

Mercer County, Judges of the Superior Court

and

Mercer County Principal Probation Officers Assn.

1982-83 MERCER COUNTY PRINCIPAL PROBATION OFFICERS' COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

82-83

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1982-83 MERCER COUNTY PRINCIPAL PROBATION OFFICERS' COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

<u>Number</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Page Number</u>
I	Agreement	1
II	Recognition	1
III	Salaries	1-2
IV	Automobiles	2
V	Meal Allowance	2-3
VI	Educational Awards	3
VII	Longevity	3
VIII	Vacation and Other Leave Credits	3-4
IX	Holidays	4
X	Health and Welfare Benefits	4
XI	Residence	5
XII	Meetings	5
XIII	Provisional Appointments	5
XIV	Conference Attendance	5
XV	Union Business	5
XVI	Suspension	6
XVII	Management Rights	6-7
XVIII	Grievance Procedure	7-8
XIX	Dues Deduction	8
XX	Liability Coverage	8
XXI	Federal and State Laws - Severability	8
XXII	Conclusiveness of Agreement	9
XXIII	Duration of Contract	9
	Signature of Parties	9

Article I - Agreement

This agreement is entered into this _____ day of _____, 1982 by and between the Assignment Judge of the Superior Court of Mercer County, New Jersey (hereinafter referred to as the Judge) and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffers, Warehousemen and Helpers of America, Local 102 (hereinafter referred to as the "Union").

Article II - Recognition

The Judge hereby recognizes the Union pursuant to Chapter 123 of the Laws of 1974 as amended as the sole and exclusive representative of the Principal Probation Officers I and II of the Mercer County Probation Department (hereinafter referred to collectively as Principal Probation Officers) to negotiate matters relative to salaries and terms and conditions of employment pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2A:168-1 et. seq..

Article III - Salaries

Section 1

Effective January 1, 1982 and retroactive to that date, the Principal Probation Officer I and II salary ranges shall be established as follows:

	<u>Principal Probation Officer I</u>	<u>Principal Probation Officer II</u>
Minimum	\$ 17,750	\$ 15,750
Maximum	30,106	26,865

Section 2

Effective January 1, 1982 and retroactive to that date, each Principal Probation Officer shall receive a salary adjustment of 9% of his/her December 31, 1981 base salary; however, no officer may receive more than the stipulated maximum of the appropriate salary range.

Section 3

Effective January 1, 1983, the Principal Probation Officer I and II salary ranges shall be established as follows:

	<u>Principal Probation Officer I</u>	<u>Principal Probation Officer II</u>
Minimum	\$ 18,000	\$ 16,000
Maximum	32,890	29,081

Section 4

Effective January 1, 1983, each Principal Probation Officer shall receive a salary adjustment of 8.25% of his/her December 31, 1982 base salary; however, no officer may receive more than the stipulated maximum of the appropriate salary range.

Article IV-Automobiles

Section 1

As authorized by N.J.S.A. 2A:168-8, a Principal Probation Officer, when designated by the Chief Probation Officer to use his/her private vehicle on probation department business, shall be reimbursed at the prevailing rate paid to the probation officers of the department. Principal Probation Officers authorized to use their private vehicles shall keep monthly records specifying the dates and use, points of travel & mileage traveled and shall sign and transmit the records to the Chief Probation Officer. Forms for this purpose will be furnished by the Chief Probation Officer. Principal Probation Officers will not be reimbursed for mileage incurred during travel between the probation office and their place of residence. When business travel is in conjunction with such commutation, reimbursement will be made only for mileage in excess of normal commutator mileage. It is understood that whenever possible Principal Probation Officers will use a county auto in the transaction of departmental business. The employer agrees to continue the past practice of paying the difference in premiums as between private and commercial rates for the same coverage when Principal Probation Officers use their own vehicle subject to the officers meeting all applicable departmental requirements.

