

## The Jurisdiction of the Department of Labor and the Gomez Case

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*SUBJECT(S): LABOR LAW*

*KEYWORD(S): LABOR STANDARDS COMMISSION, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR*

Reorganization Plan No. 20-A, approved by Congress pursuant to the Reorganization Act of 1954, vests upon the Regional Offices and Labor Standards Commission of the Department of Labor the power to hear and decide money claims including termination and overtime pays. The case of *Gomez v. North Camarines Lumber Company*, however, has had occasion to mention that the Court of Industrial Relations (CIR) has jurisdiction over the same, based on certain provisions of Commonwealth Act No. 103. The Author deems such a decision revolutionary since it is contrary to previous rulings of the Supreme Court.

Hence, the Article addresses the issue by looking into the pertinent cases on the matter. In the end, the Author presents a solution to the dilemma — that concurrent jurisdiction be upheld between the two bodies over compensation cases.