CalPERS Legal Office Monthly New Case Report November 16, 2022

NEW CASE REPORT

Name of Case (full name):	Michael McLaughlin v. California Public Employees' Retirement System of California, Cosumnes Community Services District, and Does 1 through 50, inclusive
Date Received By Legal Office:	September 19, 2022
Attorney Contact:	Preet Kaur
Program Contact(s):	EAMD
Plaintiff:	Michael McLaughlin
Defendants:	California Public Employees' Retirement System; Cosumnes Community Services District
Other Parties:	None

Plaintiff Michael McLaughlin (McLaughlin) was a local firefighter subject to California Code of Regulations, Title 2, section 571. A hearing before the Office of Administrative Hearings was completed and a Proposed Decision issued affirming CalPERS' determination that McLaughlin's holiday pay is excluded from his final compensation as stand-by pay. The Board adopted the Proposed Decision on March 16, 2022, and denied McLaughlin's Petition for Reconsideration on April 19, 2022.

Issues/Status:

Thereafter, McLaughlin filed a Complaint against his employer, Cosumnes Community Services District, and CalPERS. The Complaint does not request a review of the administrative decision; rather, it solely requests monetary damages.

As to CalPERS, McLaughlin raises two causes of action, breach of express contract and breach of implied duty of good faith and fair dealing. McLaughlin is claiming CalPERS breached a contract with him by issuing the Decision.

CalPERS filed a Demurrer on October 19, 2022, on the following grounds: failure to exhaust Government Claims Act; failure to state terms of express contract; implied contract not allowed as a matter of law; and failure to file a Government Code section 1094.5 writ so he is time barred.

Potential Monetary Impact:

Unknown at this time