

CHAPTER 6 CONTESTED CASES

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129—6.1(8B,17A) Scope and applicability. This chapter applies to contested case proceedings conducted by the office or by the division of administrative hearings in the department of inspections and appeals on behalf of the office.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.2(8B,17A) Definitions. Except where otherwise specifically defined by law, for purposes of this chapter:

“Administrative law judge” or *“ALJ”* means an employee of the administrative hearings division of the department of inspections and appeals who presides over contested cases and other proceedings.

“Chief information officer” or *“CIO”* means the state chief information officer or the state chief information officer’s designee.

“Contested case” means a proceeding defined by Iowa Code section 17A.2(5) and includes any matter defined as a no factual dispute contested case under Iowa Code section 17A.10A.

“Division” means the division of administrative hearings of the department of inspections and appeals.

“Issuance” means, unless another date is specified in the order, the date of mailing of a decision or order or date of delivery if service is by other means.

“Office” means the office of the chief information officer authorized by Iowa Code chapter 8B.

“Party” means a party as defined in Iowa Code section 17A.2(8).

“Presiding officer” means the administrative law judge assigned to the contested case, or the chief information officer, whichever is appropriate.

“Proposed decision” means the presiding officer’s recommended findings of fact, conclusions of law, decision, and order in a contested case in which the CIO did not preside.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.3(8B,17A) Time requirements.

6.3(1) Time shall be computed as provided in Iowa Code section 4.1(34).

6.3(2) For good cause, the presiding officer may extend or shorten the time to take any action, except as otherwise precluded by rule or law. Except for good cause stated in the record, before extending or shortening the time to take any action, the presiding officer shall afford all parties an opportunity to be heard or to file written arguments.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.4(8B,17A) Requests for contested case proceeding. Any person claiming an entitlement to a contested case proceeding shall file a written request for such a proceeding within the time specified by the particular rules or statutes governing the subject matter or, in the absence of such law, the time specified in the office action in question.

The request for a contested case proceeding should state the name and address of the requester; identify the specific office action which is disputed; and, where the requester is represented by a lawyer, identify the provisions of law or precedent requiring or authorizing the holding of a contested case proceeding in the particular circumstances involved, and include a short and plain statement of the issues of material fact in dispute. If the office denies the request, the office shall issue a written order specifying the basis for the denial.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.5(8B,17A) Informal settlement. A party to a controversy that may culminate in contested case proceedings or a party to a contested case proceeding may attempt informal settlement of the controversy or contested case by complying with the procedures set forth in this rule. No party to such a controversy or

contested case shall be required to settle the controversy or contested case by submitting to informal settlement procedures.

6.5(1) Parties desiring informal settlement shall set forth in writing the various points of a proposed settlement, which may include a stipulated statement of facts.

6.5(2) When signed by the parties to a controversy or contested case and by the CIO, a proposed settlement shall represent final disposition of the matter in place of any prospective or current contested case proceedings.

6.5(3) Where there are more than two parties to a controversy or contested case involving the office, a separate settlement between one party and the office is permissible.

6.5(4) A proposed settlement which is not accepted or signed by the parties shall not be admitted as evidence in the record of a contested case proceeding. Evidence of conduct or statements made in settlement negotiations are likewise not admissible. This rule does not require exclusion when the evidence is offered for another purpose, such as proving bias or prejudice of a witness, negating a contention of undue delay, or proving an effort to obstruct a criminal investigation or prosecution.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.6(8B,17A) Notice of hearing and transmission of contested cases.

6.6(1) Delivery. Delivery of the notice of hearing constitutes the commencement of the contested case proceeding. Delivery of the notice of hearing may be executed by:

- a. Personal service as provided in the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure;
- b. Certified mail, return receipt requested;
- c. First-class mail; or
- d. Publication, as provided in the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure.

6.6(2) Contents. Notices of hearing shall contain the information required by Iowa Code section 17A.12(2), any additional information required by statute or rule, and the following information:

- a. Identification of all parties including the name, address and telephone number of the person who will act as advocate for the office or the state and of parties' counsel where known;
- b. Reference to the procedural rules governing conduct of the contested case proceeding;
- c. Reference to the procedural rules governing informal settlement;
- d. Identification of the presiding officer, if known. If not known, a description of who will serve as presiding officer (e.g., an administrative law judge from the department of inspections and appeals or the CIO);
- e. Information on who to contact if auxiliary aids or services are needed to participate in the matter because of a disability; and
- f. The mailing address and e-mail address for filing with the division or office, whichever is applicable, and notice of the option of e-mail service as provided in paragraph 6.14(2) "b."

