just zoned out for a minute; I apologize.

MR. EDENBAUM: It's a new lease.

SENATOR SCUTARI: And this doesn't have anything to do with the Department of-- Well, it's the Department of Labor, but it's not *Unemployment* employees, correct?

MR. EDENBAUM: I believe it's a Labor One-Stop.

SENATOR SCUTARI: It's a One-Stop.

MR. EDENBAUM: Yes.

SENATOR SCUTARI: So it's not related-- Well, if it's a One-Stop, it's not-- No one goes there to apply for unemployment benefits, correct? Or do they?

MR. EDENBAUM: I would need to bring up someone to answer that question, as far as the process.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Can anybody answer that?

MR. CHIANESE: From Labor?

MR. COSTANTINO: Could you identify yourself for the record, please?

Thank you.

**GARY KARR:** Can I take this off to speak? (referring to mask)

MR. CHIANESE: Sure.

MR. KARR: Gary Karr, Assistant Commissioner for Administrative Services.

So these are career centers, and it's mostly there for the public to make appointments to seek assistance with their careers.

There are five ES employees there, there is one wage-an-hour employee there, and there is one Unemployment employee there.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Where is this-- Is this a new One-Stop Center, or is it being relocated from somewhere else?

MR. KARR: This is relocated; this relocated from another location in Newton.

SENATOR SCUTARI: So you're looking to move the old location to this location.

MR. KARR: Correct. We also have a contingent of County employees there.

SENATOR SCUTARI: And are they-- So I'm assuming that the One-Stop Center and the Department of Labor in Newton is on a month-to-month, at this point in time, until this lease is potentially released from this Committee?

MR. KARR: Correct.

SENATOR SCUTARI: And if it doesn't get released from this Committee today, then the month-to-month will continue in the One-Stop Center in the other location?

MR. KARR: Correct.

SENATOR SCUTARI: You're satisfied that this is a better location and-- Well, I can't ask you on the lease terms, but a better location regarding--

MR. KARR: Yes, Senator, we believe so.

SENATOR SCUTARI: So the real crux of my questions is, when is the Department of Labor going to have a plan in place to recall all of their employees to work on a full-time basis?

MR. KARR: So I may not be able to answer all of your questions.

SENATOR SCUTARI: You might not. It's a pretty big question.  
(laughter)

MR. KARR: Well, what I can tell you, though, is all of our One-Stop Career Centers are open.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

MR. KARR: They are 95 percent staffed. Some folks, obviously, have medical exemptions, as I'm sure you folks were aware of.

We are, right now, accepting appointments for in-person services via phone appointments or via Internet appointments. So there are some folks--

SENATOR SCUTARI: How about the unemployment offices?

MR. KARR: So I would have to defer that question.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Is there anybody here who can answer that?

MR. KARR: There is no one.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay, then this lease is going to be held until I get those answers. Because I have to go across the hall and talk to 40 members who are out of their minds that their offices are still continuing to be inundated with unemployment inquiries, because the employees are not there. Now, I understand that there's been exemptions and there have been opportunities for people to work from home. But you would be surprised how many times people go, "I can't do that from home."

So I know it's not -- it's kind of apples and oranges here, but you're the only one we got here. (laughter) So until those questions are answered to my satisfaction and to others, this lease and every other lease from the Department of Labor are not going to be under consideration. Because until my office and the offices of those other 39 members, who I have to report to, stop getting inundated with calls regarding their unemployment status, we're not going to do anything else for the Department of Labor until we get the attention of that Department to understand what it is that they're doing over there.

Am I clear?

Sorry about that. You're the only guy here.

MR. KARR: I understand.

SENATOR SCUTARI: All right; thank you.

MR. KARR: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: This lease is being held.

MR. COSTANTINO: Held pending additional information, correct, sir?

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Okay, all right.

SENATOR SCUTARI: But we can move on to the Department of Treasury.

MR. KOTLER (Committee Counsel): Senator, if you don't mind -- just a motion to hold, pending approval.

SENATOR SCUTARI: I don't think I need that. But if you're more comfortable with it, I'll do it.

MR. KOTLER: Yes, please, if you don't mind.

SENATOR SCUTARI: I don't think I need to do that. Because if I vote "no," it goes down.

MR. KOTLER: Right; but we're not denying it, we're holding it, so--

SENATOR SCUTARI: I think I can do that all on my own.

MR. KOTLER: Okay, well--

SENATOR SCUTARI: But I'll let you do it your way. (laughter) I'm moving to hold the lease.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Okay, Senator, so you can -- you also can just pull it from the agenda. That's at the Chairperson's prerogative, right?

Are you entertaining a motion to hold the lease?

