



## Cape May County Prosecutor's Office

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# NEWS

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*County Prosecutor*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 9, 2007**

**Cape May Court House, New Jersey** – County Prosecutor Robert L. Taylor announced today that the Appellate Division has upheld the June 2006 decision of Superior Court Judge William C. Todd, III in a complaint that he filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey. The complaint, known as a “Bigley application,” petitioned the Court for an order directing the Cape May County Board of Chosen Freeholders to appropriate “necessary” funds for the Prosecutor’s Office.

After several days of testimony, Judge Todd directed on June 8, 2006 the Freeholders to appropriate monies necessary to fund salary increases for the following employees, whose increases were not governed by existing collective negotiations agreements: the First Assistant Prosecutor, the Chief of Detectives, all of the Assistant Prosecutors, the Forensic Chemist, and five Agents. The effective date of the increases was January 1, 2006. However, Judge Todd denied salary increases to those prosecutor's office employees whose increases were governed by existing agreements. The judge stayed the salary increases pending resolution of any appellate proceedings.

The County subsequently appealed the decision to the Superior Court Appellate Division who affirmed Judge Todd’s decision.

Prosecutor Taylor said, “I am pleased the Appellate Court has upheld Judge Todd’s decision in the Bigley suit granting the much deserved raises. Judge Todd’s decision clearly demonstrated that Prosecutor’s Office employees have a very heavy workload but are paid way below statewide averages of comparable Prosecutor’s Offices in the other twenty counties. I hope this decision will facilitate better communications with the Freeholders that seem to have improved in the recent months.”