

METRO NEWS BRIEFS: NEW JERSEY: **Guard Given 4 Years In Immigrant Beating**

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Body

The last defendant in the 1995 **beating** of illegal **immigrants** at the Union County Jail was sentenced yesterday to four **years** in prison.

The defendant, Joseph Werthmann 3d, who had been free on \$50,000 bail, did not participate in the beatings, which occurred after 300 **immigrants** rioted at the Esmor detention center in Elizabeth. But he was convicted in April of failing to report fellow **guards** who did.

Judge Walter R. Barisonek of Superior Court in Elizabeth, who could have sentenced Mr. Werthmann to 10 **years** in prison, revoked Mr. Werthmann's bail and yesterday ordered him held at the Burlington County Jail, said Blair Zwillman, Mr. Werthmann's lawyer.

But Mr. Werthmann could be free again on Monday, when Judge Barisonek is due to reset bail after the revocation was overturned by an appellate panel yesterday afternoon, Mr. Zwillman said. Mr. Werthmann is appealing his conviction.

Among the 11 other officers charged, 6 pleaded guilty, 3 were convicted, 1 was acquitted and 1 died in a car crash.

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