Article V - Meal Allowance

Section 1

Effective January 1, 1982 and retroactive to that date, Principal Probation Officers who are required to remain on duty through the supper hour of 6:00 P.M. shall be paid a supper allowance of up to \$6.80. Reimbursement shall be made by voucher in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2A:168-8. Effective January 1, 1983, the allowance shall be increased to \$7.00.

Section 2

Effective January 1, 1982 and retroactive to that date, Principal Probation Officers, while in attendance at meetings, conferences and training courses in other counties and states, and when 35 miles or more away from the Mercer County Court House on official business during the normal meal hours set forth below, when approved by the Chief Probation Officer, shall be entitled to a meal allowance of \$2.30 for breakfast, \$3.30 for lunch, and \$6.80 for supper. Effective January 1, 1983, the allowances shall be increased to \$2.50, \$3.50 and \$7.00 respectively.

The normal meal hours are as follows:

Breakfast: 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M.
Lunch: 12 Noon to 1:00 P.M.
Supper: 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

All reimbursements for meals covered under this agreement shall be made only upon presentation of a valid receipt for the expenses incurred, as provided in N.J.S.A. 2A:168-8.

Article VI - Educational Awards

Section 1

Effective January 1, 1982 and retroactive to that date, Principal Probation Officers who have, or who shall hereafter obtain a Master's Degree from an accredited college or university in Sociology, Psychology, Criminology, Criminal Justice, Corrections, Social Work, Public Administration or a field of study related to probation, as determined by the Chief Probation Officer and approved by the Judges, shall be entitled to an annual award of \$630.00. The decision of the Judges shall be final and not subject to further appeal. This award shall be prorated to the end of the calendar year in which the degree was attained provided there is submitted evidence of such attainment to the Chief Probation Officer. Effective January 1, 1983, the annual award shall be raised to \$660.00.

Article VII - Longevity

Principal Probation Officers shall receive longevity benefits as are awarded to Mercer County employees generally.

Article VIII - Vacation and Other Leave Credits

Section 1

Pursuant to R. 1:30-5(b), Principal Probation Officers of the Mercer County Probation Department shall receive the same vacation and other leave credits as are provided generally to other employees of the county.

Section 2

The principle of seniority shall govern in the selection and scheduling of vacation periods, provided that adherence to such a practice does not disrupt the normal operations of the probation department.

Section 3

Officers who become ill while on vacation shall be permitted to substitute accrued sick leave credits for accrued vacation credits during such illness, provided the Chief Probation Officer or his designated representative is promptly notified of the occurrence of the illness and the desire of the employee to substitute such credits as described herein.

Section 4

Officers who exhaust their accrued sick leave credits during any illness may request and shall be permitted to convert and use accrued vacation credits during the continuation of that illness, provided the Chief Probation Officer or his designated representative is promptly notified of the desire of the officer to substitute such credits as described herein.

Article IX - Holidays

Section 1

Principal Probation Officers shall be entitled to all legal holidays and such other days off as shall be determined by the judiciary. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 36:1-1, these legal holidays shall include:

- January 1st New Year's Day
- January 15th Martin Luther King's Birthday
- February 12th Lincoln's Birthday
- 3rd Monday in February Washington's Birthday
- Last Monday in May Memorial Day
- July 4th. Independence Day
- 1st Monday in September Labor Day
- 2nd Monday in October Columbus Day
- November 11th Armistice or Veteran's Day
- 4th Thursday in November Thanksgiving Day
- December 25th Christmas Day
- Good Friday and General Election Day

Section 2

If any Principal Probation Officer is required to work a legal holiday or other day off granted by the judiciary, the officer shall be granted an equivalent amount of time off.

Article X - Health and Welfare Benefits

Principal Probation Officers shall continue to be provided with health and welfare benefits presently granted to Mercer County employees generally. The benefits include but are not limited to a non-contributory medical health insurance plan, a non-contributory major medical insurance plan, a dental plan and a prescription drug plan. If, during the term of this agreement the County grants to its

employees generally any additional health and welfare benefits, such as an optical plan, or provides any expanded coverage, such benefits shall simultaneously be awarded to Principal Probation Officers.

