



FLRA NEWS

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY - WASHINGTON, DC 20424

Contact: Sarah Whittle Spooner
202-218-7791

www.flra.gov

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THE FLRA ANNOUNCES SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY2009 DECLARING THAT IT IS "BACK IN BUSINESS!"

The FLRA announced today that during FY2009 it made significant progress addressing its case backlog and re-engaging with its customers -- federal employees, the unions that represent them, and federal agencies. In FY2009, the FLRA began taking steps to rebuild the agency's workforce and improve performance in terms of timely case processing as well as training, outreach, and offers of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) services to assist parties in their labor-management relationships.

In furtherance of its commitment to improving agency performance, the Authority issued 215 merits decisions -- nearly double the number of decisions issued in the last two years combined and more than the Authority has issued in any year since FY2003. Seventy-eight percent of those cases were among the Authority's oldest cases, including the oldest case in the Authority's inventory. Other strategies employed in FY2009 to improve agency performance include early identification of incoming cases that are susceptible to summary disposition and use of innovative decision formats. The Office of the General Counsel resolved more than 3,500 unfair labor practice (ULP) charges and approximately 250 representation petitions, and began aggressively resolving and issuing complaints in the more than 300 ULP cases that were awaiting the arrival of a General Counsel. The Federal Services Impasses Panel resolved close to 100 bargaining impasses. In addition, the FLRA provided nearly 100 training sessions nation-wide, encompassing more than 2500 participants. In this connection, the FLRA is aggressively pursuing opportunities to provide training to customers both to assist them in avoiding disputes and to improve the quality of filings, which in turn assists agency components in more timely resolving disputes. Further, the FLRA's Collaboration and Alternative Dispute Resolution Office (CADRO) conducted 15 interventions in FY2009, reaching a full resolution in 13 of those cases.

"These accomplishments are just a few examples of the FLRA's progress and renewed commitment to serving its customers," stated FLRA Chairman Carol Waller Pope. "I pledge to work hard in leading and continuing these efforts in FY2010 not only to restore confidence in the FLRA, but also to make it more effective and responsive to the needs of the labor-management relations community."

The FLRA administers the labor-management relations program for 1.9 million non-Postal Federal employees worldwide, approximately 1.1 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 and ensuring compliance with the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute.

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