

# Still no prison for Cape woman who brought gun to domestic dispute

LYNDA COHEN, Staff Writer | Posted: Thursday, July 30, 2015 8:00 am

Decisions the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office made in previous gun cases became evidence against it in an appealed sentencing Wednesday.

Bonnie Oliver Allamong, 52, was given the same no-prison sentence that Assistant Prosecutor John Santoliquido previously called illegal.

The Lower Township woman pleaded guilty last year to taking her legally owned gun to her sister's Galloway Township home during a domestic dispute between the woman and her boyfriend.

The plea agreement called for Allamong to be sentenced to three years in prison, with one year of parole ineligibility. But Superior Court Judge Michael Donio instead gave the woman 275 days of day-reporting to the Atlantic County jail.

The appellate panel sent the case back to Donio, saying he should get a more thorough look into how the office has handled these case, to see whether Allamong was receiving equal treatment.

The Attorney General's Office has always had the ability to look into these prior decisions. But Donio had opened up that same information to the defense, saying that was only fair.

The appellate decision opened them even further, allowing her defense attorney, Michael Schreiber, to see police reports, letters from defense attorneys, the prosecutors' responses and disposition of exactly what happened, Schreiber said.

While current Prosecutor Jim McClain had been tough in all instances of gun possession — regardless of reason or criminal history — his predecessor Ted Housel was more lenient in those involving legally owned guns. The judge looked at the cases as a whole from the office, and not how the different prosecutors handled them.

“A lot more cases became known to me that both the judge and I agreed created a denial of due process and equal protection,” Schreiber said, following the resentencing.



Allamong

Bonnie Oliver Allamong

It found that defendants with similar circumstances got better deals, and those with more against them got similar deals to Allamong's, her attorney pointed out.

As a result, Allamong was again given day-reporting along with three years of probation. Donio also added the requirement of anger management.

Allamong's sentence had been stayed while the case was pending appeal. She has now been ordered to report to the jail next Wednesday.

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