

BACKGROUNDER (January 2020)

Cory Yedlosky, et al. v. Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association, Local SCI-Huntingdon, et al.

THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fairness Center represents three Pennsylvania corrections officers in their lawsuit against the Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association, Local SCI-Huntingdon ("Local"), former Local officials Bryan Peroni and Douglas Clark in their official and personal capacities, and the Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association ("PSCOA"). The Plaintiffs allege that the unions have breached their duty of fair representation to them and their colleagues by failing to enforce the unions' own rules related to the handling of union funds, including dues and fees taken from corrections officers. Further, they allege that Defendants Peroni and Clark, while officials of the Local, improperly conveyed and/or accepted thousands of dollars of union money in violation of multiple union rules regarding the handling of union funds.

Plaintiff corrections officers notified the unions' officials of suspicious activity that, on its face, violated the unions' rules for expending the Local's funds. However, even after the unions' officials were provided with the notice and supporting documentation, the unions' officials have remained silent for months about the issue and have not provided any explanation to plaintiff corrections officers' questions. As a result, the plaintiff corrections officers have been forced to file this lawsuit to address the unions' failure to follow its own rules and to discover what happened to nearly \$20,000 in union dues.

THE CASE LOGISTICS

Plaintiffs

Cory Yedlosky William Weyandt Chris Taylor

Defendants

Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association, Local SCI-Huntingdon Douglas Clark, in his official and personal capacities Bryan Peroni, in his official and personal capacities Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association

Court

Court of Common Pleas of Pennsylvania Huntingdon County

Judge

TBD

Relief Sought

An order requiring an accounting to determine whether certain union expenditures were made in violation of the unions' rules and repayment of any improperly expended funds to the Local and/or Plaintiffs.

Date Filed

January 17, 2020

THE LEGAL TEAM

Nathan J. McGrath is Vice President & Director of Litigation at the Fairness Center. Nathan oversees the firm's litigation efforts and develops legal strategy to advance the Fairness Center's clients' best interests. Before joining the Fairness Center, Nathan was a staff attorney with a national nonprofit legal services organization, where he developed a national practice focused on constitutional, labor, and administrative law. Nathan began his legal career as an associate attorney with a general practice firm in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Justin T. Miller serves as Litigation Counsel at the Fairness Center. His work focuses on representing clients in state and federal courts, and before administrative boards. Prior to joining the Fairness Center, Justin was a prosecutor for the State Attorney's Office in Florida. He was lead counsel in over 80 jury trials and prosecuted a wide array of felony offenses before accepting an assignment to the special victims unit.

Danielle R.A. Susanj serves as Litigation Counsel at the Fairness Center, representing clients in state and federal courts and before administrative boards. Prior to joining the Fairness Center, Danielle practiced law as a litigation associate at a large international firm in Washington, D.C., and as a litigator in central Pennsylvania, representing clients in federal district and appellate courts and the United States Supreme Court.