

## Strip Search: Nurse Violated Students' Civil Rights.

The school superintendent was investigating a series of thefts at the school.

He brought in two suspects, then aged thirteen and fifteen, to the school nurse's office for strip searches. The school nurse had the girls remove their shirts and loosen their bras. The nurse found no evidence and she let the girls go.

The former students, now young adults, sued the school district, the superintendent and the school nurse in the Superior Court, Hunterton County, New Jersey.

Their lawyers were prepared to argue that a school nurse is not a police officer and has no actual law-enforcement authority. At the same time a school nurse can violate students' civil rights by acting under the guise of apparent legal authority from the State.

There was no proof of emotional trauma or psychological damage to either of the former students who each got a \$75,000 pre-trial settlement. "N.S." v. Stuby, 2009 WL 839168 (Sup. Ct. Hunterton Co., New Jersey, January 22, 2009).