

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

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regulation of general application, there shall first be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER a notice of the proposed action. The notice shall include:

(a) A statement of the time, place and nature of the rulemaking procedures, with particular reference to the manner in which interested persons shall be afforded the opportunity to participate in such proceedings;

(b) Reference to the authority under which the rule is proposed; and

(c) Either the terms or substance of the proposed rule or a description of the subjects and issues involved.

§ 13.4 Public participation in rule-making.

(a) *Written comments.* Interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to participate in a rulemaking proceeding of which notice has been given pursuant to § 13.3 of these rules through the submission of statements, information, opinion, and arguments in the manner stated in the notice.

(b) *Hearings.* When required or permitted by law the Commission may hold hearings in connection with a rulemaking proceeding at which interested persons may be heard, either by oral presentation or upon written submission, and may adopt such procedures as in its judgment will best serve the purpose of the rulemaking proceeding.

§ 13.5 Exceptions to notice requirement and public participation.

(a) Notice under § 13.3 and public participation under § 13.4 shall not be required when persons subject to the rules are named and are either personally served or otherwise given actual notice of proposed rulemaking in accordance with law.

(b) Except when notice or hearing is required by statute the provisions of §§ 13.3 and 13.4 shall not apply:

(1) To interpretative rules, general statements of policy, or rules of agency organization, procedure or practice; or

(2) When the Commission for good cause finds (and incorporates the finding and a brief statement of reasons therefor in the release issued) that notice and public procedure thereon are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.

§ 13.6 Promulgation of rules; publication.

After consideration of all relevant matters of fact, law, and policy, including all relevant matters presented by interested persons in the proceedings, the Commission will take such action on the proposed rule as it deems appropriate. Any rule adopted will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and the announcement of the rule will incorporate a concise statement of the rule's basis and purpose, as well as any necessary findings. Announcement will also be made in the FEDERAL REGISTER if a proposal is subsequently withdrawn. The required publication or service of a substantive rule shall be made not less than 30 days before its effective date, except:

(a) A substantive rule which grants or recognizes an exception or relieves a restriction;

(b) Interpretative rules and statements of policy; or

(c) As otherwise provided by the Commission for good cause found and published with the rule.

PART 14—RULES RELATING TO SUSPENSION OR DISBARMENT FROM APPEARANCE AND PRACTICE

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§ 14.1 Scope.

The rules of this part describe the circumstances under which persons may be denied, either temporarily or

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permanently, the privilege of appearing or practicing before the Commission as an attorney or accountant. An attorney may also be excluded from further participation in a particular adjudicatory proceeding in accordance with the provisions of §10.11(b) of this chapter or from further participation in a particular investigatory proceeding in accordance with the provisions of §11.7(c)(2) of this chapter.

§ 14.2 Definitions of appearance and practice.

(a) *Appearance.* For the purpose of this part, “appearance” refers to the representation of a person by another who appears in his behalf at any adjudicatory, investigatory or rulemaking proceeding conducted before the Commission, including but not limited to those proceedings encompassed in parts 10 through 13 of the Commission’s rules.

(b) *Practice.* For the purpose of this part, practicing before the Commission shall include but shall not be limited to:

(1) The preparation of any statement, opinion or other paper by any attorney or accountant filed with or submitted to the Commission on behalf of another person in or in connection with any application, notification, report or other document; and

(2) Transacting any other formal business with the Commission, on behalf of another person, in the capacity of an attorney or accountant.

§ 14.3 Hearings.

Hearings required or permitted to be held under provisions of this part shall be held before an Administrative Law Judge, utilizing the procedures established in the rules of practice (part 10) for adjudicatory proceedings. Any proceeding brought under provisions of this part shall, unless otherwise determined by the Commission, be prosecuted by the General Counsel of the Commission or by such attorneys in his office as he may assign.

§ 14.4 Violation of Commodity Exchange Act.

The Commission may deny, temporarily or permanently, the privilege of appearing or practicing before it in any

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way to any person who is found by the Commission, after notice of and opportunity for hearing in the matter, to have violated, caused, or aided and abetted any violation of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*, or the rules and regulations adopted thereunder.

§ 14.5 Criminal conviction.

Any person who after licensing or certification to practice his profession by any competent authority has been convicted of any felony or of a misdemeanor involving fraud or involving moral turpitude in matters related to the regulatory responsibilities of the Commission, and whose conviction has not been reversed by an appellate court, may not appear or practice before the Commission. A conviction within the meaning of this section shall be deemed to have occurred when the convicting court enters its judgment or order, regardless of whether an appeal is pending or could be taken, and includes a judgment on a plea of *nolo contendere*.

§ 14.6 Disbarment or suspension by licensing authority.

Any attorney who has been suspended or disbarred by a Court of the United States or any state or territory or the District of Columbia and any person whose license to practice as an accountant has been revoked or suspended in any state or territory or the District of Columbia may not appear or practice before the Commission during the period when such suspension or revocation is in effect. A suspension or revocation shall be deemed to have occurred when the disbarring, suspending or revoking agency or tribunal enters its order, regardless of whether appeal is pending or could be taken, and includes a judgment or order on a plea of *nolo contendere* or the procedural equivalent of such a plea. For purposes of this section it shall be irrelevant that any attorney or accountant who has been suspended, disbarred, or otherwise disqualified from practice before a court or in a jurisdiction continues in professional good standing before other courts or in other jurisdictions.