

[Labor Relations Agency Stationery]

**BEFORE THE ALASKA LABOR RELATIONS AGENCY**

Public Employees Local No. 71,     )  
  )  
                                  Petitioners,     )  
  )  
                                  vs.                     )  
  )  
State of Alaska and the Alaska     )  
Public Employees' Association,     )  
  )  
                                  Respondents.     )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Case No. **UC 85-1**

ORDER AND DECISION NO. 93

On March 11, 1985, the full Board heard the testimony concerning Terry Cochrane, an Equipment Dispatcher. The issue is whether she should be placed within the General Government Unit (GGU), or the Labor Trades & Crafts Unit (LTC). The Petitioner asserted that Miss Cochrane's duties were similar to those traditionally within the LTC Unit. The State and APEA asserted that Miss Cochrane was properly placed within the GGU Unit, and had been so classified since 1979.

LTC replied to the State's argument that even if Miss Cochrane were properly classified as a GGU employee, the fact that she was temporarily relieved from her administrative duties of supervising two other clerical individuals in December, 1984, mandated a change that would place her within the LTC Unit.

The parties presented exhibits showing the history of the classification from 1974 to the present. The Agency heard oral testimony from Miss Cochran, her immediate supervisor, and argument from all parties.

After duly considering the facts and exhibits in this case, the Board makes the following:

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The subject position was originally that of an Equipment Dispatcher. The historical classification of Equipment Dispatcher has placed that job description within the LTC Unit. The position was reviewed in 1974 and the State classified it as an Equipment Dispatcher. The position was reviewed in 1979, and the State decided to combine the duties of the Equipment Dispatcher with those of a Clerk IV. A Clerk IV performs the first level of full supervisory duties over a clerical unit and/or performs most difficult and complex clerical duties requiring extensive knowledge of a specialized subject area.

2. In 1979 the position filled by Betty Sue Roberts was reclassified as a Clerk IV, and the person in that position at the present has been performing the duties of a Clerk IV.

3. Miss Cochran completed a Position Description Questionnaire on or about November, 1984. A review of the duties she performs leads this Agency to the conclusion that the predominant part of her day is in handling administrative and clerical duties.

4. The fact that Miss Cochrane was temporarily relieved from her supervisory duties is not dispositive of this case as such action was deemed to be temporary in nature, and the position which she is filling will require her to do the traditional duties of the Clerk IV Office Manager. In such position, she is a Lead Clerk supervising two clerical positions.

5. This Agency therefore concludes as a matter of law, that Miss Cochrane is properly placed within the GGU Unit. That since 1979, the hands-on work with the vehicles was assigned to the Equipment Shop under the direction of the shop foreman. The clerical functions of the Dispatcher position was assigned to the clerical staff in the Fleet Office, with supervisory duties and therefore concludes as a matter of law that the Petition is DENIED and this case dismissed.

DATED this 11th day of April, 1985 in Anchorage, Alaska.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
C. R. "Steve" Hafling, Chairman

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Humphries

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Marlene Johnson

[Signatures on File]