

Department of State

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§ 128.5 Answer and demand for oral hearing.

(a) *When to answer.* The respondent is required to answer the charging letter within 30 days after service.

(b) *Contents of answer.* An answer must be responsive to the charging letter. It must fully set forth the nature of the respondent's defense or defenses. In the answer, the respondent must admit or deny specifically each separate allegation of the charging letter, unless the respondent is without knowledge, in which case the respondent's answer shall so state and the statement shall operate as denial. Failure to deny or controvert any particular allegation will be deemed an admission thereof. The answer may set forth such additional or new matter as the respondent believes support a defense or claim of mitigation. Any defense or partial defense not specifically set forth in an answer shall be deemed waived. Evidence offered thereon by the respondent at a hearing may be refused except upon good cause being shown. If the respondent does not demand an oral hearing, he or she shall transmit, within seven (7) days after the service of his or her answer, original or photocopies of all correspondence, papers, records, affidavits, and other documentary or written evidence having any bearing upon or connection with the matters in issue. If any such materials are in language other than English, translations into English shall be submitted at the same time.

(c) *Submission of answer.* The answer, written demand for oral hearing (if any) and supporting evidence required by § 128.5(b) shall be in duplicate and mailed or delivered to the Office of Administrative Law Judge, United States Department of Commerce, Room H-6716, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230. A copy shall be simultaneously mailed to the Director, Office of Defense Trade Controls, SA-6, Room 200, Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-0602, or delivered to the 21st street entrance of the Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC addressed to Director, Office of Defense Trade Con-

trols, SA-6, Room 200, Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-0602.

[58 FR 39320, July 22, 1993, as amended at 61 FR 48832, Sept. 17, 1996]

§ 128.6 Discovery.

(a) *Discovery by the respondent.* The respondent, through the Administrative Law Judge, may request from the Office of Defense Trade Controls any relevant information, not privileged, that may be necessary or helpful in preparing a defense. The Office of Defense Trade Controls may provide any relevant information, not privileged, that may be necessary or helpful in preparing a defense. The Office of Defense Trade Controls may supply summaries in place or original documents and may withhold information from discovery if the interests of national security or foreign policy so require, or if necessary to comply with any statute, executive order or regulation requiring that the information may not be disclosed. The respondent may request the Administrative Law Judge to request any relevant information, books, records, or other evidence, from any other person or government agency so long as the request is reasonable in scope and not unduly burdensome.

(b) *Discovery by the Office of Defense Trade Controls.* The Office of Defense Trade Controls or the Administrative Law Judge may request from the respondent admissions of facts, answers to interrogatories, the production of books, records, or other relevant evidence, so long as the request is relevant and material, reasonable in scope, and not unduly burdensome.

(c) *Subpoenas.* At the request of any party, the Administrative Law Judge may issue subpoenas, returnable before him, requiring the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, records, and other documentary or physical evidence determined by the Administrative Law Judge to be relevant and material to the proceedings, reasonable in scope, and not unduly burdensome.

(d) *Enforcement of discovery rights.* If the Office of Defense Trade Controls fails to provide the respondent with information in its possession which is not otherwise available and which is necessary to the respondent's defense,

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the Administrative Law Judge may dismiss the charges on her or his own motion or on a motion of the respondent. If the respondent fails to respond with reasonable diligence to the requests for discovery by the Office of Defense Trade Controls or the Administrative Law Judge, on her or his own motion or motion of the Office of Defense Trade Controls, and upon such notice to the respondent as the Administrative Law Judge may direct, may strike respondent's answer and declare the respondent in default, or make any other ruling which the Administrative Law Judge deems necessary and just under the circumstances. If a third party fails to respond to the request for information, the Administrative Law Judge shall consider whether the evidence sought is necessary to a fair hearing, and if it is so necessary that a fair hearing may not be held without it, the Administrative Law Judge shall dismiss the charges.

[61 FR 48832, Sept. 17, 1996]

§ 128.7 Prehearing conference.

(a)(1) The Administrative Law Judge may, upon his own motion or upon motion of any party, request the parties or their counsel to a prehearing conference to consider:

- (i) Simplification of issues;
- (ii) The necessity of desirability of amendments to pleadings;
- (iii) Obtaining stipulations of fact and of documents to avoid unnecessary proof; or
- (iv) Such other matter as may expedite the disposition of the proceeding.

(2) The Administrative Law Judge will prepare a summary of the action agreed upon or taken at the conference, and will incorporate therein any written stipulations or agreements made by the parties.

(3) The conference proceedings may be recorded magnetically or taken by a reporter and transcribed, and filed with the Administrative Law Judge.

(b) If a conference is impracticable, the Administrative Law Judge may request the parties to correspond with the person to achieve the purposes of a conference. The Administrative Law Judge shall prepare a summary of ac-

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tion taken as in the case of a conference.

[61 FR 48832, Sept. 17, 1996]

§ 128.8 Hearings.

(a) A respondent who had not filed a timely written answer is not entitled to a hearing, and the case may be considered by the Administrative Law Judge as provided in § 128.4(a). If any answer is filed, but no oral hearing demanded, the Administrative Law Judge may proceed to consider the case upon the written pleadings and evidence available. The Administrative Law Judge may provide for the making of the record in such manner as the Administrative Law Judge deems appropriate. If respondent answers and demands an oral hearing, the Administrative Law Judge, upon due notice, shall set the case for hearing, unless a respondent has raised in his answer no issues of material fact to be determined. If respondent fails to appear at a scheduled hearing, the hearing nevertheless may proceed in respondent's absence. The respondent's failure to appear will not affect the validity of the hearing or any proceedings or action thereafter.

(b) The Administrative Law Judge may administer oaths and affirmations. Respondent may be represented by counsel. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties and the Administrative Law Judge the proceeding will be taken by a reporter or by magnetic recording, transcribed, and filed with the Administrative Law Judge. Respondent may examine the transcript and may obtain a copy upon payment of proper costs.

[61 FR 48833, Sept. 17, 1996]

§ 128.9 Proceedings before and report of Administrative Law Judge.

(a) The Administrative Law Judge may conform any part of the proceedings before him or her to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The record may be made available in any other administrative or other proceeding involving the same respondent.

(b) The Administrative Law Judge, after considering the record, will prepare a written report. The report will include findings of fact, findings of law,