

**§ 4003.53**

**§ 4003.53 Where to file.**

An appeal or a request for an extension of time to appeal shall be submitted to the Appeals Board, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026. See § 4000.4 of this chapter for additional information on where to file.

[61 FR 34012, July 1, 1996, as amended at 68 FR 61352, Oct. 28, 2003]

**§ 4003.54 Contents of appeal.**

- (a) An appeal shall—
  - (1) Be in writing;
  - (2) Be clearly designated as an appeal;
  - (3) Contain a statement of the grounds upon which it is brought and the relief sought;
  - (4) Reference all pertinent information already in the possession of the PBGC and include any additional information believed to be relevant;
  - (5) State whether the appellant desires to appear in person or through a representative before the Appeals Board; and
  - (6) State whether the appellant desires to present witnesses to testify before the Appeals Board, and if so, state why the presence of witnesses will further the decision-making process.
- (b) In any case where the appellant believes that another person may be aggrieved if the PBGC grants the relief sought, the appeal shall also include the name(s) and address(es) (if known) of such other person(s).

**§ 4003.55 Opportunity to appear and to present witnesses.**

- (a) At the discretion of the Appeals Board, any appearance permitted under this subpart may be before a hearing officer designated by the Appeals Board.
- (b) An opportunity to appear before the Appeals Board (or a hearing officer) and an opportunity to present witnesses will be permitted at the discretion of the Appeals Board. In general, an opportunity to appear will be permitted if the Appeals Board determines that there is a dispute as to a material fact; an opportunity to present witnesses will be permitted when the Appeals Board determines that witnesses

will contribute to the resolution of a factual dispute.

- (c) Appearances permitted under this section will take place at the main offices of the PBGC, 1200 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026, unless the Appeals Board, in its discretion, designates a different location, either on its own initiative or at the request of the appellant or a third party participating in the appeal.

**§ 4003.56 Consolidation of appeals.**

- (a) *When consolidation may be required.* Whenever multiple appeals are filed that arise out of the same or similar facts and seek the same or similar relief, the Appeals Board may, in its discretion, order the consolidation of all or some of the appeals.
- (b) *Representation of parties.* Whenever the Appeals Board orders the consolidation of appeals, the appellants may designate one (or more) of their number to represent all of them for all purposes relating to their appeals.
- (c) *Decision by Appeals Board.* The decision of the Appeals Board in a consolidated appeal shall be binding on all appellants whose appeals were subject to the consolidation.

**§ 4003.57 Appeals affecting third parties.**

- (a) Before the Appeals Board issues a decision granting, in whole or in part, the relief requested in an appeal, it shall make a reasonable effort to notify third persons who will be aggrieved by the decision of the following:
  - (1) The pendency of the appeal;
  - (2) The grounds upon which the appeal is based;
  - (3) The grounds upon which the Appeals Board is considering reversing the initial determination;
  - (4) The right to submit written comments on the appeal;
  - (5) The right to request an opportunity to appear in person or through a representative before the Appeals Board and to present witnesses; and
  - (6) That no further opportunity to present information to the PBGC with respect to the determination under appeal will be provided.
- (b) Written comments and a request to appear before the Appeals Board must be filed within 45 days after the