**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**
**PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION**

**PO Box 429**
**TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0429**

**www.nj.gov/perc**

**ADMINISTRATION/LEGAL**
**(609) 292-9830**
**CONCILIATION/ARBITRATION**
**(609 292-9898**
**UNFAIR PRACTICE/REPRESENTATION**
**(609) 292-6780**

***For Courier Delivery***
**495 WEST STATE STREET**
**TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08618**

**FAX: (609) 777-0089**
**EMAIL: mail@perc.nj.gov**

**DATE:** October 14, 2026

**TO:** Commissioners

**FROM:** Counsel Staff

**SUBJECT:** Developments in Counsel's Office since September 24, 2026

## Commission Cases

Appeals from Commission Decisions

CWA Local 1085 filed an appeal from Commission decisions that respectively restrained arbitration of a Gloucester County employee's grievance over not being selected for various full-time positions (because this implicated the County's managerial prerogative to make hiring decisions) but allowed arbitration to the extent the grievant sought an explanation why he was not chosen, P.E.R.C. No. 2026-43, 53 NJPER 16 (¶6 2026), and denied CWA's motion for reconsideration. P.E.R.C. No. 2027-8.

Commission Court Decisions

No new decisions have been issued since September 24.

## Non-Commission Court Decisions
## Related to the Commission's Jurisdiction

Appellate Division reverses CSC's reinstatement of Police Chief who was removed from his position for using anti-gay slur while speaking with subordinate police officers

IMO Stacey Williams, 2026 N.J. Super. Unpub. LEXIS 2296 (App. Div. 2026) (App. Div. Dkt. No. A-3750-24)

The Appellate Division of the Superior Court, in an unpublished opinion, reverses the CSC's final agency action that reduced Roselle Borough's removal of Police Chief Stacey Williams to a 30-day suspension. Williams allegedly referred to several officers as "a bunch of fags" when they felt ill at the sight of a badly decomposing body. An openly gay police officer overheard the conversation and reported the incident. As a result, Williams was removed from his position. He contested the matter before an ALJ, who reduced the penalty to a 30-day suspension because "Williams's use of the word was neither discriminatory nor targeted toward another officer or other specific individual in such a manner exhibiting homophobia." The CSC for substantially similar reasons, approved of the ALJ's findings. The Appellate Division reversed, finding the CSC's decision arbitrary and capricious. The court determined that the sanction of a 30-day suspension was "patently unreasonable" where Williams, as Chief, was to be held to the highest standard and that returning Williams to his leadership position would be contrary to the Borough's interest in maintaining safety, discipline, order and morale within the Department and in retaining the public's trust and confidence.