6.6(3) Transmission of contested cases. In every proceeding filed by the office with the division, the office shall complete a transmittal form. The transmittal form shall contain the information required by 481—subrule 10.4(1).

6.6(4) Issuance of the hearing notice. When a case is transmitted by the office to the division for hearing, the division shall issue the notice of hearing. The office shall provide the division with the information required by 481—subrule 10.4(2).

6.6(5) Attachments. The office shall attach the documents required by 481—subrule 10.4(3) to the completed transmittal form when it is sent to the division.

6.6(6) Receipt. When a properly transmitted case is received, it is marked with the date of receipt by the division. The division assigns an identifying number to each contested case upon receipt.

6.6(7) Scheduling. The division shall promptly schedule hearings for the office. The availability of an administrative law judge and any special circumstances shall be considered.

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129—6.7(8B,17A) Legal representation. Parties in a contested case have the right to participate or to be represented in all hearings or prehearing conferences related to their case. Business entities, such as partnerships, corporations, or associations may be represented by a nonlawyer partner, member, officer,

director, shareholder, other owner or manager, or duly authorized agent. Any party may be represented by an attorney or another person authorized by law. The attorney shall file an appearance in the contested case. If the attorney is not licensed to practice law in Iowa, the attorney shall comply with Iowa Court Rule 31.14. The cost of any such representation shall be borne by the represented party.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.8(8B,17A) Presiding officer.

6.8(1) Any party who wishes to request that the presiding officer assigned to render a proposed decision be an administrative law judge employed by the department of inspections and appeals must file a written request within 20 days after service of a notice of hearing which identifies or describes the presiding officer as the CIO.

6.8(2) The CIO may deny the request only upon a finding that one or more of the following apply:

a. Neither the office nor any officer of the office under whose authority the contested case is to take place is a named party to the proceeding or a real party in interest to that proceeding.

b. There is a compelling need to expedite issuance of a final decision in order to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.

c. An administrative law judge with the qualifications identified in subrule 6.8(3) is unavailable to hear the case within a reasonable time.

d. The case involves significant policy issues of first impression that are inextricably intertwined with the factual issues presented.

e. The demeanor of the witnesses is likely to be dispositive in resolving the disputed factual issues.

f. Funds are unavailable to pay the costs of an administrative law judge and an interagency appeal.

g. The request was not timely filed.

h. The request is not consistent with a specified statute.

6.8(3) An administrative law judge assigned to act as presiding officer shall have the following technical expertness unless waived by the office:

a. A license to practice law in the state of Iowa;

b. Three years' experience as an administrative law judge;

c. For a hearing related to procurement, knowledge of contract law;

d. For a hearing in which the underlying dispute or subject matter is related to information technology, and to the extent an administrative law judge with a background in information technology is available, a background in information technology.

6.8(4) Except as provided otherwise by another provision of law, all rulings by an administrative law judge acting as presiding officer are subject to appeal to the office. A party must seek any available intra-agency appeal in order to exhaust administrative remedies.

6.8(5) Unless otherwise provided by law, the CIO, when reviewing a proposed decision upon intra-agency appeal, shall have the powers of and shall comply with the provisions of this chapter which apply to presiding officers.

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129—6.9(8B,17A) Waiver of procedures. Unless otherwise precluded by law, the parties in a contested case proceeding may waive any provision of this chapter. However, the office in its discretion may refuse to give effect to such a waiver when it deems the waiver to be inconsistent with the public interest.

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129—6.10(8B,17A) Telephone and electronic proceedings. The presiding officer may, on the presiding officer's own motion or as requested by a party, order hearings or argument to be held by telephone conference or other electronic means in which all parties have an opportunity to participate. The presiding officer will determine the location of the parties and witnesses for telephone or other electronic hearings. The convenience of the parties or witnesses, as well as the nature of the case, shall be considered when the location is chosen. The presiding officer may permit any witness to testify by telephone or other electronic means. If there is a prehearing conference, the parties shall disclose at or before the prehearing conference whether any witness will be testifying by telephone or other electronic means. If there is not a prehearing

conference, the parties shall disclose not less than three business days prior to the hearing date whether any witness will be testifying by telephone or other electronic means unless any law, rule, or order of the presiding officer requires disclosure sooner. Objections, if any, shall be filed and served on all parties at least three business days in advance of hearing.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.11(8B,17A) Disqualification.

