

CASE DIGEST: *USDA, Rsch, Educ. & Econ., Agric. Rsch. Serv., Se. Area*, 74 FLRA 480 (2026)

The Agency filed an application for review of the Regional Director's (RD's) decision ordering an election for a bargaining unit about which there was a good-faith doubt as to whether a majority of unit employees continued to support the Union. The Agency challenged the RD's decision on the ground that it raised an issue for which there was an absence of precedent. Specifically, the Agency argued that, because the FLRA had ordered an election in similar circumstances less than six years earlier, another election was inappropriate – and that the Authority should either decertify the Union without an election or require the Union to demonstrate a showing of interest from unit employees before conducting another election. The Authority found that existing legal standards supported the RD's decision and that, consequently, there was not an absence of precedent warranting review of that decision. Therefore, the Authority denied the Agency's application for review.

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.