
Middlesex County, Judges of the

1981 MIDDLESEX COUNTY PROBATION SUPERVISORS' COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

Superior Court

AT SOME Court #13, Loc. #2970

(Principal Probation Officers)

X 11/81-12/81

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1981 MIDDLESEX COUNTY PROBATION SUPERVISORS' AGREEMENT

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Article I - Agreement

This agreement entered into this ^{30th} day of ~~March~~ 1981 by and between the Judges of the Superior Court of Middlesex County, New Jersey (hereinafter referred to as the Judges) and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, State Council #73, Local #2290 (hereinafter referred to as the Union).

Article II - Recognition

The Judges hereby recognize the Union pursuant to Chapter 123 of the Laws of 1974, as amended, as the sole and exclusive representative of the Principal Probation Officers II of the Middlesex County Probation Department (hereinafter referred to collectively as Principal Probation Officers) to negotiate matters relating to salaries and terms and conditions of employment pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2A:168-5 et. seq.

Article III - Salaries

Section 1

Retroactive to January 1, 1981, salary ranges for principal probation officers shall be established as follows:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Principal Probation Officer II	\$16,800	\$28,460

Section 2

Retroactive to January 1, 1981, each principal probation officer shall receive a salary increase of \$1,700. In addition, each principal probation officer not at the maximum salary and who did not receive the salary adjustment described in Article III, Sections 3 or 4 of the 1979 agreement shall also receive a \$300 payment added to the officer's base salary retroactive to January 1, 1981

Section 3

Each principal probation officer who, after receiving the salary increase described in Section 2 above, has not attained the maximum salary for the appropriate title and has been employed by the probation department for at least ten (10) years, of which at least five (5) years (consecutive or non-consecutive) have been in the officer's present title (inclusive of provisional time)

shall progress toward the appropriate maximum salary by receiving an additional salary increase of \$500 (provided that the appropriate maximum salary is not breached) added to the officer's base salary effective the last pay period of 1981.

Article IV - Promotional Increment

During the term of this agreement, a Principal Probation Officer II receiving a promotion to Principal Probation Officer I shall receive a salary adjustment of \$884.

Article V - Provisional Appointment

Any officer receiving a provisional appointment by the Judges to serve for an extended or indefinite period in a position higher than his/her permanent Civil Service rank shall be entitled to and receive the established salary for that higher position during the period such appointment is in effect.

Article VI - 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 county mileage rate. 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.

Section 2

Principal probation officers authorized to use private vehicles on probation department business shall carry liability coverage for the use of their vehicle covering bodily injury in the amount of \$100,000 for each person and \$300,000 for each occurrence and property damage in the amount of \$25,000 for each occurrence. Principal probation officers shall receive an annual allowance of \$80 to help defray the cost of additional insurance premiums required for the use of private vehicles for business purposes. Possession of such coverage shall be verified by submission of satisfactory proof to the Chief Probation Officer.

Article VII - Educational Awards

Section 1

Principal probation officers who have, or who shall hereafter obtain, a Master's Degree or a Doctorate 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 \$500. 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.

Section 2

The decision of the Chief Probation Officer and the Judges as to the fields of study eligible under this Article shall be final and not subject to further appeal.

Section 3

Any principal probation officer earning 15 credits towards a Master's Degree will receive \$175. Any principal probation officer earning 30 credits towards a Master's Degree will receive \$325. The fields of study and procedure shall conform to Sections 1 and 2 above. These awards for achieved credits will be paid for a maximum period of three years from the date the milestones were reached.

Article VIII - Supper Allowance

Section 1

Retroactive to January 1, 1981, principal probation officers who are required to remain on duty through the supper hour (5:30 P.M.) shall receive supper allowance of up to \$5.35. Reimbursement shall be made after submission of a voucher in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2A:168-8.

Article IX - Longevity

Principal probation officers shall continue to receive longevity payments as are granted to Middlesex County employees generally. If during the period covered by this agreement, the County grants to its employees generally any increase in longevity payments, such increase shall simultaneously be awarded to principal probation officers.

Article X - 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 on a legal holiday or other day off granted by the judiciary, the officer shall be granted an equivalent amount of time off.

Article XI - Vacation and Other Leave Credits

Section 1

Pursuant to R. 1:30 5(b), principal probation officers of the Middlesex County Probation Department shall receive the same vacation 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 practice does not disrupt the normal operations of the Probation Department.

Section 3

Principal probation officers shall receive 3 days personal leave which may be used for personal business upon receiving permission from the Chief Probation Officer. Personal leave, as distinct from vacation credits, must be used in the year in which

it is granted or it will be forfeited. If, during the period covered by this agreement, the county grants to its employees generally any increase in personal leave days, such increase shall simultaneously be awarded to principal probation officers.

Section 4

Principal probation officers shall receive the same sick leave credits as are provided generally to other employees of the county.

Section 5

Principal probation 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 properly notified of the desire of the principal probation officer to substitute such credits.

