



Comsewogue Public Library

Defense and Indemnification of Officers and Employees Policy

The Comsewogue Public Library Board of Trustees confers on library employees the benefits contained in *NYS Public Officers Law, Section 18: Defense and indemnification of officers and employees of public entities*.

Public Officers Law §18 is the principal defense and indemnification statute for employees of public entities.

Section 18 generally requires a "public entity" that has adopted the provisions of that section to provide for the defense and indemnification of its "employees" in any civil action or proceeding arising out of any alleged act or omission which occurred or allegedly occurred while the officer or employee was acting within the scope of his or her public employment or duties (Public Officers Law, '18[2]-[4]).

The term "employee" is defined to include any person holding a position by election, appointment or employment "in the service of a public entity ..." (Public Officers Law §18[1][b]).