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—ATTORNEYS AT LAW—

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## An Unwise Departure From Judicial Restraint

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Wilentz Shareholder and Criminal Law Chair Darren M. Gelber reflects on the importance of judicial restraint, the principle that courts should decide only the cases before them. Mr. Gelber delves into the Appellate Division opinion of *Patel v. New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission* and the subsequent observations made by the Appellate Division concerning legal issues not related to the disposition of the matter before it, based on its premature assessment of the Motor Vehicle Commission's position on penalty points for third-time offenders in traffic violations.

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