

Police chief will face trial

Union claims unfair labor practices

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ATKINSON — Police Chief and Selectman Philip Consentino will have an eventful first half of the year with a hearing alleging unfair labor practices filed with the state Labor Relations Board scheduled for February and a lawsuit filed against him with a trial set to take place in May.

In October 2004, an unfair labor practice complaint was filed by the Atkinson police union, alleging Consentino retaliated and discriminated against Officer Gary Lorden because Lorden filed a grievance

against the chief regarding shift assignments.

In July 2004, a lawsuit was filed against Consentino by resident and Budget Committee member Mark Acciard, who alleges Consentino violated town ethics laws during his tenure as a selectman, director of elderly affairs and police chief. A structuring conference was held last Wednesday to decide the trial's proceedings.

The civil trial is scheduled to be held at Rockingham County Superior Court, in Brentwood, on May 10.

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