

Securities and Exchange Commission

§ 200.22

him or her by the Commission pursuant to 101 Stat. 1254 (15 U.S.C. 78d-1, 78d-2) or as may be otherwise delegated or assigned to him or her.

(c) The General Counsel also is responsible to the Commission for the administration of the Government in the Sunshine Act for publicly certifying, pursuant to §200.406, that, in his or her opinion, particular Commission meetings may properly be closed to the public. In the absence of the General Counsel, the Solicitor to the Commission shall be deemed the General Counsel for purposes of §200.406. In the absence of the General Counsel and the Solicitor, the most senior Associate General Counsel available shall be deemed the General Counsel for purposes of §200.406. In the absence of the General Counsel, the Solicitor, and every Associate General Counsel, the most senior Assistant General Counsel available shall be deemed the General Counsel for purposes of §200.406. In the absence of the General Counsel, the Solicitor, every Associate General Counsel and every Assistant General Counsel, such attorneys as the General Counsel may designate (in such order of succession as the General Counsel directs) shall exercise the responsibilities imposed by §200.406.

[43 FR 13376, Mar. 30, 1978, as amended at 47 FR 26821, June 22, 1982; 47 FR 37077, Aug. 25, 1982; 49 FR 12685, Mar. 30, 1984; 49 FR 13866, Apr. 9, 1984; 50 FR 12240, Mar. 28, 1985; 54 FR 18100, Apr. 27, 1989; 54 FR 24331, June 7, 1989; 60 FR 14626, Mar. 20, 1995]

§ 200.21a The Ethics Counsel.

(a) The Ethics Counsel within the Office of the General Counsel of the Commission shall oversee compliance with subpart M of this part and 5 CFR part 2635. When appropriate and subject to the authority of, and in consultation with, the Inspector General, the Ethics Counsel shall inquire into alleged violations of subparts C, F, and M of this part, and 5 CFR part 2635.

(b) Subject to the oversight of the General Counsel or his or her delegate, the Ethics Counsel shall:

(1) Receive and review allegations of misconduct by a Commission employee.

(2) Refer matters involving management questions to Division Directors,

Office Heads, District Administrators, or Regional Directors, and matters involving alleged or apparent employee misconduct to the Office of the Inspector General, except for matters involving alleged professional misconduct ultimately referable to state professional boards or societies.

(3) Refer complaints that appear to involve a violation of Federal criminal statutes, and do not appear to be frivolous, to the Inspector General for referral to the Department of Justice under 28 U.S.C. 535.

(4) Act as liaison with the Office of the Inspector General on matters that the Ethics Counsel has referred to that Office, and with state or local authorities on matters that, on occasion, the Ethics Counsel may refer to them.

(5) Arrange for the review of proposed publications and prepared speeches under §200.735-4(e).

(6) Provide advice, counseling, interpretations, and opinions with respect to subparts C, F, and M of this part, and 5 CFR part 2635.

(7) Oversee investigations and refer findings of professional misconduct to state professional boards or societies.

(8) Draft rules and regulations as necessary to implement the Commission's Ethics Program.

[60 FR 14626, Mar. 20, 1995]

§ 200.22 The Chief Accountant.

The Chief Accountant of the Commission is the principal adviser to the Commission on, and is responsible to the Commission for, all accounting and auditing matters arising in the administration of the federal securities laws. The Chief Accountant oversees the accounting profession's standard-setting and self-regulatory organizations, develops or supervises the development of accounting and auditing rules, regulations, opinions and policy, and interprets Commission accounting policy and positions. The Chief Accountant is responsible for recommending the institution of administrative and disciplinary proceedings relating to the disqualification of accountants to practice before the Commission. The Chief Accountant supervises the procedures