

LOUIS ARONIN

Arbitrator

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MAY 02 2003

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May 1, 2003

Douglas Duncan, County Executive
Montgomery County
Executive Office Building
101 Monroe Street
Rockville, MD 20850

Charles Thompson, Esq.
County Attorney
Montgomery County
101 Monroe Street, Third Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

By fax and US mail

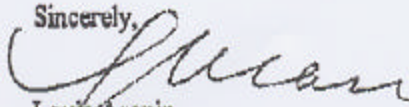
Re: Charge of Prohibited Practices
Montgomery County Police Labor Relations Law

Dear County Executive Douglas Duncan and County Counsel Thompson:

This will acknowledge receipt of a charge filed by the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge No. 35 alleging that the County Executive and the County Council have violated the Police Labor Relations Law by failing to either appropriate funds to meet the requirements of a contract with the FOP, or to specifically reject the contract and designate a member of the Council to negotiate an agreement satisfactory to the Council. Because of the time limitations established in the law I am processing the instant charge on an expedited basis and request that the County Executive and County Council file an expedited response to the FOP charge, which was served on the County Executive and on counsel by the FOP counsel.

Your response to the charges is to be filed with me, with a copy to the FOP counsel, by May 6, 2003. Upon receipt of the County's response I shall determine what, if any, future action is warranted and set an appropriate timetable for any such action.

Sincerely,



Louis Aronin,

Permanent Umpire Montgomery County Police Labor Relations Law

Cc Carla M. Siegel, Esq.