



FLRA NEWS

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PRESIDENT TRUMP APPOINTS TWO NEW MEMBERS TO THE FEDERAL SERVICE IMPASSES PANEL

The FLRA is pleased to announce that President Donald J. Trump has appointed Robert J. Gilson and Maxford Nelsen to serve as Members of the Federal Service Impasses Panel (Panel), an independent entity within the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA). The Panel Chairman and Members serve on a part-time basis and assist in resolving negotiation impasses between federal agencies and labor organizations. FLRA Chairman Colleen Duffy Kiko expressed her pleasure at the appointments.

Robert J. Gilson will serve a five-year term expiring October 2, 2024. Mr. Gilson began his federal career with the U.S. Civil Service Commission, and has held labor and employee relations, managerial, and agency advocacy positions with the Office of Personnel Management, the Navy, the Army, the Department of Treasury, and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), where he served as Chief of Labor and Employee Relations. He is proud of his role in helping to establish the NTSB Training Academy, located on the Loudoun County, Virginia Campus of the George Washington University. During his federal career, Mr. Gilson served as chief negotiator on numerous labor agreements and represented agencies before the FLRA, the Panel, the Merit Systems Protection Board, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and arbitrators.

Since retiring from federal service in 2001, Mr. Gilson continued to represent federal agencies before the FLRA, the Panel, and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. In recent years, he developed and delivered a number of advanced Labor and Employee Relations training courses, and has spoken at many conferences on labor and employee relations issues. He has trained thousands of federal negotiators, supervisors, and managers over the course of more than 40 years.

Mr. Gilson is the author or co-author of nine books for federal managers. Since 2004, he has also written more than 500 articles about labor and employee relations issues for FedSmith.com, a news website devoted to federal sector employment issues. Mr. Gilson holds a bachelor's degree from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

Maxford Nelsen will also serve a five-year term expiring October 2, 2024. Mr. Nelsen is the director of labor policy for the Freedom Foundation, where he leads the organization's research, advises its strategic litigation program, and advances its government affairs efforts. His research on labor and economic policy has formed the basis of several briefs submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Nelsen's work has been published in local newspapers around the country as well as the *Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, *The Hill*, and the *National Review*. His commentary on labor policy issues has been featured in media outlets like the *New York Times*, Fox News, and the PBS News Hour. Prior to joining the Freedom Foundation, Mr. Nelsen worked for WashingtonVotes.org and

the Washington Policy Center. He graduated magna cum laude from Whitworth University with a bachelor's degree in political science. Mr. Nelsen resides in Olympia, Washington, with his wife and son.

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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 (the Statute).

The Panel 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.

For further information regarding the Panel or these appointments, contact Kimberly Moseley, Executive Director of the Panel, at (202) 218-7790.