



**STATE OF NEW YORK
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD**

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AGENCY TRANSPARENCY PLAN UPDATE: FEBRUARY 20, 2024

New York State Public Employment Relations Board (PERB)

DELIVERABLES ARCHIEVED SINCE 2021

- PERB has clearly distinguished between quasi-judicial PERB Board meetings (not subject to Open Meetings Law) and policy and/or rule-making meetings which are subject to the Open Meetings Law. The Public Agenda explicitly provides which category the Board meeting falls into).
- PERB has increased the number of oral arguments in front of the Board, allowing the public to attend virtually. Our most recent oral argument was scheduled for October 11, 2023, and involved four agricultural employers and an employee organization seeking to represent farm laborers. The argument was stayed in part because of a stipulation between the parties in *Vegetable Growers Assn v State of NY, et al.* After the expiration of the stipulation, we expect to reschedule this argument promptly; and
- PERB began to update on-line statistics, [PERB by the Numbers](#), on a quarterly basis in 2021, but experienced multiple delays due to an outdated case tracking system and lack of personnel available to perform the updates. In October of 2023, PERB began a plan to transform its website and develop a new Case Management System that will give PERB the ability to capture more meaningful and accurate data. Once complete, PERB by the Numbers will continue to be updated on a quarterly basis.

INITIATIVES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN 2024

- PERB will improve response time to FOIL requests by utilizing a new tracking system managed by ITS and PERB's Office of Administration.
- A plain-language explanation of the State Employment Relations Act ("SERA") rules and procedures will be posted to PERB's website.
- PERB will continue to provide and update plain-language materials explaining new areas of PERB's jurisdiction as they evolve through Board decisions and judicial review of decisions, including but not limited to updating PERB's *Initial Guide to Collective Bargaining Rights and Responsibilities Under the Farm Laborers' Fair Labor Practices Act.* (2019).
- PERB will translate more documents into Spanish, beginning with documents relevant to agricultural employers and farm laborers.