

binding on the parties 30 days after the ALJ denies the motion, unless the initial decision is timely appealed to the Authority Head in accordance with § 105-70.039.

(g) If the ALJ issues a revised initial decision, that decision shall constitute the final decision of the Authority Head and shall be final and binding on the parties 30 days after it is issued, unless it is timely appealed to the Authority Head in accordance with § 105-70.039.

§ 105-70.039 Appeal to Authority Head.

(a) Any defendant who has filed a timely answer and who is determined in an initial decision to be liable for a civil penalty or assessment may appeal such decision to the Authority Head by filing a notice of appeal with the Authority Head in accordance with this section.

(b)(1) A notice of appeal may be filed at any time within 30 days after the ALJ issues an initial decision. However, if another party files a motion for reconsideration under § 105-70.038, consideration of the appeal shall be stayed automatically pending resolution of the motion for reconsideration.

(2) If a motion for reconsideration is timely filed, a notice of appeal may be filed within 30 days after the ALJ denies the motion or issues a revised initial decision, whichever applies.

(3) The Authority Head may extend the initial 30 day period for an additional 30 days if the defendant files with the Authority Head a request for an extension within the initial 30 day period and shows good cause.

(c) If the defendant files a timely notice of appeal with the Authority Head and the time for filing motions for reconsideration under § 105-70.038 has expired, the ALJ shall forward the record of the proceeding to the Authority Head.

(d) A notice of appeal shall be accompanied by a written brief specifying exceptions to the initial decision and reasons supporting the exceptions.

(e) The representative for the Authority may file a brief in opposition to exceptions within 30 days of receiving the notice of appeal and accompanying brief.

(f) There is no right to appear personally before the Authority Head.

(g) There is no right to appeal any interlocutory ruling by the ALJ.

(h) In reviewing the initial decision, the Authority Head shall not consider any objection that was not raised before the ALJ unless a demonstration is made of extraordinary circumstances causing the failure to raise the objection.

(i) If any party demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Authority Head that additional evidence not presented at such hearing is material and that there were reasonable grounds for the failure to present such evidence at such hearing, the Authority Head shall remand the matter to the ALJ for consideration of such additional evidence.

(j) The Authority Head may affirm, reduce, reverse, compromise, remand, or settle any penalty or assessment, determined by the ALJ in any initial decision.

(k) The Authority Head shall promptly serve each party to the appeal with a copy of the decision of the Authority Head and a statement describing the right of any person determined to be liable for a penalty or assessment to seek judicial review.

(l) Unless a petition for review is filed as provided in 31 U.S.C. 3805 after a defendant has exhausted all administrative remedies under this part and within 60 days after the date on which the Authority Head serves the defendant with a copy of the Authority Head's decision, a determination that a defendant is liable under § 105-70.003 is final and is not subject to judicial review.

§ 105-70.040 Stays ordered by the Department of Justice.

If at any time the Attorney General or an Assistant Attorney General designated by the Attorney General transmits to the Authority Head a written finding that continuation of the administrative process described in this part with respect to a claim or statement may adversely affect any pending or potential criminal or civil action related to such claim or statement, the Authority Head shall stay the process immediately. The Authority Head may order the process resumed only upon

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receipt of the written authorization of the Attorney General.

§ 105-70.041 Stay pending appeal.

(a) An initial decision is stayed automatically pending disposition of a motion for reconsideration or of an appeal to the Authority Head.

(b) No administrative stay is available following a final decision of the Authority Head.

§ 105-70.042 Judicial review.

Section 3805 of title 31, United States Code, authorizes judicial review by an appropriate United States District Court of a final decision of the Authority Head imposing penalties or assessments under this part and specifies the procedures for such review.

§ 105-70.043 Collection of civil penalties and assessments.

Sections 3806 and 3808(b) of title 31, United States Code, authorize action for collection of civil penalties and assessments imposed under this part and specify the procedures for such actions.

§ 105-70.044 Right to administrative offset.

The amount of any penalty or assessment which has become final, or for which a judgment has been entered under § 105-70.042 or § 105-70.043, or any amount agreed upon in a compromise or settlement under § 105-70.046, may be collected by administrative offset under 30 U.S.C. 3716, except that an administrative offset may not be made under this subsection against a refund of an overpayment of Federal taxes, then or later owing by the United States to the defendant.

§ 105-70.045 Deposit in Treasury of United States.

All amounts collected pursuant to this part shall be deposited as miscellaneous receipts in the Treasury of the United States, except as provided in 31 U.S.C. 3806(g).

§ 105-70.046 Compromise or settlement.

(a) Parties may make offers of compromise or settlement at any time.

(b) The reviewing official has the exclusive authority to compromise or settle a case under this part at any time after the date on which the reviewing official is permitted to issue a complaint and before the date on which the ALJ issues an initial decision.

(c) The Authority Head has exclusive authority to compromise or settle a case under this part at any time after the date on which the ALJ issues an initial decision, except during the pendency of any review under § 105-70.042 or during the pendency of any action to collect penalties and assessments under § 105-70.043.

(d) The Attorney General has exclusive authority to compromise or settle a case under this part during the pendency of any review under § 105-70.042 or of any action to recover penalties and assessments under 31 U.S.C. 3806.

(e) The investigating official may recommend settlement terms to the reviewing official, the Authority Head, or the Attorney General, as appropriate. The reviewing official may recommend settlement terms to the Authority Head, or the Attorney General, as appropriate.

(f) Any compromise or settlement must be in writing.

§ 105-70.047 Limitations.

(a) The Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 provides that a hearing shall be commenced within 6 years after the date on which a claim or statement is made. 31 U.S.C. 3808(a). The statute also provides that the hearing is commenced by the mailing or delivery of the presiding officer's (ALJ's) notice. 31 U.S.C. 3803(d)(2)(B). Accordingly, the notice of hearing provided for in § 105-70.012 herein shall be served within 6 years after the date on which a claim or statement is made.

(b) If the defendant fails to file a timely answer, service of a notice under § 105-70.010(b) shall be deemed a