

PORTSMOUTH, NH FIRST STUDENT DRIVER BACK TO WORK

Teamsters Local 633 recently represented a terminated driver for First Student at an arbitration hearing. The case focused on the procedure the Company used for automatically terminating an employee for a rear end accident.

Local 633 Business Agent Jeff Padellaro, who negotiated the contract, lent his experience of dealing with the Company for years to the proceedings. Local 633 Business Agent Rick Laughton gave testimony as to the procedures the Company did or did not follow in terminating the member. Laughton is the agent for the Rochester/Somersworth/Portsmouth, New Hampshire First Student locations. Padellaro grilled the Company on several of the issues in question. The case was then given to the Panel for their decision.

The outcome was that the Local 633 member was put back to work, with his seniority, and was awarded back pay for the time he was wrongly terminated.

Local 633 now represents hundreds of First Student bus drivers in New Hampshire. Under the direction of Principal Officer David W. Laughton, the Local has won numerous organizing campaigns with First Student and other companies in the Bus Industry.