

## Legal Alert: President Obama Announces Nominations to fill NLRB Vacancies

4/29/2009

President Obama has announced the nominations of Craig Becker and Mark G. Pearce to fill two vacant seats on the National Labor Relations Board.

Mr. Becker was an associate general counsel for the Service Employees International Union for seventeen years and holds the same position at the AFL-CIO. Mr. Pearce currently is in private practice in Buffalo, New York, representing unions in collective bargaining, contract compliance, and arbitration. From 1979 to 1994, Mr. Pearce worked as an attorney and trial specialist at the NLRB's regional office in Buffalo.

There are presently three vacancies on the five-member Board, and historically the party of the sitting President maintains a 3-2 majority. Mr. Becker and Mr. Pearce, if confirmed, would join Chairman Wilma B. Liebman (D) to form a Democratic majority. Member Peter C. Schaumber (R) is the other current Board member.