Article XI - Residence

Probation officers may reside anywhere in the State of New Jersey as long as such residence is within a reasonable distance of the probation department.

Article XII - Meetings

The Chief Probation Officer, as the representative of the Judges, and the representatives of the Union shall meet occasionally upon request of either party to discuss matters of general interest or concern that do not necessarily involve a grievance or complaint.

Article XIII - Provisional Appointments

In case a Principal Probation Officer receives a provisional appointment by the Judge to serve for an extended or indefinite period in a position higher than his/her permanent Civil Service rank, he/she shall be entitled to receive the established salary for the position during the period such appointment is in effect.

Article XIV - Conference Attendance

Within budgetary limitations and in adherence to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2A:168-8, Principal Probation Officers may attend approved meetings, seminars and conferences on corrections, social work and related disciplines subject to the approval of the Chief Probation Officer, for which their traveling and maintenance expenses shall be paid out of the county treasury.

Article XV - Union Business

Section 1

The Union shall furnish to the Chief Probation Officer the name of one Principal Officer who is to be designated as Union steward for the purpose of handling grievances.

Section 2

Time off with pay shall be provided for an official representative of the Union, not to exceed one employee, for the purpose of handling employee grievances and to attend their organization's national and state meetings, provided such time off is in adherence to N.J.S.A. 38:23-2, and is not in excess of five days in each calendar year, is otherwise reasonable and does not interfere with the officer's official duties and functions. Such leave shall be regulated by the Chief Probation Officer or a duly designated subordinate.

Article XVI - Suspension

Subject to the limitations of Civil Service Rule 4:1-16.7, no suspension may be given to a Principal Probation Officer without a formal hearing with the Chief Probation Officer in which charges are specified. The determination of such a hearing shall be subject to Steps 1, 2, 3(a) and (b) of the grievance procedure.

Article XVII - Management Rights

Section 1

To ensure the effective and efficient administration of the duties and responsibilities vested in the probation department by statute, court rule and judicial policy, the Judge of the County and Management hereby reserve and retain unto themselves all the powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in them by law prior to the signing of this agreement. Among the rights which Management retains, but not limited to them, are the following:

1. To manage and administer the affairs and operations of the probation department;
2. To direct its working forces and operations;
3. To hire, promote, assign and transfer personnel;
4. To schedule and determine work assignments;
5. To demote, suspend, discharge or otherwise take action of a disciplinary nature against "provisional or temporary" employees;
6. To demote, suspend, discharge or otherwise take disciplinary action for just cause against "permanent" employees in accordance with applicable statutes and court rules;
7. To promulgate rules and regulations from time to time, which may affect the orderly and efficient administration of the probation department. It is understood that such rules and regulations as ordered by statute, court rule or court policy may be instituted without prior notice and that other regulations covering local working conditions will be instituted upon notification by the Chief Probation Officer.

Section 2

The parties to this agreement acknowledge that the New Jersey Constitution, statutes and court rules provide for the involvement of the Chief Justice and the Supreme Court, the Administrative Director of the Courts and the Assignment Judge of the County in the administration of probation services. The parties recognize and agree to respond and comply to the requests, promulgated standards and pronouncements of the aforementioned parties as they exercise their lawful rights.

Section 3

The Judge and Management's use and enjoyment of its powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities, the adoption of its policies and practices or the promulgation of rules and regulations in furtherance thereof, and the exercise of discretion pursuant thereto, shall be limited only by the terms of this agreement and to the extent same conform to the court rules and other laws of New Jersey and the United States.

Section 4

Nothing contained in this agreement shall operate to restrict the Judge and Management in the exercise of their rights, responsibilities and authority pursuant to the laws of this state or of the United States.

Article XVIII - Grievance Procedure

The parties agree that a complaint or grievance of any Principal Probation Officer over a superior officer's interpretation, application or the alleged violation of policies, agreements and administrative decisions affecting them, if not otherwise provided for in law or in applicable rule and regulations having the force and effect of law, shall be settled in the manner provided below.

