

**Excerpt from President Rowe's Testimony
Interest Arbitration Hearing December 22, 2008**

40

13 Q Finally I would ask you, what is the
14 union's approach as we move forward through
15 these difficult fiscal times?

16 A As a union we understand the situation
17 and the fiscal crisis the state is in and this
18 nation is in. We will do our jobs. We know how
19 to do our jobs. We have done them through the
20 years. We have done them through crisis times,
21 such as ten years ago when we were at 130
22 percent capacity.

23 I believe through the work of NYSCOPBA
24 and our membership we will make the system

41

Rowe - Direct

1 work. We ask the panel to recognize the
2 difficult and unimaginably dangerous job that
3 our members do every day. And we hope that you
4 recognize that with rightful compensation and
5 addressing the needs of our membership.