



# FLRA NEWS

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## **NEW FLRA REGIONAL DIRECTOR APPOINTED**

The Office of General Counsel (OGC) of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Barbara Kraft as Regional Director of its Washington Region. "The Washington Regional Office is a keystone component of the OGC's rebuilding effort as we strive to improve our capacity to fulfill our statutory duty to assist the Federal workforce to deliver quality services by improving their labor-management relations," stated General Counsel Julia Akins Clark. "Never has it been more important to have an experienced, steady hand at the helm of this office. Barbara has excelled as an attorney and a manager and is well versed in the law of Federal labor relations. She has had a thirty-year career in the public and private sectors helping parties improve their labor relations and understand their rights under the labor laws. She is uniquely positioned to lead the Washington Region as we continue to restore the FLRA as a leader in labor relations in the Federal sector."

Ms. Kraft has practiced labor, employment and employee benefits law as a principal in a private law firm, as in-house union counsel and as a government attorney. Since September 2005, she has been a member of Kraft Alden, PLLC (previously Kraft Eisenmann Alden, PLLC) in Washington, DC, representing Federal and private sector unions, employees and benefit funds. Prior to September 2005, she was a shareholder in Beins, Axelrod, Kraft, Gleason & Gibson, P.C. After graduating from Wayne State University Law School in 1978, she worked first for the Michigan Employment Relations Commission, and then relocated to Washington to begin work as an attorney in the Division of Enforcement Litigation, Appellate Court Branch, at the National Labor Relations Board. She left the NLRB to work for the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME), AFL-CIO, and thereafter entered private practice. Ms. Kraft holds bachelor's, master's and law degrees from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, and a LL.M. in Taxation from Georgetown University Law Center.

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 OGC is the independent investigative and prosecutorial component of the FLRA. Through its seven regional offices, it investigates, settles, and prosecutes unfair labor practice charges, resolves representation disputes, and provides training to Federal sector parties on improving their labor-management relations.

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