

## MAPLEWOOD IN ESSEX COUNTY EXPERIENCES RECESSION BACKLASH: LAYOFFS AND FURLOUGHS



[caption id="attachment\_2824" align="alignleft" width="160" caption="Essex County Courthouse"] [caption] Essex County in New Jersey is facing layoffs as the economic downturn seeps into every nook and cranny. It's hit Maplewood's municipal sector with a slight charge, taking 17 jobs and making five full-time jobs part time jobs. "We certainly did not want to contribute to the growing number of unemployed in our country," said Mayor Victor De Luca. "But we have limited choices." The layoffs will take effect on March 6<sup>th</sup> and will supposedly save Essex County \$1 million. They currently have a \$2.5 million gap which they need to fill before implementing a \$38 million spending plan. Essex County made 43 layoffs in December when they announced plans to lay off 150 employees. In addition to the layoffs, Maplewood will be closing their historic municipal building every Friday from June until labor day, giving employees their a total of 12 days unpaid. John Rose, the president of CWA Local 1031 said, "We are upset. We don't feel it's justified." For jobs across the country log on to Employment Crossing.

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