

constitute an ex parte communication; and

(ii) Settlement inquiries and discussions do not constitute ex parte communications.

(3) *Prohibition on ex parte communications.* From the time a respondent requests a hearing until the date that the Secretary or the Secretary's designee issues a final decision, no party, interested person, or counsel therefor shall knowingly make or cause to be made an ex parte communication. The Administrative Law Judge, the Secretary, and the Secretary's designee shall not knowingly make or cause to be made to a party, or to any interested person or counsel therefor, any ex parte communication.

(4) *Procedure upon occurrence of ex parte communication.* If an ex parte communication is received by the Administrative Law Judge, the Administrative Law Judge shall cause all such written communication (or, if the communication is oral, a memorandum stating the substance of the communication) to be placed on the record of the proceeding and served on all parties. All parties to the proceeding shall have an opportunity, within 10 calendar days of the receipt of service of the notice or of receipt of a memorandum of the ex parte communication, to file responses thereto and to recommend any sanctions, in accordance with paragraph (e)(5) of this section, appropriate under the circumstances, or may file an interlocutory appeal with the Secretary or the Secretary's designee.

(5) *Sanctions.* Any party to the proceeding, a party's counsel, or any other individual, who makes a prohibited ex parte communication, or who encourages or solicits another to make any such communication, may be subject to any appropriate sanction or sanctions imposed by the Administrative Law Judge for good cause shown, or that may be imposed upon interlocutory appeal taken to the Secretary or the Secretary's designee, including, but not limited to, exclusion from the hearing and an adverse ruling on the issue which is the subject of the prohibited communication.

(f) *Time limits.* Except as provided elsewhere in this subpart, the Adminis-

trative Law Judge shall establish all time limits for filings with regard to hearings conducted pursuant to this subpart, except for decisions on interlocutory appeals filed with the Secretary or the Secretary's designee.

(g) *Failure to appear.* The unexcused failure of a respondent to appear in person at a hearing or to have duly authorized counsel appear in respondent's place constitutes a waiver of the respondent's right to a hearing and is deemed an admission of the violation alleged. Without further proceedings or notice to the respondent, the Administrative Law Judge shall enter a finding that the right to a hearing was waived, and the case shall be determined pursuant to § 500.704.

§ 500.707 Interlocutory appeal.

(a) *Interlocutory appeals.* When exceptions, requests for extensions, or motions, including motions for summary disposition, are denied by the Administrative Law Judge, interlocutory appeals may be taken to the Secretary or to the Secretary's designee for a decision.

(b) *Filing deadline.* Interlocutory appeals must be filed no later than 15 calendar days after the matter being appealed has been decided in writing by the Administrative Law Judge. Parties may request that the Administrative Law Judge transmit the written decision to the parties by facsimile transmission, courier, or other expedited means in addition to service of the decision via the U.S. Postal Service by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. Such requests must be supported by a written statement of need for expedited delivery. Timely filing of the interlocutory appeal shall be determined by the date stated on the date-stamped registered or certified mail postal receipt.

(c) *Manner of filing.* Interlocutory appeals to the Secretary or the Secretary's designee must be filed by facsimile transmission to 202/622-1188, courier, or other expedited means, and sent concurrently by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Secretary's Office, U.S. Treasury Department, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220, with

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the envelope prominently marked “Attention: OFAC Interlocutory Appeal.” Expedited service must also be made upon the Administrative Law Judge and all parties or, if represented, their counsel, with certified copies sent concurrently by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested.

§ 500.708 Settlement during hearing proceedings.

Any party may, at any time during the hearing, unilaterally submit written offers or proposals for settlement of a proceeding to the Secretary or the Secretary’s designee, at the address listed in § 500.707(c). Submission of a written settlement offer does not provide a basis for adjourning or otherwise delaying all or any portion of a hearing. No settlement offer or proposal, nor any subsequent negotiation or resolution, is admissible as evidence in any hearing before this tribunal.

§ 500.709 Motions.

(a) *Written motions.* Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, an application or request for an order or ruling must be made by written motion, in typed format.

(1) All written motions must state with particularity the relief sought and must be accompanied by a proposed order.

(2) No oral argument may be held on written motions unless directed by the Administrative Law Judge. Written memoranda, briefs, affidavits, and other relevant material and documents may be filed in support of or in opposition to a motion.

(b) *Oral motions.* A motion may be made orally on the record unless the Administrative Law Judge directs that such motion be made in writing.

(c) *Filing of motions—(1) In general.* Motions by respondents must be filed with the Administrative Law Judge and served upon the Office of the Chief Counsel, Foreign Assets Control, U.S. Treasury Department, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220, with the envelope prominently marked “Urgent: Annex—Room 3133,” unless otherwise directed by the Administrative Law Judge. Motions by the Office of Foreign Assets Control must be filed with the Administrative

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Law Judge and with each respondent or respondent’s counsel. Motions may also be concurrently sent by facsimile transmission, courier, or other expedited means.

(2) *Interlocutory appeals.* Motions related to interlocutory appeals to the Secretary or the Secretary’s designee must be filed by facsimile transmission to 202/622–1188, by courier, or by other expedited means, and sent concurrently by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Secretary’s Office, U.S. Treasury Department, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220, with the envelope prominently marked “Attention: OFAC Interlocutory Appeal.” Expedited service must also be made upon the Administrative Law Judge and all parties or, if represented, their counsel, with certified copies sent concurrently by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested.

(d) *Responses.* (1) Any party may file a written response to a motion within 20 calendar days of the date of its mailing, by registered or certified mail pursuant to this subpart. If directed by the Administrative Law Judge, the time period in which to respond may be shortened or extended. The Administrative Law Judge may allow each party to file a response before finally ruling upon any oral or written motion. The Administrative Law Judge may allow a rejoinder to responses for good cause shown. If a rejoinder is permitted, it must be filed within 15 calendar days of the date the response was filed and served upon all parties.

(2) The failure of a party to oppose a written motion or an oral motion made on the record is deemed to be consent by that party to the entry of an order substantially in the form of any proposed order accompanying the motion.

(e) *Dilatory motions.* Frivolous, dilatory, or repetitive motions are prohibited. The filing of such motions may form the basis for sanctions.

§ 500.710 Discovery.

(a) *In general.* The availability of information and documents through discovery is subject to the agency’s assertion of privileges available to OFAC and/or to the Treasury and to the application of all exemptions afforded the