

CASE DIGEST: *U.S. Dep't of VA, John J. Pershing VA Med. Ctr, Poplar Bluff, Mo., 73 FLRA 67 (2022) (Member Kiko concurring)*

The Arbitrator found that the Agency violated the parties' collective-bargaining agreement by miscounting the number of bargaining-unit employees used to determine the Union's allotment of annual official-time hours. The Agency filed exceptions on essence and nonfact grounds. The Authority dismissed the essence exception, in part, and denied it in part, and denied the nonfact exception.

Member Kiko concurred in order to note the unprecedented amounts of official time sought by the Union in negotiations, and to reiterate that parties have an obligation under the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute to negotiate agreements that provide for official time in amounts that are reasonable, necessary, and in the public interest.

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.