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THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2006 | LONG ISLAND EDITION

NASSAU

County sued for \$100M in discrimination case

A Nassau County public works employee, who already has won damages from the county for discrimination, yesterday filed a \$100-million law-suit in federal court on similar charges against the county and department supervisors.

Willie Warren, 40, of South Farmingdale, who in a 2003 settlement received \$150,000 and was promoted two grades, charged that acts of discrimination, retaliation and misrepresentation continued after he signed a July 2003 settlement agreement.

Warren, a 22-year employee, said through his lawyer, Frederick Brewington of Hempstead, that a similar complaint filed early last year with the state Human Rights Commission had been withdrawn in order to file the federal case.

"We wanted to move the case more quickly and raise the federal and state issues together," said Brewington.

Nassau County Attorney Lorna Goodman said the lawsuit "appears to be baseless, but we are investigating to see if it has any merit:"

Goodman noted that the settled case began in 1997 under then-county executive Thomas Gulotta and that a supervisor was later fired for her taped racist remarks about Warren.

- SID CASSESE