

(i) IS IN THE UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE STATE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND serves at the pleasure of the Secretary;

(c) (2) Each assistant secretary and professional consultant IS IN THE UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE STATE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Secretary.

(3) [Unless] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION OR otherwise [provided] by law, the Secretary shall appoint and remove all other staff in accordance with the provisions of the [Merit System Law] STATE PERSONNEL ARTICLE THAT GOVERN CLASSIFIED SERVICE EMPLOYEES.

3-301.

(b) (1) All employees and personnel of the Central Collection Unit shall:

(i) except for Assistant Attorneys General assigned to the Central Collection Unit, be UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE EMPLOYEES IN THE STATE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WHO ARE appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Secretary and [shall] ARE not [be] subject to [Article 64A, § 35 of the Code (the State Merit System Law)] ~~THE LAYOFF LAW IN TITLE 9, SUBTITLE 5 OF THE STATE PERSONNEL ARTICLE;~~ and

(2) Except for employees in the Executive Pay Plan and any Assistant Attorneys General assigned to the Central Collection Unit, an unclassified SERVICE employee of the Central Collection Unit may not be permanently removed from the unclassified service except for cause and until written charges have been filed and a hearing has been conducted in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article. This paragraph does not apply to the removal of an unclassified SERVICE employee because of a layoff that resulted from:

- (i) a lack of work; or
- (ii) the lack of an appropriation.

4-203.

(a) (2) The Deputy Secretary:

(i) IS IN THE UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE STATE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND serves at the pleasure of the Secretary;

(b) (2) Each staff assistant in the Office of the Secretary in charge of a particular area of responsibility[, ] and each professional consultant[, ] is IN THE UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE STATE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND IS appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Secretary.

(3) [Unless] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION OR otherwise [provided] by law, the Secretary shall appoint and remove all other staff in the Office of the Secretary in accordance with the [State Merit System Law] PROVISIONS OF THE STATE PERSONNEL ARTICLE THAT GOVERN CLASSIFIED SERVICE EMPLOYEES.