

# **METRO NEWS BRIEFS: NEW JERSEY;** **Verdicts Mixed in Trial Over Immigrant Beatings**

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## **Body**

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A Union County jail guard was convicted yesterday of failing to report the **beatings** of illegal **immigrants** brought to the jail in 1995 after a disturbance at a detention center. Another guard was acquitted of charges that he participated in the **beatings**.

The convicted guard, Joseph Werthmann 3d, is to be sentenced for official misconduct on July 10 and faces up to 10 years in prison, said Robert O'Leary, the first assistant prosecutor of Union County. The other guard, Edward Einhorn, was acquitted in the five-week **trial**.

The two were the last of 12 guards to be charged in the **beatings**, which occurred after about 300 **immigrants** rioted **over** conditions at the Esmor detention center in Elizabeth, which reopened under **new** management last year. Six guards pleaded guilty to official misconduct last month after three others were convicted. The 12th guard died in a car crash.

Mr. Werthmann's lawyer, Blair Zwillman, said the conviction would be appealed. Mr. Zwillman said the guard who testified against his client, Sultan Holmes, failed to file a report himself and lied on the witness stand to avoid prosecution.

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