



# FLRA NEWS

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## **THE FLRA GENERAL COUNSEL CLARK ANNOUNCES EXPANDED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) General Counsel Julia Akins Clark announced today expanded statutory training opportunities for FLRA customers -- federal employees, the unions that represent them, and federal agencies. As part of the General Counsel's commitment to providing training and other outreach services to promote healthy labor-management relations in the federal sector, the Office of General Counsel will be providing a series of statutory training sessions in its seven Regional Offices beginning in November 2009. "The statutory training programs help to educate the parties we serve and provide needed services to those who rely upon the FLRA to resolve labor-management disputes. By helping agencies and unions understand their rights and obligations under the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute, we are providing the parties with the knowledge and skills to resolve their disputes on their own without the need for formal intervention and litigation," said FLRA General Counsel Clark. "We have a dedicated and talented staff in the Regions who stand ready to assist the parties and help to educate them about the Statute."

The courses are free, interactive presentations lasting a day, and each Regional Office will offer a basic and an advanced statutory training course. There are currently fourteen sessions scheduled in locations throughout the country. The additional dates and locations for training sessions will be continually updated throughout the year and are posted together with the training materials on the FLRA's website at: [www.flra.gov/OGC\\_Training](http://www.flra.gov/OGC_Training).

The FLRA administers the labor-management relations program for 1.9 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 Authority is the three-member quasi-judicial body within the FLRA which adjudicates disputes arising under the Statute. The Office of the General Counsel, the independent investigative and prosecutorial component, investigates, settles and prosecutes unfair labor practice charges. The Panel is charged with resolving impasses between federal agencies and unions representing federal employees arising from negotiations over conditions of employment. It is the last step in federal sector collective bargaining -- the substitute for the strike and lockout in the private sector.

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