A.B.D. No. 90-11

STATE OF NEW JERSEY BEFORE THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION APPEAL BOARD

> OAL DKT #PRB-5108-88 AGENCY DKT #AB-88-18

CAROL NUTTO,

Petitioner,

v.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA,

Respondent.

Carol Nutto, petitioner pro se

For respondent, Michael T. Leibig, Esq. (Zwerdling, Paul, Leibig, Kahn, Thompson, Driesen, attorneys) and Steven P. Weissman, Esq., Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO District 1

DECISION AND ORDER

On February 23, 1988, Carol Nutto filed a petition of appeal with the Public Employment Relations Commission Appeal Board ("Appeal Board"). The petitioner is employed by the State of New Jersey and is represented in collective negotiations by, but is not a member of, respondent, Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO and its affiliate ("CWA"). She pays a representation fee in lieu of dues which is shared by CWA and its local. The petition seeks review of representation fees paid to the CWA and its affiliated locals. An Answer to the petition was filed by the CWA. On July 8, 1988, this matter was transferred to the Office of Administrative Law as a contested case and was assigned to Administrative Law Judge

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Richard J. Murphy. CWA and the petitioner have entered into a settlement. On February 2, 1990, Judge Murphy issued an "Initial Decision-Settlement." He reviewed the terms of the settlement and concluded that it was entered into voluntarily and disposed of all issues in dispute. He approved the settlement and ordered that all parties comply with its terms. Pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A</u>. 52:14B-10, the matter is now before the Appeal Board to affirm, reverse, remand or modify Judge Murphy's order.

We have reviewed the settlement and Judge Murphy's order (attached hereto), pursuant to $\underline{N.J.S.A}$. 52:14B-10, and conclude that his action is correct.

ORDER

The Initial Decision-Settlement of Judge Murphy is hereby affirmed.

BY ORDER OF THE APPEAL BOARD

WILLIAM L. NOTO Chairman

Chairman Noto and Board Members Dorf and Verhage voted in favor of this decision.

DATED: TRENTON, NEW JERSEY March 16, 1990