FLRA ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT TO THE FOREIGN SERVICE IMPASSE DISPUTES PANEL

Carol Waller Pope, Chairman of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA), has appointed William C. Hansen as a Foreign Service member of the Foreign Service Impasse Disputes Panel (Foreign Service Panel). Mr. Hansen’s appointment was effective October 27, 2016, for a term ending on March 7, 2018. Chairman Pope stated that she was pleased to appoint such a highly qualified individual to serve on the Foreign Service Panel, which once again has a full complement of five members. Mary Jacksteit – who concurrently serves as the Chair of the Federal Service Impasses Panel (FSIP) and the Chair of the Foreign Service Panel – echoed that sentiment.

William C. Hansen is a Commissioned Foreign Service Officer with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Mr. Hansen joined USAID in 2004 as an Executive Officer specializing in Administrative Management. He has been posted in Indonesia, Albania, The Republic of Georgia, Iraq, and Kenya. Prior to joining USAID, Mr. Hansen was a Career Military Officer in the U.S. Army. He was deployed both domestically and overseas, serving in Georgia, California, Panama, Germany, North Carolina, Kansas, Texas, and Washington D.C. He retired from the U.S. Army in 2004. Mr. Hansen holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University, and a Master of Science in Administration from Central Michigan University.

The Foreign Service Panel was created by the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. §§ 4110-4118) to assist in resolving impasses arising in the course of collective bargaining under the Act over conditions of employment affecting Foreign Service personnel working for the Broadcasting Board of Governors, USAID, and the Departments of State, Agriculture, and Commerce. The Act provides that the FLRA Chairman – who also serves as the Chairman of the Foreign Service Relations Board – appoints the five-member Foreign Service Panel members, and requires that it be composed of two members of the Foreign Service (who are not management officials, confidential employees, or labor organization officials); one member of the FSIP; one individual employed by the U.S. Department of Labor; and one public member who does not hold any other office or position in the government.

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 (the Statute). The FSIP resolves impasses between federal agencies and unions representing federal employees arising from negotiations over conditions of employment under the Statute and the Federal Employees Flexible and Compressed Work Schedules Act.

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