

AFGE for

Restoring Rights,

the math is simple

SSA 

Gaining Respect,

**A GOOD CONTRACT
+ GREAT EMPLOYEES
EXCELLENT SERVICE**

EMPLOYEES Preserving Social Security

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MEDIATION OF CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN AFGE AND SSA WILL CONTINUE!!

A federal mediator will continue to help with contract negotiations when talks between AFGE and the Social Security Administration resume February 23, 2011.

“We need a mediator because the agency has done almost nothing to advance the process,” said Witold Skwierczynski, the Union’s Chief Negotiator. “We continue to make substantive proposals and counterproposals that will enhance the employees’ working lives while agency representative are happy with just making two or three word changes to the existing contract articles.”

Skwierczynski noted that SSA management resisted the idea of bringing in a mediator.

“We feel they want to delay implementation of a new contract as long as possible,” he added. “They’re probably hoping a new President will be elected in 2012, one who is more prone to take management’s side.”

Agatha Joseph, the President of Council 109 (which represents Payment Center employees) and Deputy Chief Negotiator for AFGE has also had an active role in these ongoing negotiations. She believes it’s time “to move toward some resolution.”

“The Union thinks SSA has been resisting mediation because it’s part of a stalling tactic,” she said. “We feel strongly that we should have been further along in these talks but the agency is in a take-back mode and we need to come to resolution on these contract articles.”

Joseph added that “Social Security management likes what they have and they don’t have the employees’ best interests at heart. The Union wants to improve the rights and benefits of SSA employees. Management’s mindset is not the same as ours.”

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AFGE SSA GENERAL COMMITTEE, AFL-CIO

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