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SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY APPELLATE DIVISION DOCKET NO. A-1093-02T2

G. PHILIP LEWIS, ) Civil Action Appellant, CERTIFICATION OF DEBRA A. ALLEN IN SUPPORT OF RESPONDENT'S v. MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF ) TIME TO FILE BRIEF BOARD OF TRUSTEES, PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' NUNC PRO TUNC ) RETIREMENT SYSTEM, Respondent.

DEBRA A. ALLEN, hereby certifies as true the following:

- 1. I am a Deputy Attorney General of the State of New Jersey and am duly admitted to practice law before the courts of this State. I represent respondent, Board of Trustees, Public Employees' Retirement System, in the above-captioned matter.
- 2. On November 19, 2002, Appellant filed a Corrected Notice of Appeal with this Court.
- 3. On December 16, 2002, Appellant filed an amended filed Notice of Appeal with this Court.

- 4. On February 3, 2003, the undersigned received a copy of Appellant's brief in the above-captioned matter.
- 5. On February 5, 2003, the undersigned received a letter from James M. Flynn, Clerk of the Appellate Division, stating that Appellant's brief was deficient. The deficiency was of such nature so as to toll the time for the filing of Respondent's brief.
- 6. On February 25, 2003, the undersigned received a copy of Appellant's corrected brief in the above-captioned matter. Consequently, the new time for the filing of Respondent's brief was March 27, 2003.
- 7. By letter dated March 20, 2003, Respondent requested a first 30-day extension to submit respondent's brief on April 28, 2003. Appellant did not consent to the extension request.
- 8. A confluence of events made it impossible to file respondent's brief by March 27, 2003. Starting on March 13, 2003, the undersigned and her children had a serious bout with the flu, causing the undersigned to miss more than a week's time in total from work. While home sick, the undersigned asked her secretary to request the first 30-day extension. The undersigned was unable to begin the brief in this matter prior to March 13, 2003, having had to submit a brief in another matter on February 28, 2003, prepare for and appear at a Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund Board meeting on March 6, 2003, prepare for and appear in administrative law court on various matters scheduled on February 25 and 27, 2003,

March 5, 17, 19, 20 and 21, 2003, and prepare for an oral argument in the Superior Court, Appellate Division on March 25, 2003. Due

to my illness, I was unable to make court appearances in several

matters.

9. The undersigned has completed the brief in this

matter within the first 30-days of the March 27, 2003 deadline.

10. In light of the above, I respectfully request a 30-

day extension nunc pro tunc to April 28, 2003 within which to file

respondent PERS Board of Trustees' brief.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are

true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by

me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

DEBRA A. ALLEN

Dated: Trenton, New Jersey

April 28, 2003