



FLRA NEWS

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THE FLRA GENERAL COUNSEL ANNOUNCES ELIMINATION OF THE BACKLOG OF DEFERRED COMPLAINT AND APPEALS CASES

When Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) General Counsel Julia Akins Clark took office in August 2009 there was a backlog of over 340 unfair labor practice cases where issuance of a complaint had been deferred because of the absence of a General Counsel for over 17 months. In addition, over 800 appeals from a Regional Director's decision to dismiss an unfair labor practice charge were pending. Committed to a strong and effective enforcement of the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute (Statute), General Counsel Clark made elimination of the backlog of all deferred cases a top priority for the agency. The Office of the General Counsel committed to eliminating the backlog within six months from August 2009, when General Counsel Clark took office. The General Counsel's initiative to eliminate the backlog of deferred complaint cases was achieved by the end of February 2010, and the backlog of appeals was eliminated even earlier.

"Timely and effective prosecution and resolution of unfair labor practice complaint cases is critical to our duty and responsibility to carry out the purposes and policies of the Statute," said General Counsel Clark. "With the talent, dedication and hard work of the Office of General Counsel field office employees, the agency was able to achieve the ambitious initiative of eliminating the backlog within six months. For all of these accomplishments, they have my sincere gratitude and respect."

With complaint authority restored, the Office of General Counsel resolved over 100 of the cases before issuance of a complaint, issued over 200 complaints, and negotiated settlements in over 140 of the complaint cases.

The FLRA administers the labor-management relations program for 1.6 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 under, and ensuring compliance with, the Statute. The Office of the General Counsel is the FLRA's independent investigative and prosecutorial component that investigates, settles, and prosecutes unfair labor practice charges.

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