

## Merit Systems Protection Board

## § 1209.2

suffered by the appellant because of the violation. If the Board determines that the violation was willful, it will order the agency to pay the appellant an amount equal to back pay as liquidated damages.

(b) *Attorney fees and expenses.* If the Board issues a decision ordering compliance under paragraph (a) of this section, the Board will order payment of reasonable attorney fees, expert witness fees, and other litigation expenses. The provisions of subpart H of part 1201 shall govern any proceeding for attorney fees and expenses.

### § 1208.26 Appeals under another law, rule, or regulation.

(a) The VEOA provides that 5 U.S.C. 3330a shall not be construed to prohibit a preference eligible from appealing directly to the Board from any action that is appealable under any other law, rule, or regulation, in lieu of administrative redress under VEOA (5 U.S.C. 3330a(e)(1)). An appellant may not pursue redress for an alleged violation of veterans' preference under VEOA at the same time he pursues redress for such violation under any other law, rule, or regulation (5 U.S.C. 3330a(e)(2)).

(b) An appellant who elects to appeal to the Board under another law, rule, or regulation must comply with the provisions of subparts B and C of 5 CFR part 1201, including the time of filing requirement of 5 CFR 1201.22(b)(1).

## PART 1209—PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES FOR APPEALS AND STAY REQUESTS OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS ALLEGEDLY BASED ON WHISTLEBLOWING

### Subpart A—Jurisdiction and Definitions

- Sec.  
1209.1 Scope.  
1209.2 Jurisdiction.  
1209.3 Application of 5 CFR part 1201.  
1209.4 Definitions.

### Subpart B—Appeals

- 1209.5 Time of filing.  
1209.6 Content of appeal; right to hearing.  
1209.7 Burden and degree of proof.

### Subpart C—Stay Requests

- 1209.8 Filing a request for a stay.

- 1209.9 Content of stay request and response.  
1209.10 Hearing and order ruling on stay request.  
1209.11 Duration of stay; interim compliance.

### Subpart D—Reports on Applications for Transfers

- 1209.12 Filing of agency reports.

### Subpart E—Referrals to the Special Counsel

- 1209.13 Referral of findings to the Special Counsel.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 1204, 1221, 2302(b)(8), and 7701.

SOURCE: 55 FR 28592, July 12, 1990, unless otherwise noted.

## Subpart A—Jurisdiction and Definitions

### § 1209.1 Scope.

This part governs any appeal or stay request filed with the Board by an employee, former employee, or applicant for employment where the appellant alleges that a personnel action defined in 5 U.S.C. 2302(a)(2) was threatened, proposed, taken, or not taken because of the appellant's whistleblowing activities. Included are individual right of action appeals authorized by 5 U.S.C. 1221(a), appeals of otherwise appealable actions allegedly based on the appellant's whistleblowing activities, and requests for stays of personnel actions allegedly based on whistleblowing.

### § 1209.2 Jurisdiction.

(a) Under 5 U.S.C. 1214(a)(3), an employee, former employee, or applicant for employment may appeal to the Board from agency personnel actions alleged to have been threatened, proposed, taken, or not taken because of the appellant's whistleblowing activities.

(b) The Board exercises jurisdiction over:

(1) *Individual right of action appeals.* These are authorized by 5 U.S.C. 1221(a) with respect to personnel actions listed in § 1209.4(a) of this part that are allegedly threatened, proposed, taken, or not taken because of the appellant's whistleblowing activities. If the action is not otherwise directly appealable to