



NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

TO: The Section 3 Community

FROM: Roland Watkins, Director of Arbitration Services

SUBJECT: Non-progressed and Over-aged Cases; **2 years or Older**

DATE: May 30, 2019

This announcement concerns the removal of over-aged cases which have not been progressed by the parties from the NMB's case tracking system. NMB is taking this action to address the arbitration case "backlog" which has been cited in multiple audits of this agency. Cases in our case management system which are not assigned to an arbitrator constitute an ongoing unfunded liability.

To address this backlog, the NMB will close cases in the NMB Section 3 case management system that are **two years old or older** and which have not been progressed by the parties. **Please note that cases assigned to an arbitrator for action, or cases on the waiting list for which the parties have asked for funding, are exempt from the process described below.**

The NMB will proceed with the following steps to remove the over-aged, non-progressed cases:

- By May 31, 2019, the NMB will post on the NMB website a spreadsheet containing case numbers, dates of posting to the NMB case management system, and parties concerned for all cases neither assigned to an arbitrator nor on the waiting list that are **two** years old or older as of May 8, 2019.
- On July 8, 2019, the NMB will administratively close all cases from its case management system that are **two years and older and** have not been either withdrawn by the parties or moved into the waiting list for funding.

Any case removed can be reactivated by either party through a written request to the Director of Arbitration Services.

If there are questions regarding this procedure, please direct them to the Director of Arbitration Services Roland Watkins at arb@[nmb.gov](mailto:arb@nmb.gov).