IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA MIDDLE DISTRICT

RACHEL L. CARR : No. 460 MAL 2018

:

v. : Petition for Allowance of Appeal from

the Order of the Commonwealth Court

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, STATE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

:

PETITION OF: PENNSYLVANIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

<u>ORDER</u>

PER CURIAM

AND NOW, this 8th day of January, 2018, the Petition for Allowance of Appeal is **GRANTED**. The issues, as stated by Petitioner, are:

- (1) Is the Commonwealth Court's decision in conflict with the U.S. Supreme Court's rulings in *Pickering* [v. Bd. of Educ. of Twp. High Sch. Dist., 391 U.S. 563 (1968)] and its progeny, which allow a government employer to terminate an employee on the basis of their speech, even when it touches upon a matter of public concern, so long as the employer can demonstrate that an adverse effect could be reasonably foreseen?
- (2) Did the Commonwealth Court err as a matter of law by failing to give sufficient weight to the public importance, or lack thereof, of Carr's Facebook comments, as required by *Pickering* and its progeny?
- (3) Did the Commonwealth Court err as a matter of law by failing to give sufficient weight to the public importance, or lack thereof, of Carr's Facebook comments, as required by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in *Sacks*?