SENATOR SCUTARI: I just moved it.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Oh, you moved it? (laughter)

SENATOR SCUTARI: You can second.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Well, then I second it.

(laughter)

MR. COSTANTINO: Ready for roll call?

SENATOR SCUTARI: Sure.

MR. COSTANTINO: Okay.

On the motion to hold NPL 4734 pending additional information; Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative; the motion carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: And just so we're clear on that, you know -- and I've been the Chairman of this Committee probably for a decade, and Chairman of Senate Judiciary for longer than that -- anything I pull up on the agenda, we're going to need a vote for it -- I just take it off. That's how it works. (laughter) So-- But it's been done anyway.

So next, the Department of Treasury has a Notice of Proposed Lease 4536.

MR. CHIANESE: This NPL is for the Office of the Public Defender. The term is for 10 years, retroactive to April 1, 2021.

Advertisement was waived because this extension will result in cost savings for the current year, and for the term of the lease. The proposed lease is for 8,218 square feet, and is located at 840 Bear Tavern Road, on the second floor at the Mountain View Office Park in Ewing.

Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

Any questions on the Public Defender lease -- Law Guardian?

(no response)

Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Motion.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call, please.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the approval for NPL 4536; Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative; the motion carries, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

Then next we have some leases for the Division of Military and Veterans Affairs.

MR. CHIANESE: There are two NPLs; the first one is 4735.

This NPL was submitted to provide a new first floor storefront recruiting office for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Recruiting and Retention Unit.

The proposal is for a not-to-exceed 1,500 square feet, at a five-year term with cancellation options, located at 313 Madison Avenue in Perth Amboy.

This NPL is as a result of an advertised bid.

For the next one, for DMVA, is NPL 4736. This NPL is for a new lease as a result of an advertised bid.

The term is for five years, with cancellation options, located at 32 Clinton Street in Newark. The proposal is for a not-to-exceed 1,500 square feet. It will provide for a new storefront recruiting office for recruiting efforts.

Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: How much is the monthly for 4736?

MR. CHIANESE: Tom, do you know that?

MR. EDENBAUM: Yes, I'll have it in a second.

MR. COSTANTINO: That's No. 9, correct?

SENATOR SCUTARI: That's No. 10, 4736.

MR. EDENBAUM: Right.

SENATOR SCUTARI: The one in Newark.

MR. EDENBAUM: I have the annual.

SENATOR SCUTARI: What's the annual?

MR. EDENBAUM: Okay.

SENATOR SCUTARI: I'll take that and divide by 12.

MR. CHIANESE: It's \$80,000 for the first year--

MR. EDENBAUM: Yes, \$71,505. That's just for the rent.

SENATOR SCUTARI: So that's about \$6,000 a month for 1,500 square feet, right? (no response) Anybody? (no response)

Seems a little high. (laughter)

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: I know. (laughter)

SENATOR SCUTARI: It's \$6,000 a month for 1,500 square feet, right? It's 1,500 square feet. Am I misspeaking?

MR. CHIANESE: It's 1,500.

MR. COSTANTINO: It says "not-to-exceed 1,500 square feet" is what I'm--

SENATOR SCUTARI: And the annual is \$71,000 and change?

MR. CHIANESE: It's \$10,650 (*sic*) for about 7,100.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Say that again -- I'm sorry?

MR. CHIANESE: I'm sorry, I got the wrong numbers down.

So we have 1,500; what's the monthly, Tom?

MR. EDENBAUM: Its annual is \$71,505.

MR. CHIANESE: So \$71,505.

SENATOR SCUTARI: It seems a little high, doesn't it? Maybe I'm wrong---

MR. CHIANESE: It's 50 -- almost \$6,000; \$6,000 a month,

SENATOR SCUTARI: Right; so--

MR. CHIANESE: Like you said.

SENATOR SCUTARI: --it's \$6,000 a month, and the space is not-to-exceed 1,500 square feet. And my question is -- and maybe I'm wrong;

maybe I don't know the real estate market -- that just seems-- I don't know, does it seem high to you?

MR. COSTANTINO: It's \$47.67 a square foot. Is that what's it's calculating to? Did I see that correctly?

MR. EDENBAUM: That is the square foot rate -- \$47.67.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Just to compare it with the other one in Perth Amboy, can you tell me what the square footage and the annual is for that?

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: I'm looking up 32 Clinton now.

MR. COSTANTINO: Chairman?

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes?

MR. TEIXEIRA (Senate Committee Aide): I think it's \$43.99, compared to the \$47.67 per square foot

SENATOR SCUTARI: All right.

MR. TEIXEIRA: About \$66,000 (indiscernible).

