

## **FOR PROBATION OFFICERS, IT'S TRY, TRY AGAIN**

The union representing probation officers is asking the New Jersey Supreme Court to review an Appellate Division ruling declaring unconstitutional a statute that would allow them to carry guns. The appeals court said the law violates the power of the judiciary to control its own employees and interferes with the constitutional dictates of the separation of powers doctrine. The union, the Probation Association of New Jersey, has filed papers in *In re Matter of P.L. 2001, Chapter 362*, saying it has an appeal as of right to the justices under court rules because a significant constitutional issue is involved. If the case is heard, the justices are not expected to be sympathetic to the argument that the legislature can pass such a law. In the past, the union has maintained the judiciary has too much of a vested interest to give the case a fair hearing.

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