

# Police worker loses on charges

By Chris Sykes  
Staff Writer

The city was successful in defending the police department jury in a sexual harassment case decided last week in Superior Court.

A jury hearing police employee Yolanda Williams' complaint before Judge Paul Vichness found against her in case that involved former and current police personnel and a municipal judge.

Williams presented allegations of sexual harassment and misconduct against former Municipal Judge Eric Pennington, former police Lt. Robert McCauley and current police Capt. Aric Webster. Eldridge Hawkins Sr., father of Orange's mayor, said he would file a motion for a new trial.

The elder Hawkins has enjoyed a good track record representing plaintiffs against municipalities and police departments. His most notable recent win came at the expense of Marvin Braker, Orange's city attorney who serves in that same capacity for Irvington.

Braker defended the township when Hawkins won a \$1 million jury award for an ex-Irvington police officer who sued her former employers and the town for reverse discrimination.

Webster referred any questions about the jury decision to Police Director John Rappaport, who could not be reached by press time.

Braker was a more forthcoming with his reaction: "I am extremely pleased with the outcome," said Braker.