

Federal Trade Commission

§ 3.23

(d) *Motions for extensions.* The Administrative Law Judge or the Commission may waive the requirements of this section as to motions for extensions of time; however, the Administrative Law Judge shall have no authority to rule on *ex parte* motions for extensions of time.

(e) *Rulings on motions for dismissal.* When a motion to dismiss a complaint or for other relief is granted with the result that the proceeding before the Administrative Law Judge is terminated, the Administrative Law Judge shall file an initial decision in accordance with the provisions of § 3.51. If such a motion is granted as to all charges of the complaint in regard to some, but not all, of the respondents, or is granted as to any part of the charges in regard to any or all of the respondents, the Administrative Law Judge shall enter his ruling on the record, in accordance with the procedures set forth in paragraph (a) of this section, and take it into account in his initial decision. When a motion to dismiss is made at the close of the evidence offered in support of the complaint based upon an alleged failure to establish a *prima facie* case, the Administrative Law Judge may defer ruling thereon until immediately after all evidence has been received and the hearing record is closed.

(f) *Statement.* Each motion to quash filed pursuant to § 3.34(c), each motion to compel or determine sufficiency pursuant to § 3.38(a), each motion for sanctions pursuant to § 3.38(b), and each motion for enforcement pursuant to § 3.38(c) shall be accompanied by a signed statement representing that counsel for the moving party has conferred with opposing counsel in an effort in good faith to resolve by agreement the issues raised by the motion and has been unable to reach such an agreement. If some of the matters in controversy have been resolved by agreement, the statement shall specify the matters so resolved and the matters remaining unresolved. The statement shall recite the date, time, and place of each such conference between counsel, and the names of all parties participating in each such conference. Unless otherwise ordered by the Administrative Law Judge, the statement

required by this rule must be filed only with the first motion concerning compliance with the discovery demand at issue.

[32 FR 8449, June 13, 1967, as amended at 50 FR 42672, Oct. 22, 1985; 52 FR 22293, June 11, 1987; 60 FR 39641, Aug. 3, 1995; 61 FR 50647, Sept. 26, 1996; 66 FR 17628, Apr. 3, 2001]

§ 3.23 Interlocutory appeals.

(a) *Appeals without a determination by the Administrative Law Judge.* The Commission may, in its discretion, entertain interlocutory appeals where a ruling of the Administrative Law Judge:

(1) Requires the disclosure of records of the Commission or another governmental agency or the appearance of an official or employee of the Commission or another governmental agency pursuant to § 3.36, if such appeal is based solely on a claim of privilege; *Provided*, that The Administrative Law Judge shall stay until further order of the Commission the effectiveness of any ruling, whether or not appeal is sought, that requires the disclosure of non-public Commission minutes, Commissioner circulations, or similar documents prepared by the Commission, individual Commissioner, or the Office of the General Counsel;

(2) Suspends an attorney from participation in a particular proceeding pursuant to § 3.42(d); or

(3) Grants or denies an application for intervention pursuant to the provisions of § 3.14.

Appeal from such rulings may be sought by filing with the Commission an application for review, not to exceed fifteen (15) pages exclusive of those attachments required below, within five (5) days after notice of the Administrative Law Judge's ruling. Answer thereto may be filed within five (5) days after service of the application for review. The application for review should specify the person or party taking the appeal; should attach the ruling or part thereof from which appeal is being taken and any other portions of the record on which the moving party relies; and should specify under which provisions hereof review is being sought. The Commission upon its own motion may enter an order staying the return date of an order issued by the Administrative Law Judge pursuant to

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§ 3.36 or placing the matter on the Commission's docket for review. Any order placing the matter on the Commission's docket for review will set forth the scope of the review and the issues which will be considered and will make provision for the filing of briefs if deemed appropriate by the Commission.

(b) *Appeals upon a determination by the Administrative Law Judge.* Except as provided in paragraph (a) of this section, applications for review of a ruling by the Administrative Law Judge may be allowed only upon request made to the Administrative Law Judge and a determination by the Administrative Law Judge in writing, with justification in support thereof, that the ruling involves a controlling question of law or policy as to which there is substantial ground for difference of opinion and that an immediate appeal from the ruling may materially advance the ultimate termination of the litigation or subsequent review will be an inadequate remedy. Applications for review in writing may be filed, not to exceed fifteen (15) pages exclusive of those attachments required below, within five (5) days after notice of the Administrative Law Judge's determination. Additionally, the moving party is required to attach the ruling or part thereof from which appeal is being taken and any other portions of the record on which the moving party is relying. Answer thereto may be filed within five (5) days after service of the application for review. The Commission may thereupon, in its discretion, permit an appeal. Commission review, if permitted, will be confined to the application for review and answer thereto, without oral argument or further briefs, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

(c) *Proceedings not stayed.* Application for review and appeal hereunder shall not stay proceedings before the Administrative Law Judge unless the Judge or the Commission shall so order.

[37 FR 5608, Mar. 17, 1972, as amended at 42 FR 31591, June 22, 1977; 42 FR 33025, June 29, 1977; 43 FR 56902 Dec. 5, 1978; 50 FR 53305, Dec. 31, 1985]

§ 3.24 Summary decisions.

(a) *Procedure.* (1) Any party to an adjudicatory proceeding may move, with

or without supporting affidavits, for a summary decision in the party's favor upon all or any part of the issues being adjudicated. The motion shall be accompanied by a separate and concise statement of the material facts as to which the moving party contends there is not genuine issue. Counsel in support of the complaint may so move at any time after twenty (20) days following issuance of the complaint and any party respondent may so move at any time after issuance of the complaint. Any such motion by any party, however, shall be filed in accordance with the scheduling order issued pursuant to § 3.21, but in any case at least twenty (20) days before the date fixed for the adjudicatory hearing.

(2) Any other party may, within ten (10) days after service of the motion, file opposing affidavits. The opposing party shall include a separate and concise statement of those material facts as to which the opposing party contends there exists a genuine issue for trial, as provided in § 3.24(a)(3). The Administrative Law Judge may, in his discretion, set the matter for oral argument and call for the submission of briefs or memoranda. If a party includes in any such brief or memorandum information that has been granted *in camera* status pursuant to § 3.45(b) or is subject to confidentiality protections pursuant to a protective order, the party shall file two versions of the document in accordance with the procedures set forth in § 3.45(e). The decision sought by the moving party shall be rendered within thirty (30) days after the opposition or any final brief ordered by the Administrative Law Judge is filed, if the pleadings and any depositions, answers to interrogatories, admissions on file, and affidavits show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to such decision as a matter of law. Any such decision shall constitute the initial decision of the Administrative Law Judge and shall accord with the procedures set forth in § 3.51(c). A summary decision, interlocutory in character and in compliance with the procedures set forth in § 3.51(c), may be rendered on the issue of liability alone although