6.11(1) A presiding officer or other person shall withdraw from participation in the making of any proposed or final decision in a contested case if that person:

- a. Has a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party or a representative of a party;
- b. Has personally investigated, prosecuted or advocated in connection with that case, the specific controversy underlying that case, another pending factually related contested case, or a pending factually related controversy that may culminate in a contested case involving the same parties;
- c. Is subject to the authority, direction or discretion of any person who has personally investigated, prosecuted or advocated in connection with that contested case, the specific controversy underlying that contested case, or a pending factually related contested case or controversy involving the same parties;
- d. Has acted as counsel to any person who is a private party to that proceeding within the past two years;
- e. Has a personal financial interest in the outcome of the case or any other significant personal interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the case;
- f. Has a spouse or relative within the third degree of relationship that:
 - (1) Is a party to the case, or an officer, director or trustee of a party;
 - (2) Is a lawyer in the case;
 - (3) Is known to have an interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the case; or
 - (4) Is likely to be a material witness in the case; or
- g. Has any other legally sufficient cause to withdraw from participation in the decision making in that case.

6.11(2) The term “personally investigated” means taking affirmative steps to interview witnesses directly or to obtain documents or other information directly. The term “personally investigated” does not include general direction and supervision of assigned investigators, unsolicited receipt of information which is relayed to assigned investigators, review of another person’s investigative work product in the course of determining whether there is probable cause to initiate a proceeding, or exposure to factual information while performing other office functions, including fact gathering for purposes other than investigation of the matter which culminates in a contested case. Factual information relevant to the merits of a contested case received by a person who later serves as presiding officer in that case shall be disclosed if required by Iowa Code section 17A.17(3) and subrules 6.11(3) and 6.25(9).

6.11(3) In a situation where a presiding officer or other person knows of information which might reasonably be deemed to be a basis for disqualification and decides voluntary withdrawal is unnecessary, that person shall submit the relevant information for the record by affidavit and shall provide for the record a statement of the reasons for the determination that withdrawal is unnecessary.

6.11(4) If a party asserts disqualification on any appropriate ground, including those listed in subrule 6.11(1), the party shall file a motion supported by an affidavit pursuant to Iowa Code sections 17A.11(3) and 17A.17(7). The motion must be filed as soon as practicable after the reason alleged in the motion becomes known to the party.

6.11(5) If, during the course of the hearing, a party becomes aware of evidence of bias or other grounds for disqualification, the party may move for disqualification but must establish the grounds by the introduction of evidence into the record.

6.11(6) If the presiding officer determines that disqualification is appropriate, the presiding officer or other person shall withdraw. If the presiding officer determines withdrawal is not required, the presiding officer shall enter an order to that effect. A party asserting disqualification may seek an interlocutory appeal under rule 129—6.27(8B,17A) and seek a stay under rule 129—6.31(8B,17A).

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129—6.12(8B,17A) Consolidation—severance.

6.12(1) Consolidation. The presiding officer may, upon motion by any party or the presiding officer's own motion, consolidate any or all matters at issue in two or more contested case proceedings where:

- a. The matters at issue involve common parties or common questions of fact or law;
- b. Consolidation would expedite and simplify consideration of the issues involved; and
- c. Consolidation would not adversely affect the rights of any of the parties to those proceedings.

6.12(2) Severance. The presiding officer may, upon motion by any party or the presiding officer's own motion, for good cause shown, order any contested case proceedings or portions thereof severed.

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129—6.13(8B,17A) Pleadings.

6.13(1) When required. Pleadings may be required by rule, by the notice of hearing, or by order of the presiding officer.

6.13(2) Petition.

a. Any petition required in a contested case proceeding shall be filed within 20 days of delivery of the notice of hearing or subsequent order of the presiding officer, unless otherwise ordered.

b. A petition shall state in separately numbered paragraphs the following:

- (1) The persons or entities on whose behalf the petition is filed;
- (2) The particular provisions of statutes and rules involved;
- (3) The relief demanded and the facts and law relied upon for such relief; and
- (4) The name, address and telephone number of the petitioner and the petitioner's attorney, if any.