Article XII - Leaves of Absence

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 4:1-17 et. seq., the Judges may grant the privilege of a leave of absence with or without pay to a permanent principal probation officer for a period not to exceed six months at any one time. Such leaves of absence may be renewed for an additional period not to exceed six (6) months. These types of leave shall be as follows:

1. Military Leave (N.J.A.C. 4:1-17.3)
2. Convention Leave (N.J.A.C. 4:1-17.1)
3. Education Leave (N.J.A.C. 4:1-17.7)
4. Emergency and Special Leave N.J.A.C. 4:1-17.8)
5. Disability Leave (N.J.A.C. 4:1-17.9)

Article XIII - Transfers

When vacant positions exist, all Principal Probation Officers II will be given the opportunity to apply. Seniority, experience and ability will be given appropriate weights in the selection process. Once the selection has been made, it will be announced. Those not selected may inquire as to the reason or reasons they were not selected and a reply will be rendered within fifteen days by the Chief Probation Officer.

Article XIV - Health and Welfare Benefits

Principal probation officers shall continue to be provided with all health and welfare benefits presently granted to Middlesex 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 prescription drug program and a dental plan (permitting contributory family coverage).

If, during the term of the agreement, the county grants to its employees generally any additional health and welfare benefits or provides any expanded coverage, such benefits shall simultaneously be awarded to principal probation officers.

Article XV - Union Business

Section 1

The Union shall furnish to the Chief Probation Officer the names of two principal probation officers who are to be designated as Union stewards for the purpose of handling grievances. One principal probation officer shall be the primary representative with the second principal probation officer acting as assistant and/or substitute representative.

Section 2

Time off with pay shall be provided for official representatives of the Union, not to exceed two employees 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. 38:23-2, 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.

Section 3

The departmental bulletin board shall be made available to the Union for the posting of announcements, notices, etc., subject to the reasonable control of the Chief Probation Officer.

Article XVI - Meetings

Representatives of the Union may meet with the Chief Probation Officer as the representative of the Judges to discuss matters of

specific interest and concern that do not necessarily involve a grievance or complaint.

Article XVII - Merit and Fitness Principle

The principle of merit and fitness and applicable Civil Service Rules shall apply in all matters relating to promotions and transfers within the probation service. In matters not regulated by statute, Court Rule or Civil Service Rule, or governed by the principle of merit and fitness, the principle of seniority shall be one of the factors considered in decisions to be made that affect the welfare of employees.

Article XVIII - Grievance Procedure

As authorized by N.J.S.A. 34:13A-5.3 and in conformance with the provisions of P.E.R.C, Rules 19:12-5.3 and 19:13-5.1, the parties agree that a complaint or grievance of any principal probation officer relating to the interpretation, application or violation of policies, agreements and administrative decisions affecting them, if not otherwise provided for in law or in applicable rules and regulations having the force and effect of law, shall be settled in the following manner:

Step 1 - The grievance shall first be taken to the principal probation officer's immediate superior, 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 principal probation 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. In the case of absence of the Chief Probation Officer, the grievance may be handled by a designated assistant or it may proceed to the next step with the approval of both parties. The limit in this step may be extended by mutual consent;

Step 3 - If the aggrieved principal probation officer is not satisfied with the decision of the Chief Probation Officer, he/she may choose to utilize one of the following two (2) options:

- (a) The principal probation officer may appeal to the Civil Service Commission under the laws and rules

governing the operation of that agency provided that the Commission agrees to hear the case;

- (b) He/she may appeal to the Superior Court Judges, in which case the decision of the Judges shall be final and shall be rendered within 15 working days. The Judges may designate a representative who is not an employee of the Courts to hear and make recommendations to them for disposition.
- (c) Nothing herein shall be construed as to deprive any employee of any right of appeal to the court which he may now enjoy.

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 own choosing, or by a bona fide member of the Union designated to represent him 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. (N.J.S.A. 34:13A-5.3)

Article XIX - Savings Clause

Should any article, section or provision of this agreement be found illegal, unenforceable, null, void or in violation of any law or any rule or any decision having the force and effect of law, all other articles, sections and provisions of this agreement shall remain, nonetheless, in full force and effect.

Article XX - 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 their mutual consent and upon the happening of some unforeseen event.

Article XXI - Duration of Contract

Section 1

The provisions of the agreement shall be retroactive to January 1, 1981 and shall remain in full force and effect until December 31, 1981. 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 contract may be given at least 90 days prior to December 31, 1981, at which time negotiations on non-economic matters may begin.

In witness of this agreement, the parties to it have affixed their signatures this 30th day of April 1981.

FOR THE JUDGES:



Joseph F. Bradshaw, J.S.C.



Richard S. Cohen, J.S.C.

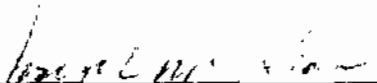


Alan A. Rockoff, J.S.C.

FOR THE UNION:



William Birardi



Joseph McKeon

James Murray