



RACE ISSUES

CONVERSATION
ON RACE

“There are very few African-American men in this country who haven't had the experience of being followed when they were shopping at a department store, ...” — PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

Is it safe to be a young black man in America?

By Nicquel Terry :: @NTerryAPP
and Alesha Williams Boyd :: @aleshaboydAPP

Qaasim Johnson of Tinton Falls says he's felt the sting of being judged based on the color of his skin for so many years that



Ex-cop denies sex in school

But pleads guilty to burglary count

By Nicholas Huba
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TOMS RIVER — A retired state trooper denied in court that he had a sexual rendezvous at Toms River Intermediate East middle school with his ex-girlfriend, a teacher — contradicting statements by his own lawyer that he had done so.

Bruce A. Figular, 50, of Toms River, made the statement as he pleaded guilty Thursday in Ocean County Superior Court to one count of third-degree burglary before Judge Francis Hodgson Jr. in connection with entering Toms River Intermediate East and accusations of having sexual contact with a teacher in the school in January, said Al Della Fave, spokesman of the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office.

Robert Fuggi, Figular's attorney, stated in May that his client had multiple romantic encounters inside of the Toms River middle school. The woman's attorney, Bradley Billhimer, at the time called the claims "100 percent false."

"We are happy with the conclusion of this case," Billhimer said Friday. "The most important thing is that the truth came out and that Mr. Figular has finally

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WATCHING YOUR TAX DOLLARS

Seaside Hts. pays \$435G in settlements

By Kristi Funderburk
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SEASIDE HEIGHTS — The borough has agreed to give APK Auto Repair a quarter of a million dollars to settle a damages lawsuit, while also paying a local business for items taken after first responders broke into the