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§ 821.18 Motion for more definite statement.

(a) A party, in lieu of an answer, may file a motion requesting that the allegations in the complaint or the petition be made more definite and certain. The motion shall point out the defects complained of and the details desired. If the motion is granted and the law judge's order is not complied with within 15 days after notice, the law judge shall strike the allegation or allegations in any complaint or petition to which the motion is directed. If the motion is denied, the moving party shall file an answer within 10 days after the denial.

(b) A party may file a motion to clarify an answer in the event that it fails to respond clearly either to the complaint or to the petition for review. Such a motion may be granted at the discretion of the law judge.

[49 FR 28249, July 11, 1984]

§ 821.19 Depositions and other discovery.

(a) *Initiation of discovery.* After a petition for review or a complaint is filed, any party may take the testimony of any person, including a party, by deposition, upon oral examination or written questions, without seeking prior Board approval. Reasonable notice shall be given in writing to the other parties of record stating the name of the witness and the time and place of the taking of the deposition. A copy of any notice of deposition shall be served on the Office of Administrative Law Judges. In other respects, the taking of any deposition shall be in compliance with the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 46104.

(b) *Exchange of information by parties.* At any time before hearing, at the instance of either party, the parties or their representatives may exchange information, such as witness lists, exhibit lists, curricula vitae and bibliographies of expert witnesses, and other data. In the event of a dispute, either the assigned law judge or another law judge delegated this responsibility (if a law judge has not yet been assigned) may issue an order directing compliance with any ruling made with respect to discovery. Any party may also use written interrogatories, requests to

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admit, or other discovery tools. Copies of discovery requests and responses shall be served on the law judge assigned to the proceeding.

(c) *Use of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.* Those portions of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure that pertain to depositions and discovery may be used as a general guide for discovery practice in proceedings before the Board where appropriate. The Federal Rules and the case law that construes them shall be considered by the Board and its law judges as instructive rather than controlling.

(d) *Failure to provide or preserve evidence.* The failure of any party to comply with an order of an administrative law judge compelling discovery or to cooperate in a timely request for the preservation of evidence may result in a negative inference against that party with respect to the matter sought and not provided or preserved, a preclusion order, or dismissal.

[49 FR 28250, July 11, 1984, as amended at 59 FR 59047, Nov. 15, 1994; 65 FR 42639, July 11, 2000]

§ 821.20 Subpoenas, witness fees, and appearances of Board Members, officers, or employees.

(a) *Subpoenas.* Subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or tangible evidence for the purpose of taking depositions or at a hearing may be issued by the chief law judge prior to the assignment of a law judge, or by the law judge to whom the case is assigned, upon application by any party. The application shall show the general relevance and reasonable scope of the evidence sought. Any person upon whom a subpoena is served may, within 7 days after service but in any event prior to the return date thereof, file with the chief law judge or the law judge, as the case may be, a motion to quash or modify the subpoena, and such filing shall stay the subpoena pending final action by the chief law judge or the law judge on the motion.

(b) *Witness fees.* Witnesses shall be entitled to the same fees and mileage as are paid to witnesses in the courts of the United States. The fees shall be paid by the party at whose instance the witness is subpoenaed or appears. The

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Board may decline to process a proceeding further should a party fail to compensate a witness pursuant to this paragraph.

(c) *Board Members, officers, or employees.* In order to encourage a free flow of information to the Board's accident investigators, the Board disfavors the use of its personnel in enforcement proceedings. Therefore, the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section are not applicable to Board Members, officers, or employees, or the production of documents in their custody. Applications for the attendance of such persons or the production of such documents at hearing shall be addressed to the chief law judge or the assigned law judge, as the case may be, in writing, and shall set forth the need of the moving party for such testimony, and a showing that such testimony is not now, or was not otherwise, reasonably available from other sources. The law judge shall not permit such testimony or documentary evidence to include any opinion testimony, or any account of statements of a respondent, made during the Board's investigation of any accident.

[40 FR 30243, July 17, 1975, as amended at 59 FR 59048, Nov. 15, 1994]

§ 821.21 Official notice.

Where the law judge or the Board intends to take official notice of a material fact not appearing in the evidence in the record, notice shall be given to all parties, who may within 10 days file a petition challenging such fact. Upon the filing of such petition, the party or parties shall be given reasonable opportunity to controvert the fact.

Subpart C—Special Rules Applicable to Proceedings Under 49 U.S.C. 44709

§ 821.24 Initiation of proceedings.

(a) *Petition for review.* Where the Administrator has denied an application for the issuance or renewal of an airman certificate, the applicant may file with the Board a petition for review of the Administrator's action within 60 days from the time the Administrator's action was served on petitioner. The petition shall contain a short statement of the facts on which petitioner's

case depends and a statement of the requested action, and may be in letter form.

(b) *Filing petition with the Board.* The petition for review shall be filed with the Board and the date of filing shall be determined in the same manner as prescribed by § 821.7(a) for other documents.

(c) *Answer to petition.* The Administrator shall file an answer to the petition for review within 20 days of service upon him or her by the petitioner of the petition for review. Failure to deny the truth of any allegation or allegations of the petition may be deemed an admission of the truth of the allegation or allegations not answered.

(d) *Stay of proceeding pending request for special issuance (restricted certificate).* The Board lacks authority to review special issuances, or to direct that they be issued. Where a request for special issuance (restricted certificate) has been filed with the Administrator pursuant to the Federal Aviation Regulations, the Board will hold a petition for review in abeyance pending final action by the Administrator or for 180 days from the date of the Administrator's initial certificate denial, whichever occurs first.

(e) *New evidence.* If petitioner has undergone medical testing or evaluation in addition to that already submitted or known to the Administrator, and wishes to introduce the results into the record, the new medical evidence must be served on the Administrator at least 30 days before the hearing. Absent good cause, failure timely to serve any new evidence will result in its exclusion from the record. The Administrator may amend his or her answer within 10 days from the date the new evidence is served to respond to such new evidence.

[40 FR 30243, July 17, 1975, as amended at 43 FR 60473, Dec. 28, 1978; 49 FR 28250, July 11, 1984, 59 FR 59048, Nov. 15, 1994]

§ 821.25 Burden of proof.

In proceedings under 49 U.S.C. 44709, the burden of proof shall be upon the petitioner.

[40 FR 30243, July 17, 1975, as amended at 65 FR 42639, July 11, 2000]