

# Questions About the Anthem Demutualization?

Here are answers to many of the questions our members have been asking about this issue and how it has affected the Tolland Paras, the Secretaries, the Town Hall employees and all other Tolland employees.

**Q: What is the Anthem Demutualization?**

**A:** The Anthem Insurance Company (Blue Cross-Blue Shield) changed from a mutual insurance company, owned by policyholders, to a publicly traded company owned by shareholders. This obligated Anthem to offer shares to the policyholders.

**Q: Who received the shares?**

**A:** The Town of Tolland received the shares, sold them, and received about \$770,000.00.

**Q: Why didn't the employees get any money?**

**A:** The Town of Tolland, which purchases health insurance for the Board of Education, took the position that the money belonged to the Town. All the Unions met and decided to see how a pending Teachers' grievance, which was to be a test case, was resolved. That grievance was settled after 5 long years, and the Teachers got some money back, depending on single, one-and-one, or family coverage.

**Q: How did CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 respond to the grievance result?**

**A:** The union demanded the Board of Ed and the Town bargain over the Paras', the Secretaries', and Town Hall employees' fair share. The Tolland Town and the Board of Ed refused.

**Q: What is CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 doing to fight for you now?**

**A:** The Labor Board held a hearing; briefs were filed on January 3, 2008. The Labor Board's decision will determine if the Town and the Board must bargain with your union on your behalf.



*"We have done all we can to get the Town of Tolland to give the demutualization funds back to our members, and haven't given up yet!"*

**Linda Binheimer**  
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