

**69 FLRA No. 14**

AMERICAN FEDERATION  
OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES  
LOCAL 2145  
(Union)

and

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
MEDICAL CENTER  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA  
(Agency)

0-AR-5151

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DECISION

December 2, 2015

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Before the Authority: Carol Waller Pope, Chairman, and  
Ernest DuBester and Patrick Pizzella, Members

This matter is before the Authority on exceptions to an award of Arbitrator Thomas L. Hewitt filed by the Union under § 7122(a) of the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute (the Statute)<sup>1</sup> and part 2425 of the Authority's Regulations.<sup>2</sup> The Agency filed an opposition to the Union's exceptions.

We have determined that this case is appropriate for issuance as an expedited, abbreviated decision under § 2425.7 of the Authority's Regulations.<sup>3</sup>

Under § 7122(a) of the Statute,<sup>4</sup> an award is deficient if it is contrary to any law, rule, or regulation, or it is deficient on other grounds similar to those applied by federal courts in private sector labor-management relations. Upon careful consideration of the entire record in this case and Authority precedent, we conclude that the award is not deficient on the grounds raised in the exceptions and set forth in § 7122(a).<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 7122(a).

<sup>2</sup> 5 C.F.R. pt. 2425.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* § 2425.7 ("Even absent a [party's] request, the Authority may issue expedited, abbreviated decisions in appropriate cases.").

<sup>4</sup> 5 U.S.C. § 7122(a).

<sup>5</sup> *U.S. Dep't of the Air Force, Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colo.*, 48 FLRA 589, 593-94 (1993) (award not deficient as based on a nonfact where excepting party either challenges a factual matter that the parties disputed

Accordingly, we deny the Union's exceptions.

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at arbitration or fails to demonstrate that a central fact underlying the award is clearly erroneous, but for which the arbitrator would have reached a different result); *U.S. DOL (OSHA)*, 34 FLRA 573, 575 (1990) (award not deficient as failing to draw its essence from the parties' collective-bargaining agreement where excepting party fails to establish that the award cannot in any rational way be derived from the agreement; is so unfounded in reason and fact and so unconnected to the wording and purposes of the agreement as to manifest an infidelity to the obligation of the arbitrator; does not represent a plausible interpretation of the agreement; or evidences a manifest disregard of the agreement).