

# The Star-Ledger

## **N.J.'s top court agrees to hear appeal of plan to name disciplined cops**

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The New Jersey Supreme Court will take up a case on whether the state is allowed to identify cops found guilty of misconduct, NJ Advance Media has learned.

The decision is at least a temporary victory for police unions, who sued to stop releasing the names.

New Jersey has generally hidden which cops were fired, demoted or suspended for more than five days. State Attorney General Gurbir Grewal has argued releasing those names will build trust and accountability at a time when many Americans fear law enforcement, and a state appeals court unanimously upheld the plan in October.

Police unions appealed, arguing that the releases could shame and endanger cops who may have only made minor mistakes decades ago. Grewal previously agreed to wait to release names until the top court weighed in.

The Wednesday order from Chief Justice Stuart Rabner ensures that no names will be released this year.

Both side must submit written defenses to the seven justices in the following weeks, but no oral argument was scheduled.