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Depending on where you are in Newark--

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: --Chairman, through you -- so this looks like -- 32 Clinton--

MR. EDENBAUM: Senator, I think--

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: --by Wells Fargo; by the bank, and the Military-- I know where this is. It's like near Broad Street, close to NJPAC, and Don Pepe, and the law school; that whole area by the Prudential Center. It's conceivable that that part of downtown Newark -- \$48 a foot may be about right for retail.

MR. EDENBAUM: I was going to say -- this is a different kind of lease from our typical office leases. Often leasing retail space, they are short-term leases with significant fit-out, with termination options all throughout the leases. So it's really very difficult to compare that with the leases we typically bring before you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

MR. EDENBAUM: And all those factors really drive up the square foot rate.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

MR. COSTANTINO: Well, that would be true. If you have termination clauses and so forth; yes.

SENATOR SCUTARI: And just one more important question is, did you say *DMVA*? Is that an acronym? (laughter) The Department of Military and Veterans--

MR. CHIANESE: Yes, I'm sorry--

SENATOR SCUTARI: We're shortening everything now. (laughter)

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: That's a--

SENATOR SCUTARI: I caught it. No, that's all right. Hey, listen--

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: DMVA.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay, thank you for enlightening me.

All right; any other questions regarding the Division of Military --- or DMVA leases, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs? (no response)

Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion on both NPLs -- 4735 and 4736.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: So moved.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call, please.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the motion to approve 4735 and 4736; Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: You have three votes in the affirmative; the motion to approve 4735 and 4736 carries, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Thank you.

And the final proposed lease is for the Judiciary.

MR. CHIANESE: This NPL is for a lease extension, for an additional 10 years, for Attorney Ethics in Judiciary.

Their current lease is set to expire January 31; this lease will go into effect on February 1.

The advertisement was waived for this NPL since it resulted in cost savings over \$13,000 a year, and over \$133,000 for the 10-year term.

The lease location is 840 Bear Tavern Road in Ewing. It is for 15,476 square feet. The lease also includes 75 parking spaces at no additional cost.

Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: The square footage on this is only \$15.86 a square foot, right? I mean, it's a different spot but, you know--

MR. CHIANESE: Yes.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Go ahead.

MR. TEIXEIRA: (off mike) I remember dealing with these Department of Military and Veterans Affairs leases before. These are security measures-- I remember that listed (indiscernible) bulletproof glass for the front plate, and so on.

SENATOR SCUTARI: This lease for the Judiciary -- besides Attorney Ethics, what else is housed in there?

MR. CHIANESE: The earlier lease is, actually, the same address. There are a whole bunch of leases out that way on Bear Tavern Road. So--

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes, but this one, the one we're doing--

MR. CHIANESE: In this particular lease -- it's just the Attorney Ethics in this particular lease.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Is this the entirety of Attorney Ethics? Because that seems-- I mean, that's all there is? The Office of Attorney Ethics is going to be in this 15,000 square foot location?

Is there anybody here from Judiciary to answer any of that?

MR. EDENBAUM: Rene may be on the line.

MR. CHIANESE: It's for -- it's about 67 occupants for this area. Do you want me to ask to see if Law and Public Safety is on the line?

SENATOR SCUTARI: It's actually Judiciary, I believe. The Office of Attorney Ethics--

MR. CHIANESE: I'm sorry.

SENATOR SCUTARI: --is under the Judiciary.

MR. EDENBAUM: Yes, Rene Cherson.

MR. CHIANESE: Rene.

MR. EDENBAUM: She's from Judiciary -- would be on.

Would you like--

SENATOR SCUTARI: Sure.

MR. COSTANTINO: We might have someone on the line, sir; that's the reason he's going to--

MR. CHIANESE: Rene, are you on the line, from Judiciary? (no response)

MR. EDENBAUM: Nobody?

MR. CHIANESE: Anybody from Judiciary on the line? (no response)

MR. EDENBAUM: I guess not.

MR. CHIANESE: Anyone on the line from Judiciary? (no response)

SENATOR SCUTARI: It appears to be 64 employees, and they're going to add three?

MR. CHIANESE: Yes.

SENATOR SCUTARI: FTE -- what does that stand for?

MR. CHIANESE: Full-time employees.

SENATOR SCUTARI: And they're going to add three more employees. My question is, is that the-- I mean, I would think-- I mean, they have 67 employees for the Office of Attorney Ethics?

MR. CHIANESE: I don't know the answer to that.

MR. TEIXEIRA: (off mike) Currently-- I mean, according to the current lease they have, that's what is listed.

MR. COSTANTINO: Yes, according to this, that's what it says. It says--

SENATOR SCUTARI: It seems like a lot, doesn't it? Maybe I'm wrong.

