FLRA SEEKS INPUT ON DRAFT NEGOTIABILITY-TRAINING MATERIALS

The Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) has developed draft negotiability-training materials – specifically, a Guide to Negotiability Under the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute and an accompanying slide presentation. The materials address: (1) negotiability terms and concepts; (2) the Authority’s negotiability process; (3) the bases for dismissing negotiability petitions; and (4) some substantive issues that frequently arise in negotiability cases, including management rights. The FLRA intends these materials to be the foundation for a comprehensive negotiability-training program that the FLRA plans to introduce later this year.

To ensure that the comprehensive training resources meet the needs of the FLRA’s customers and members of the labor-management community, the FLRA recently introduced the draft materials at the Society of Federal Labor and Employment Relations Professionals’ Annual Symposium, and is now posting the materials online. The FLRA is seeking the community’s input on the materials, through Tuesday, May 7, 2013.

The materials can be found here: Guide to Negotiability Under the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute (http://flra.gov/webfm_send/707) and the accompanying slide presentation (http://flra.gov/webfm_send/708). Interested individuals or organizations may email their feedback to ngproject@flra.gov, through May 7. The FLRA will consider the input and make appropriate revisions to the materials, but will not provide substantive responses to the feedback. Once the materials are finalized, the FLRA will post them on the FLRA’s web site and will announce that posting as well as the dates for the first round of training.

Developing negotiability-training materials is another example of the FLRA’s ongoing efforts to better serve its customers and to provide current, useful tools for federal employees, the unions that represent them, and federal agencies in resolving issues under the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute.

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.

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