

STATE OF NEW JERSEY PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

PO Box 429 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0429

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

December 14, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Bob Anderson

RE: Supplemental Report on Developments in the Counsel's Office Since

November 30, 2000

Commission Cases

The Appellate Division has scheduled oral argument for January 9, 2001 in Middlesex County Sheriff's Officers FOP Lodge 59 and Steven Eckel and Public Employment Relations Commission, Cty. of Middlesex and Sheriff of Middlesex Cty., P.E.R.C. Dkt. No. AR-99-224, Chan. Div. Dkt. No. C-160. The issue is whether the Director of Arbitration properly declined an individual employee's request to have a grievance arbitrator appointed. Don Horowitz will argue the case.

An appeal has been filed in <u>City of Gloucester City and FMBA Local No. 51</u>, P.E.R.C. No. 2001-22, <u>NJPER</u> (¶_____ 2000). The Commission restrained arbitration of a grievance contesting the employer's abolition of its Emergency Medical Technical title and the layoffs of three employees holding that title.

Other Cases

The Appellate Division has dismissed a Complaint filed by the Communications Workers of America and former employees of the State's Division of Motor Vehicles against the State. CWA v. Whitman, N.J. Super. (App. Div. 2000). The Complaint had alleged that the former employees were denied employment in the private sector agencies that took over DMV functions because of their political affiliation or non-affiliation. The Court holds that these allegations are not actionable because the operators of the privatized agencies are not parties to the law suit and because the abolition of their positions was a necessary consequence of the privatilization plan rather than an attempt to make room for party loyalists.