

NAATS HQ E-Mail Update February 26, 2006

FLRA – The agency amended their petition with the FLRA to read....

Included:

All Air Traffic Control Specialists, FV-2152 series, employed by the U. S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, assigned to the flight service option at Automated Flight Service Stations, Flight Service Stations, and Flight Service Data Processing Systems also located in Alaska and at the "Weather Unit" of the Air Traffic Control System Command Center in Herndon, Virginia.

Excluded:

All professional employees, FV-2152 series personnel employed at Air Route Traffic Centers, Terminals and Combined Station Towers, Teletype Operators, Communication Relay Equipment Operators, Clerical, Electronic Technicians, Evaluation and Proficiency Development Specialists, Temporary Employees, supervisors, management officials and employees described in 5 U.S.C. 7112 (b) (2), (3), (4), (6), and (7).

There was a telcon on Thursday to discuss this amendment and the FAA admitted that no problems have arisen with the existing unit description, but it asserts the description should be refined to specify more precisely what the unit currently looks like. Our position is leave it alone, it's not broken among a few other issues. The issue surrounding temporary employees has to do with the employees rehired by the FAA just recently as Program Management Specialists or (whatever it is they chose to make up). Our attorney made clear that the way those employees were hired back made it impossible for them to be represented by us so why add that in. Basically the FAA is simply looking for a technical excuse to re-open the contract and try to negotiate modifications. The current contract is still in effect in its entirety, if there are violations in Alaska or the Command Center grieve them.

We are waiting for the FLRA to rule on this issue, when they do I'll get it out.

NLRB – Our attorney is meeting with the NLRB's General Counsel March 7th to discuss getting LM and NAATS together for genuine good faith bargaining. It appears that LM has been spinning some of the issues, so it will be good for our side to be told. It's kind of like LM promising weekend differential and then not coming through and holiday pay, and not coming through, and telling us we were going to be getting W-2s for around \$1200.00 and getting ones for almost \$1400.00 for the laptops. You get the picture! Anyway the hearing is still set for the end of March, in the meantime we would love to put our best foot forward and

start on good faith bargaining. We have always been ready to sit down and get to work.

EEOC-Nothing new since Mike's last update, I can't thank him enough for taking the lead on that issue.

Well-Qualified issue is still out there, I've been waiting to get some other documentation to pass along to the attorneys.

The office will be closed on Tuesday 2/28/06 and Wednesday 3/1/06 to move and get squared away. Denise has done the lion's share of the work and is a part of the team we'd be lost without. The new address and phone numbers are posted on the web site, and there will be cards going out to the members. Here is the information below:

The New Address effective March 1

P.O. Box 2550

Landover Hills, MD 20784-0550

Phone 201-459-5595

Fax 201-459-5597

Kate Breen