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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FLRA ISSUES COMPLAINT AGAINST LABOR BOARD

New York, New York, August 19, 2007. The National Labor Relations Board Union (NLRBU) announced today that a Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) Regional Director issued an unfair labor practice complaint alleging that the National Labor Relations Board violated federal labor law. The complaint alleges that NLRB management refused to bargain with the NLRBU in the bargaining unit certified by the FLRA and issued after an FLRA investigation of the NLRBU's charge.

The complaint is the latest chapter in a story that began in 2005 when the Union petitioned the Authority to consolidate 4 separate groups of NLRB employees into a single bargaining unit. NLRB management opposed the petition, but the FLRA found for the Union and ordered the units consolidated. After an election in which employees voted overwhelmingly to approve the consolidation, the FLRA certified the new unit and the Union asked to bargain in the certified unit.

But the Agency refused to bargain, claiming that the FLRA had wrongly decided the unit consolidation issue. The Union then filed an unfair labor practice charge. It is this charge upon which the FLRA Regional Director has now issued the complaint.

The FLRA's decision to issue a complaint was welcomed by Union President Eric Brooks. "The Agency responsible for protecting employee rights should not be permitted to deliberately violate the bargaining rights of its own employees. When the NLRB – of all agencies – violates the very heart of federal labor law, it signals public and private sector respondents that it's fine to violate the nation's labor laws with impunity. The FLRA's action is the first step in stopping Labor Board lawlessness in its tracks." But Brooks cautioned that, "this is only the first step in a process that could take years. NLRB General Counsel Ronald Meisburg told all employees said that he would fight the FLRA decision by refusing to bargain and forcing the FLRA to pursue enforcement of the decision in the courts."

Brooks called on General Counsel Meisburg to "obey the law and bargain with the lawful representative of his employees" and stated that, "if he won't obey the law, he should resign." Brooks stated that the Union would continue to protest Meisburg's refusal to bargain at every opportunity.

About the NLRBU

The National Labor Relations Board Union represents approximately 1000 employees of the National Labor Relations Board throughout the United States.