



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

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January 31, 2002

MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Bob Anderson  
General Counsel

SUBJECT: Supplemental Report on Developments in the Counsel's Office Since December 20, 2001

Commission Cases

The appeal in Franklin Tp. and IBT Local 575, D.R. 2002-5, 27 NJPER 387 (¶32143 2001), App. Div. Dkt. No. A-1160-01T3, has been withdrawn.

Other Cases

Mt. Olive Ed. Ass'n v. Mt. Olive Bd. of Ed., App. Div. Dkt. No. A-6282-99T5 (12/17/01), upheld an arbitration award sustaining a grievance over a school psychologist's salary guide placement. The Court found that the issue presented was a simple matter of interpreting a contract provision and that there was no showing of any illegality or conflict with public policy. It also rejected a claim that the grievance was barred by contractual time limits. The Board waived the contention by not presenting it until after it had lost in arbitration.

Statutes

The New Jersey Legislature has expanded access to public records, amending the Right to Know Law, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1. The amendments are complex and comprehensive and will require close study to determine if changes are needed in agency regulations and practices. The key amendments become effective on July 2002 so the next six months will be used for that study.