6.13(3) Answer.

a. An answer shall be filed within 20 days of service of the petition unless otherwise ordered.

b. A party may move to dismiss or apply for a more definite and detailed statement when appropriate.

c. An answer shall show on whose behalf it is filed and specifically admit, deny, or otherwise answer all material allegations of the pleading to which it responds.

d. An answer shall state any facts deemed to show an affirmative defense and contain as many additional defenses as the pleader may claim.

e. An answer shall state the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the answer, the person or entity on whose behalf it is filed, and the attorney representing that person, if any.

f. Any allegation in the petition not denied in the answer is considered admitted. The presiding officer may refuse to consider any defense not raised in the answer which could have been raised on the basis of facts known when the answer was filed if any party would be prejudiced.

6.13(4) Amendment. Any notice of hearing or petition may be amended before a responsive pleading has been filed. Amendments to pleadings after a responsive pleading has been filed and to an answer may be allowed with the consent of the other parties or in the discretion of the presiding officer. The presiding officer may impose terms as a condition of allowing such amendments or grant a continuance.

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129—6.14(8B,17A) Service and filing of pleadings and other papers.

6.14(1) When service required. Except where otherwise provided by law, every pleading, motion, document, or other paper filed in a contested case proceeding and every paper relating to discovery in such a proceeding shall be served upon each of the parties of record to the proceeding, including the person designated as advocate or prosecutor for the state or the office, simultaneously with their filing. Except for the original notice of hearing and an application for rehearing as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.16(2), the party filing a document is responsible for service on all parties.

6.14(2) Service—to whom and how made. Service upon a party represented in the contested case proceeding by an attorney shall be made upon the attorney unless otherwise ordered. Service may be made in the following ways:

a. Service may be made by delivery or by mailing a copy to the person's last-known address. Service by mail is complete upon mailing, except where otherwise specifically provided by statute, rule, or order.

b. The presiding officer may by order or a party or a party's attorney may by consent permit service of particular documents by e-mail or similar electronic means unless precluded by a provision of law. In the absence of such an order or consent, electronic transmission shall not satisfy service requirements, but may be used to supplement service when rapid notice is desirable. Consent to electronic service by a party or a party's attorney shall be in writing, may be accomplished through electronic transmission to the office and other parties, and shall specify the e-mail address for such service. Service by electronic transmission is complete upon transmission unless the office or party making service learns the attempted service did not reach the party to be served.

6.14(3) Filing—when required.

a. After a matter has been assigned to the division, and until a proposed decision is issued, all pleadings, motions, documents or other papers in a contested case proceeding shall be filed with the division, rather than the office. All pleadings, motions, documents or other papers filed after the notice is issued that are required to be served upon a party shall be filed simultaneously with the division.

b. After the notice of hearing, when a matter has not been assigned to the division for hearing, all pleadings, motions, documents or other papers in a contested case proceeding shall be filed with the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Hoover State Office Building, Level B, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. All pleadings, motions, documents or other papers that are required to be served upon a party shall be filed simultaneously with the office.

6.14(4) Filing—how and when made.

a. Except where otherwise provided by law, a document is deemed filed at the time it is:

(1) Delivered to the division pursuant to paragraph 6.14(3) "a" or to the office pursuant to paragraph 6.14(3) "b," and date-stamped received;

(2) Delivered to an established courier service for immediate delivery to the proper entity;

(3) Mailed by first-class mail or by state interoffice mail to the proper entity, so long as there is adequate proof of mailing; or

(4) Transmitted by electronic mail (e-mail) or by other electronic means to the proper entity as provided in paragraph 6.14(4) "b."

b. All documents filed with the division or the office pursuant to these rules, except a person's request or demand for a contested case proceeding (see Iowa Code section 17A.12(9)), may be filed by e-mail or other electronic means as approved by the division or the office, whichever is appropriate. A document filed by e-mail or other approved electronic means is presumed to be an accurate reproduction of the original. If a document filed by e-mail or other approved electronic means is illegible, a legible copy may be substituted and the date of filing shall be the date the illegible copy was received. The date of filing by e-mail or other approved electronic means shall be the date the document is received by the division or the office. Neither the division nor the office will provide a mailed file-stamped copy of documents filed by e-mail or other approved electronic means.