The exercise of management rights by the Assignment Judge or his designee as provided for in Article XVII, may for purposes of pursuing a grievance, only be dealt with at the level of the Assignment Judge or through any other legal or equitable remedies that are available for resolving such issues.

Step 1 - The grievance shall first be taken to the officer's immediate supervisor who shall make an effort to resolve the problem within a reasonable period of time; within three (3) working days, if possible. At this level, a complaint or grievance need not be in writing. The time limit in this step may be extended by mutual consent;

Step 2 - If not resolved at the supervisory level, the grievance shall be put in writing, signed by the aggrieved officer, and submitted to the Chief Probation Officer who shall acknowledge its receipt within three (3) working days and shall render a decision within five (5) working days thereafter. The time limit in this step may be extended by mutual consent;

Step 3 - If the aggrieved officer is not satisfied with the decision of the Chief Probation Officer, he may choose to utilize one of the following two options:

- (a) The officer may appeal to the Civil Service Commission under the laws and regulations governing the operation of that agency provided that the Commission agrees to hear the case;

- (b) He may appeal to the Assignment Judge, in which case the decision of the Judge shall be final and binding and shall be rendered with reasonable promptness. The Judge may designate any Court employee or other representative who is not an employee of the Courts to hear and make recommendations to him for disposition.

All grievances and complaints that are related to judicial policy and/or the authority of the Chief Justice, Supreme Court, Administrative Director of the Courts or the Assignment Judge under Rule 1:34-4 and any other applicable Statute or Court Rule shall be limited to Step 3 (b). In using the grievance procedure established herewith, an employee is entitled at each step to be represented by an attorney of his/her choosing, or by a bona fide member of the Union designated to represent him/her pursuant to this Agreement.

Notwithstanding any procedures for the resolution of disputes, controversies or grievances established by any other statute, grievance procedures established by agreement between the public employer and the representative organization shall be utilized for any dispute covered by the terms of such agreement.

Article XIX - Dues Deduction

Upon written authorization, in conformance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 52:14-15.9(e), from any officer who is covered by this Agreement, the County has agreed to deduct from his pay each calendar month the Union dues, as fixed by the Union, which dues shall after deduction be remitted to Ben Merker, Secretary-Treasurer, Teamster Local 102, Box 318, Rockaway, New Jersey. Such practice shall continue during the life of this contract provided the agreement between the Assignment Judge and County remains in effect.

Article XX - Liability Coverage

All employees covered by the terms of this Agreement shall be entitled to liability insurance coverage (except for auto insurance) and the provisions of legal assistance in all actions arising out of the performance of their official duties in the same amount or to the same extent as all other non-law enforcement employees in the County of Mercer.

Article XXI - Federal and State Laws - Severability

In the event any Federal or State Law, or any determination having the force and effect of law (including rules, regulations or directives of the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of New Jersey, or the Administrative Director of the Courts) conflicts with the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions so affected shall no longer be operative or binding upon the parties, but the remaining portion of the Agreement shall continue in full force and effect. The parties will meet within 30 days to renegotiate the item so severed.

Article XXII - Conclusiveness of Agreement

This Agreement constitutes the final and complete understanding between the parties on all bargainable issues, subject to the right of the parties to reopen discussion on any such issue, but only by mutual consent and upon the happening of some unforeseen event.

Article XXIII - Duration of Contract

Section 1

The provisions of this Agreement shall be retroactive to January 1, 1982 and shall remain in full force and effect until December 31, 1983. By mutual concurrence of the parties, they may be continued for an additional time period.


Section 2

A written notice to terminate or modify this Agreement is required to be given at least 60 days prior to December 31, 1983.

In witness of this Agreement, the parties to it have affixed their signatures this 10th day of November 1982.

FOR THE JUDICIARY

FOR THE UNION


Samuel D. Lenox, Jr., A.J.S.C.


Leonard W. Alvino


Anthony Pizutelli
Recording Secretary