

**CASE DIGEST:**     *U.S. DOL*, 74 FLRA 604 (2026) (Member Wagner dissenting)

The Arbitrator found that the Agency violated the parties' collective-bargaining agreement by processing the revocation of an employee's dues withholding outside the pertinent contractual window. The Agency filed an essence exception arguing that, under the agreement, the parties were governed by a government-wide regulation that allowed the employee to revoke her previously authorized dues withholding outside the contractual window. The Authority granted the exception and set aside the award because the agreement expressly made government-wide regulations immediately applicable to the parties.

Member Wagner dissented. Applying the principles set forth in her dissent in *SSA*, 74 FLRA 555 (2026) (Dissenting Opinion of Member Wagner), she would have denied the Agency's essence exception.

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.