

GAO Analysts Newsletter

Monday July 30, 2007 - Issue #10

Welcome to Issue 10 of the Band Together E-Newsletter. Please submit any questions or comments to gaoanalysts@ifpte.org.

Election Agreement Approved

On July 23, the Administrative Judge presiding over the representation hearing granted final approval of the election agreement between IFPTE and GAO management. (**See Order Approving Consent Election**)

As expected, the order confirms the bargaining unit and the balloting procedure that the parties have agreed to. (**See Consent Election Agreement**)

The election will be conducted under the strict supervision of the Personnel Appeals Board. Those employed at GAO headquarters will vote using a manual ballot on September 19. (Employees at GAO headquarters may also vote using an absentee ballot if they are unavailable on the scheduled date of the election.)

Employees at GAO field offices will vote using a mail ballot. Mail ballots will be sent out to these employees on August 23. Completed mail ballots must be received by the PAB by September 19.

Finally, since the parties have reached agreement on these matters, the order notes that the hearing scheduled for August 27 is cancelled.

IFPTE and GAO Management Settle ULP Charge

As of today, July 30, IFPTE and GAO Management have reached an agreement which resolves the Unfair Labor Practice charge against David M. Walker filed on June 21, 2007. (**See Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Election Conduct**)

The Memorandum of Agreement acknowledges that both parties are prohibited from engaging in unfair labor practices and confirms that GAO management is required to remain neutral as we approach the representation election.

The agreement provides that if GAO management believes IFPTE has made an inaccurate statement requiring correction, management will notify IFPTE and the parties will attempt to resolve the problem informally. Management will only attempt to issue a correction regarding such statements if the matter cannot be resolved informally.

The agreement also recognizes that both parties retain the right to file ULP charges if they find that inappropriate conduct has occurred. They will only do so after notice has been provided to the opposite party and attempts have been made to remedy the matter informally.