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FOR RELEASE AT WILL

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**LEGAL SERVICES GAINS SUPREME COURT VICTORY
IN UNEMPLOYMENT COMP CASES**

EDISON — Three attorneys from South Jersey Legal Services were successful in winning a recent New Jersey Supreme Court ruling in favor of two women who stood to lose unemployment benefits through no fault of their own.

Handling the cases for South Jersey Legal Services were Alan W. Lesso, Kenneth M. Goldman and Cassandra Stabbert as the high court clarified that under the state's Unemployment Compensation Law and 2015 amendments, benefits are available when a worker leaves a job to take on a new one only to have the new offer unexpectedly rescinded. In short, the worker is not left out in the cold.

The twin cases came to the high court because of conflicting Appellate decisions on the issue that has essentially stood as a black hole in case law.

In writing for the unanimous court, Justice Barry T. Albin noted the objective of the unemployment statute is to provide some income relief to employees out of work through no fault of their own.

“Providing benefits to an employee who voluntarily leaves her first employment based on an equal or better offer from a second employer, who then rescinds the offer before the start date of her new employment, fulfills the Legislature’s objective,” he wrote.

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