

## Union Movement at the GAO

By Stephen Barr  
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The International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers announced yesterday that it has launched a union-organizing campaign to represent employees at the Government Accountability Office, the congressional auditing and investigations agency.

The union, an affiliate of the AFL-CIO, represents federal scientists, engineers, immigration and administrative law judges and others, including the staff at the Congressional Research Service. A group of GAO analysts approached the CRS local union several months ago about forming an organizing committee, the union said.

Last year, David M. Walker, head of the GAO, completed a restructuring of the agency's pay system after an outside report showed that some GAO analysts were underpaid and some overpaid. The changes have created morale problems at the GAO, with some analysts feeling they had been demoted and others concerned about losing out on pay raises they had counted on receiving.

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