CASE DIGEST: AFGE, Loc. 3368, 72 FLRA 158 (2021)

The Arbitrator found that the Agency had just cause to suspend the grievant for two days for violating official-time rules in the parties' collective-bargaining agreement. The Union filed exceptions to the award based on nonfact, fair-hearing, essence and contrary-to-law grounds. The Authority found that the Union failed to establish that the award was deficient on any of these grounds and denied the Union's exceptions.

Member Abbott agreed with the outcome of the decision but stated in a personal footnote that key takeaway from this case is that Union officials are required to follow established rules on the request for and use of official time and that they may be disciplined when they fail to do so. Union officials are not insulated from discipline.

This case digest is a summary of a decision issued by the Federal Labor Relations Authority, with a short description of the issues and facts of the case. Descriptions contained in this case digest are for informational purposes only, do not constitute legal precedent, and are not intended to be a substitute for the opinion of the Authority.