

**§ 2200.24 Brief of an amicus curiae.**

The brief of an amicus curiae may be filed only by leave of the Judge or Commission. The brief may be conditionally filed with the motion for leave. A motion for leave shall identify the interest of the applicant and shall state the reasons why a brief of an amicus curiae is desirable. Any amicus curiae shall file its brief within the time allowed the party whose position the amicus will support unless the Judge or Commission, for good cause shown, grants leave for later filing. In that event, the Judge or Commission shall specify within what period an opposing party may answer.

[57 FR 41684, Sept. 11, 1992]

### Subpart C—Pleadings and Motions

**§ 2200.30 General rules.**

(a) *Format.* Pleadings and other documents (other than exhibits) shall be typewritten, double spaced, on letter size opaque paper (approximately 8½ inches by 11 inches). All margins shall be approximately 1½ inches. Pleadings and other documents shall be fastened at the upper left corner.

(b) *Clarity.* Each allegation or response of a pleading or motion shall be simple, concise and direct.

(c) *Separation of claims.* Each allegation or response shall be made in separate numbered paragraphs. Each paragraph shall be limited as far as practicable to a statement of a single set of circumstances.

(d) *Adoption by reference.* Statements in a pleading may be adopted by reference in a different part of the same pleading or in another pleading or in any motion. A copy of any written instrument which is an exhibit to a pleading is a part thereof for all purposes.

(e) *Alternative pleading.* A party may set forth two or more statements of a claim or defense alternatively or hypothetically. When two or more statements are made in the alternative and one of them would be sufficient if made independently, the pleading is not made insufficient by the insufficiency of one or more of the alternative statements. A party may state as many sep-

arate claims or defenses as he has regardless of their consistency or the grounds on which based. All statements shall be made subject to the signature requirements of § 2200.32.

(f) *Content of motions and miscellaneous pleadings.* A motion shall contain a caption complying with § 2200.31, a signature complying with § 2200.32, and a clear and plain statement of the relief that is sought together with the grounds therefor. These requirements also apply to any pleading not governed by more specific requirements in this subpart.

(g) *Burden of persuasion.* The rules of pleading established by this subpart are not determinative in deciding which party bears the burden of persuasion on an issue. By pleading a matter affirmatively, a party does not waive its right to argue that the burden of persuasion on the matter is on another party.

(h) *Enforcement of pleading rules.* The Commission or the Judge may refuse for filing any pleading or motion that does not comply with the requirements of this subpart.

[51 FR 32015, Sept. 8, 1986, as amended at 57 FR 41685, Sept. 11, 1992]

**§ 2200.31 Caption; titles of cases.**

(a) *Notice of contest cases.* Cases initiated by a notice of contest shall be titled:

Secretary of Labor,  
Complainant,  
v.  
(Name of Contestant),  
Respondent.

(b) *Petitions for modification of abatement period.* Cases initiated by a petition for modification of the abatement period shall be titled:

(Name of employer),  
Petitioner,  
v.  
Secretary of Labor,  
Respondent.

(c) *Location of title.* The titles listed in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall appear at the left upper portion of

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the initial page of any pleading or document (other than exhibits) filed.

(d) *Docket number.* The initial page of any pleading or document (other than exhibits) shall show, at the upper right of the page, opposite the title, the docket number, if known, assigned by the Commission.

**§ 2200.32 Signing of pleadings and motions.**

Pleadings and motions shall be signed by the filing party or by the party's representative. The signature of a representative constitutes a representation by him that he is authorized to represent the party or parties on whose behalf the pleading is filed. The signature of a representative or party also constitutes a certificate by him that he has read the pleading, motion, or other paper, that to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief, formed after reasonable inquiry, it is well grounded in fact and is warranted by existing law or a good faith argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law, and that it is not interposed for any improper purpose, such as to harass or to cause unnecessary delay or needless increase in the cost of litigation. If a pleading, motion or other paper is signed in violation of this rule, such signing party or its representative shall be subject to the sanctions set forth in §2200.41 or §2200.104.

[51 FR 32015, Sept. 8, 1986; 52 FR 13831, Apr. 27, 1987, as amended at 57 FR 41685, Sept. 11, 1992]

**§ 2200.33 Notices of contest.**

Within 15 working days after receipt of—

(a) Notification that the employer intends to contest a citation or proposed penalty under section 10(a) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. 659(a); or

(b) Notification that the employer wishes to contest a notice of a failure to abate or a proposed penalty under section 10(b) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. 659(b); or

(c) A notice of contest filed by an employee or representative of employees under section 10(c) of the Act, 29 U.S.C. 659(c),

the Secretary shall notify the Commission of the receipt in writing and shall

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promptly furnish to the Executive Secretary of the Commission the original of any documents or records filed by the contesting party and copies of all other documents or records relevant to the contest.

[51 FR 32015, Sept. 8, 1986; 52 FR 13831, Apr. 27, 1987]

**§ 2200.34 Employer contests.**

(a) *Complaint.* (1) The Secretary shall file a complaint with the Commission no later than 20 days after receipt of the notice of contest.

(2) The complaint shall set forth all alleged violations and proposed penalties which are contested, stating with particularity:

(i) The basis for jurisdiction;

(ii) The time, location, place, and circumstances of each such alleged violation; and

(iii) The considerations upon which the period for abatement and the proposed penalty of each such alleged violation are based.

(3) Where the Secretary seeks in his complaint to amend his citation or proposed penalty, he shall set forth the reasons for amendment and shall state with particularity the change sought.

(b) *Answer.* (1) Within 20 days after service of the complaint, the party against whom the complaint was issued shall file an answer with the Commission.

(2) The answer shall contain a short and plain statement denying those allegations in the complaint which the party intends to contest. Any allegation not denied shall be deemed admitted.

(3) The answer shall include all affirmative defenses being asserted. Such affirmative defenses include, but are not limited to, "infeasibility," "unpreventable employee misconduct," and "greater hazard."

(4) The failure to raise an affirmative defense in the answer may result in the party being prohibited from raising the defense at a later stage in the proceeding, unless the Judge finds that the party has asserted the defense as soon as practicable.

[57 FR 41685, Sept. 11, 1992]