



FLRA NEWS

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The FLRA Adopts an Addition to Its Regulations Concerning Revoking Written Assignments for the Payment of Union Dues

Today, the Federal Labor Relations Authority (the Authority) published a [Final Rule](#) to govern the process for federal employees to revoke written assignments for the payment of union dues under 5 U.S.C. § 7115(a). The new rule will appear as § 2429.19 of the Authority's Regulations and will apply to all written assignments that are authorized on or after the Final Rule's effective date.

The new rule states that "after the expiration of the one-year period during which an assignment may not be revoked under 5 U.S.C. § 7115(a), an employee may initiate the revocation of a previously authorized assignment at any time that the employee chooses." The employing agency must process the employee's dues-revocation made after the first year "as soon as administratively feasible."

The Authority's reasons for adopting the rule are set forth in the Supplementary Information section that accompanies the Final Rule in [today's Federal Register](#). Previously, in the March 19, 2020, issue of the [Federal Register](#), the Authority solicited comments on a proposed version of the new rule. The Authority also solicited public comments on the issue in July 12, 2019 [Federal Register](#).

In announcing the new rule, FLRA Chairman Colleen Duffy Kiko stated, "In many of the public comments we received, federal employees and agencies expressed frustration at how difficult and time-consuming the dues-revocation process had become. Because of the new rule, employees will no longer need to make their revocation decisions during confusingly defined and narrow window periods abutting their anniversary dates. The plain language of 5 U.S.C. § 7115(a) never required this state of affairs, and hard-working federal employees deserved more clarity. This regulation does not prevent any employee from voluntarily continuing their dues withholding should they so desire."

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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.