

Department of State

§51.87

§51.81 Time limits on hearing to review adverse action.

A person who has been the subject of an adverse action with respect to his or her right to receive or use a passport shall be entitled, upon request made within 60 days after receipt of notice of such adverse action, to require the Department or the appropriate Foreign Service post, as the case may be, to establish the basis for its action in a proceeding before a hearing officer. If no such request is made within 60 days, the adverse action will be considered final and not subject to further administrative review. If such request is made within 60 days, the adverse action shall be automatically vacated unless such proceeding is initiated by the Department or the appropriate Foreign Service post, as the case may be, within 60 days after request, or such longer period as is requested by the person adversely affected and agreed to by the hearing officer.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

§51.82 Notice of hearing.

The person adversely affected shall receive not less than 5 business days' notice in writing of the scheduled date and place of the hearing.

§51.83 Functions of the hearing officer.

The hearing officer shall act on all requests for review under §51.81. He shall make findings of fact and submit recommendations to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Passport Services in the Bureau of Consular Affairs. In making his or her findings and recommendations, the hearing officer shall not consider confidential security information unless that information is made available to the person adversely affected and is made part of the record of the hearing.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984; 64 FR 19715, Apr. 22, 1999]

§51.84 Appearance at hearing.

The person adversely affected may appear at the hearing in person or with his or her attorney, or by his or her attorney. The attorney must be admitted to practice in any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, or any territory or possession of the United States or be admitted to practice before the courts of the country in which the hearing is to be held.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[36 FR 9068, May 19, 1971, as amended at 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984; 64 FR 19715, Apr. 22, 1999]

§51.85 Proceedings before the hearing officer.

The person adversely affected may appear and testify in his or her own behalf and may himself, or by his or her attorney, present witnesses and offer other evidence and make argument. If any witness whom the person adversely affected wishes to call is unable to appear in person, the hearing officer may, in his or her discretion, accept an affidavit by the witness or order evidence to be taken by deposition. The person adversely affected shall be entitled to be informed of all the evidence before the hearing officer and of the source of such evidence, and shall be entitled to confront and cross-examine any adverse witness. The person shall, upon request by the hearing officer, confirm his or her oral statements in an affidavit for the record.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

§51.86 Admissibility of evidence.

The person adversely affected and the Department may introduce such evidence as the hearing officer deems proper. Formal rules of evidence shall not apply, but reasonable restrictions shall be imposed as to relevancy, competency and materiality of evidence presented.

§51.87 Privacy of hearing.

The hearing shall be private. There shall be present at the hearing only the