

FLRA NEWS

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY - WASHINGTON, DC 20424

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FLRA's Federal Service Impasses Panel (FSIP) Issues a Proposed Rule Updating its Regulations to Establish Revised Methods by which the Public May Obtain Specific Forms from FSIP, and then File, or Formally Submit, those Forms and other Documents during the Course of FSIP Proceedings

Due primarily to budgetary constraints, the FSIP is consolidating its office space at 1400 K Street, NW, Washington, DC, so that its offices will now be located on the third floor near FLRA's existing office space.

Additionally, as the FSIP continues to move towards fully electronic case files, it strongly encourages parties to file any permissible documents through the eFiling system and is implementing a requirement that in-person filings be scheduled at appointed times by permission only. This will assist the FSIP—which has currently a staff of only four employees—in more easily managing staff-coverage issues, especially if budget constraints or other considerations prevent it from filling vacancies as they arise.

Therefore, today, the FLRA issued a <u>Federal Register notice</u> proposing to amend 5 CFR Parts 2471.2, 2471.5, 2472.3, 2472.5, and 2472.6 to update procedures for obtaining FSIP-specific forms and then filing or formally submitting those forms and other documents during the course of FSIP proceedings. The proposed amendments would promote eFiling, and conserve FSIP staff time by allowing staff to accept documents at pre-determined times thereby allowing staff to avoid being on constant stand-by for lengthy periods of time each week to accept forms and documents, thus losing the opportunity to perform other critical tasks.

Comments must be received on or before March 18, 2024. Information on how to submit a comment can be found in <u>the notice</u>.

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The FLRA administers the labor-management relations program for 2.1 million non-Postal federal employees worldwide, approximately 1.2 million of whom are represented in 2,200 bargaining units. It is charged with providing leadership in establishing policies and guidance related to federal sector labor-management relations and with resolving disputes under, and ensuring compliance with, the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute.