

The contract bar doctrine is the long-standing rule that prevents the NLRB from processing a representation petition filed during the first three years of a collective bargaining agreement, unless filed during a specified window period before the agreement expires. The purpose of this important doctrine is to protect the integrity of both the agreement and collective bargaining relationship by preventing the processing of rival union petitions and/or decertification petitions filed during the life of the agreement.

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U.S. News & WORLD REPORT
2021

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