MR. CHIANESE: I don't know the programs.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Look, if they like the lease, I would think they could answer a couple of simple questions. It's not your guy's job, it's the Judiciary to--

MR. EDENBAUM: We're working on getting somebody. I don't know if you have two more minutes, but--

SENATOR SCUTARI: The meeting's over in about 30 seconds. (laughter)

MR. EDENBAUM: Okay; okay, well--

MR. CHIANESE: Do you have anyone you can call, Tom, or--

MR. EDENBAUM: Rene Cherson is -- should have been-- (conference telephone rings)

MR. CHIANESE: Wait a minute; here we go. We might have somebody.

**R E N E M. C H E R S O N:** This is Rene Cherson from the Judiciary.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Hello, Rene; this is Senator Scutari. How are you doing?

MS. CHERSON: Hi, Senator, how are you?

I apologize. We have not been able to log in to the hearing at all.

SENATOR SCUTARI: No worries.

Can you talk to me about this lease that we're supposed to approve for the Office of Attorney Ethics, I believe?

MS. CHERSON: Yes.

So this is for Attorney Ethics at 840 Bear Tavern Road. They've been there for a long time. And it's a new lease being renegotiated. So we're going to save money by not moving to a new location.

SENATOR SCUTARI: You're adding--

MS. CHERSON: What else would you like to know?

SENATOR SCUTARI: You have 64-- Just curious; I mean, the Office of Attorney Ethics currently employs 64 full-time employees?

MS. CHERSON: I'm sorry, I couldn't hear what you were saying, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: The Office of Attorney Ethics currently employs 64 full-time employees.

MS. CHERSON: Yes, correct; 64 employees.

SENATOR SCUTARI: And there's a proposal to add three more employees to this location--

MS. CHERSON: Right.

SENATOR SCUTARI: --to go to 67.

What's the total annual budget for the Office of Attorney Ethics?

MS. CHERSON: I honestly don't know that, sir. Their budget is gathered from attorney fees.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Oh, I'm aware. (laughter)

MS. CHERSON: Oh, you know that? You pay one?

SENATOR SCUTARI: I do. I just -- I didn't know there were that many employees there. I mean, I know there are a lot of licensed attorneys, but that just seems like a lot of employees; that's all.

MS. CHERSON: Yes.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

MS. CHERSON: So there are a couple of different divisions of what they call the *Attorney Discipline System*.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MS. CHERSON: Attorney Ethics is one portion of it. Continuing Legal Education Credits -- I'm sure you're aware of what that is; Board of Bar Examiners is part of this system.

So let me see here. Well, what else can I tell you?

SENATOR SCUTARI: Who runs -- who does that--

MS. CHERSON: Attorney Registration Fees is the primary source of revenue for this Attorney Disciplinary System.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Who's in charge of that office?

MS. CHERSON: It reports to the Supreme Court.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Right. I would imagine it reports directly to the Chief, right?

MS. CHERSON: Yes, correct. It does.

SENATOR SCUTARI: So there must be a Director of the Office of Attorney Ethics?

MS. CHERSON: Oh, yes, that's Charles Centinaro.

SENATOR SCUTARI: And I guess he reports directly to the Chief; that's my guess.

MS. CHERSON: Actually, he reports directly to the Clerk of the Supreme Court--

SENATOR SCUTARI: Oh--

MS. CHERSON: --Heather Joy Baker.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

MS. CHERSON: And then Heather Joy reports to the Chief Justice.

SENATOR SCUTARI: All right. And now -- and there will be 67 employees after this lease is extended.

MS. CHERSON: Yes, correct.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

All right, thank you.

MS. CHERSON: You're very welcome.

Can I answer any other questions for you?

SENATOR SCUTARI: I'll defer to my colleagues on the board here.

Anybody else? (no response)

Seeing none, I think we're fine.

Thank you very much.

MS. CHERSON: Thank you.

SENATOR SCUTARI: I'll ask for a motion for the Judiciary's NPL, 4361.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: So moved, Chairman.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Second.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Roll call, please.

MR. COSTANTINO: On the motion to approve 4361; Senator Scutari.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Assemblyman Mukherji.

ASSEMBLYMAN MUKHERJI: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: And Deputy Director Shaughnessy.

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: Yes.

MR. COSTANTINO: Sir, you have three votes in the affirmative; the motion carries.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

Anyone else have anything else?

MR. SHAUGHNESSY: No, sir.

SENATOR SCUTARI: Okay.

I don't think we need a motion to adjourn. I've been meaning to say that for a decade. We don't need a-- All I go is (raps gavel), "Adjourned," that's it. (laughter)

Done; thank you.

**(MEETING CONCLUDED)**