

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

In the matter of the petition of: )

SPOKANE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT )

and )

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF )  
FIREFIGHTERS, LOCAL 1789 )

For clarification of an existing )  
bargaining unit. )

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CASE NO. 5337-C-84-267

DECISION NO. 2000 - PECB

ORDER

Spokane International Airport and International Association of Firefighters, Local 1789, jointly filed a petition with the Public Employment Relations Commission on July 2, 1984. The filing takes the form of a petition for clarification of an existing bargaining unit, filed under Chapter 391-35 WAC. The parties indicate, however, that there is no issue in dispute.

Reference is made in the joint petition to a certification of representative issued by the Washington Department of Labor and Industries (which then administered Chapter 41.56 RCW) in 1968. Case SK-721 (November 27, 1968). Records of the Public Employment Relations Commission disclose that persons holding the rank of "captain" were heretofore included in the bargaining unit. The parties now state that they recognize that firefighters above the rank of lieutenant are more properly classified as supervisory or managerial personnel.

The unit determination policies of the Public Employment Relations Commission with respect to "supervisors" are, by now, well established. Where a potential exists for conflicts of interest within the bargaining unit, or within the labor organization certified as exclusive bargaining representative, supervisors will be excluded from the bargaining unit which contains their subordinates. City of Richland, Decision 279-A (PECB, 1978), aff. 29 Wn.App 599 (Division III, 1981). The stipulation filed by the parties appears to conform their existing bargaining unit to established Commission precedent, and there is no evident reason why the stipulation of the parties should not be accepted.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is

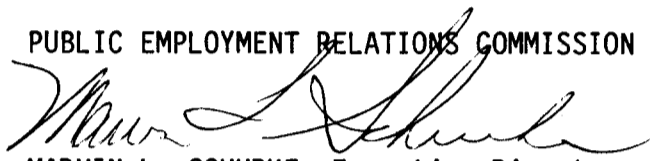
ORDERED

Pursuant to the stipulation of the parties, the description of the existing bargaining unit is amended to include:

All non-supervisory firefighters employed by Spokane International Airport (up to and including the rank of lieutenant), excluding supervisors (officers above the rank of lieutenant), confidential employees and all other employees of the employer.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, this 10th day of July, 1984.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION



MARVIN L. SCHURKE, Executive Director