



FLRA NEWS

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY - WASHINGTON, DC 20424

Contact: Sarah Whittle Spooner
(202) 218-7791

www.flra.gov

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GENERAL COUNSEL ANNOUNCES REVISIONS TO UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICE REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT PRE-COMPLAINT ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA), Julia Akins Clark, announced a Federal Register notice of final rulemaking (([75 Fed. Reg. 13429](#)) (March 22, 2010)), revising the unfair labor practice (ULP) regulations to become effective April 1, 2010. On February 1, 2010 the General Counsel proposed modifications to the existing regulations regarding the prevention of ULPs and invited comments on the proposed modifications. See [75 Fed. Reg. 5003](#) (Feb. 1, 2010). All comments have been considered and are discussed in the notice of final rulemaking. The final rules are the same as those that were proposed on February 1, 2010.

“The amended rules restore the Office of the General Counsel’s leadership role in providing alternative dispute resolution, training and education services to our parties,” stated General Counsel Clark. “Staff will be made available once again to assist parties in working collaboratively to resolve labor-management relations disputes.” To this end, General Counsel Clark also noted that trained mediators/facilitators are currently engaged in providing training to regional office staff on alternative dispute resolution techniques that staff may use in working with parties to resolve disputes.

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 Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute. The Office of the General Counsel is the FLRA’s independent investigative and prosecutorial component that investigates, settles, and prosecutes ULP charges. In addition, the regional offices of the Office of the General Counsel supervise union elections and process representation petitions.

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