6.14(5) Proof of mailing. Proof of mailing includes:

a. A legible United States Postal Service postmark on the envelope;

b. A certificate of service;

c. A notarized affidavit; or

d. A certification in substantially the following form(s):

(1) After a matter has been assigned to the division for hearing, the certification shall take the following form:

I certify under penalty of perjury and pursuant to the laws of Iowa that, on (date of mailing), I mailed copies of (describe document) addressed to the Department of Inspections and Appeals, Administrative Hearings Division, Wallace State Office Building, Third Floor, 502 East Ninth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, and to the names and addresses of the parties listed below by depositing the same in (a United States post office mailbox with correct postage properly affixed or state interoffice mail).

 (SIGNATURE)

 (DATE)

(2) When a matter has not been assigned to the division for hearing, the certification shall take the following form:

I certify under penalty of perjury and pursuant to the laws of Iowa that, on (date of mailing), I mailed copies of (describe document) addressed to the Office of the Chief Information Officer, Hoover State Office Building, Level B, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, and to the names and addresses of the parties listed below by depositing the same in (a United States post office mailbox with correct postage properly affixed or state interoffice mail).

 (SIGNATURE)

 (DATE)

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.15(8B,17A) Discovery.

6.15(1) Pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.13, discovery procedures applicable in civil actions are applicable in contested cases.

6.15(2) The scope of discovery described in Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.503 shall apply to contested case proceedings.

6.15(3) The following discovery procedures available in the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure are available to the parties in a contested case proceeding: depositions upon oral examination or written questions; written interrogatories; production of documents, electronically stored information, and things; and requests for admission. The time frames for discovery in the corresponding Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure govern those specific procedures, unless lengthened or shortened by the presiding officer.

a. Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure 1.701 through 1.717 regarding depositions shall apply to any depositions taken in a contested case proceeding. Any party taking a deposition in a contested case shall be responsible for any deposition costs, unless otherwise specified or allocated in an order. Deposition costs include, but are not limited to, reimbursement for mileage of the deponent, costs of a certified shorthand reporter, and expert witness fees, as applicable.

b. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.509 shall apply to any interrogatories propounded in a contested case proceeding.

c. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.512 shall apply to any requests for production of documents, electronically stored information, and things in a contested case proceeding.

d. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.510 shall apply to any requests for admission in a contested case proceeding. Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.511 regarding the effect of an admission shall apply in contested case proceedings.

6.15(4) The mandatory disclosure and discovery conference requirements in Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure 1.500 and 1.507 do not apply to contested case proceedings. However, upon application by a party, the presiding officer may order the parties to comply with these procedures unless doing so would unreasonably complicate the proceedings or impose an undue hardship. As a practical matter the purpose of the disclosure requirements and discovery conference is served by the office's obligation to supply the information described in Iowa Code section 17A.13(2) upon request while a contested case is pending and the mutual exchange of information required in a prehearing conference under rule 129—6.16(8B,17A).

6.15(5) Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.508 shall apply to discovery of any experts identified by a party to a contested case proceeding.

6.15(6) Discovery shall be served on all parties to the contested case proceeding, but shall not be filed with the division or office.

6.15(7) A party may file a motion to compel or other motion related to discovery in accordance with this subrule. Any motion filed with the division or office, whichever is applicable, relating to discovery

shall allege that the moving party previously made a good-faith attempt to resolve the discovery issues involved with the opposing party. Motions in regard to discovery shall be ruled upon by the presiding officer. Opposing parties shall be afforded the opportunity to respond within ten days of the filing of the motion unless the time is lengthened or shortened by the presiding officer. The presiding officer may rule on the basis of the written motion and any response or may order argument on the motion.

6.15(8) Evidence obtained in discovery may be used in the contested case proceeding if that evidence would otherwise be admissible in that proceeding.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.16(8B,17A) Subpoenas.

6.16(1) Subpoenas issued in a contested case may compel the attendance of witnesses at deposition or hearing and may compel the production of books, papers, records, and other real evidence. A command to produce evidence or to permit inspection may be joined with a command to appear at deposition or hearing, or each command may be issued separately. Upon written request that complies with this rule, subpoenas shall be issued either by the division when a matter has been assigned to the division for hearing or by the office when a matter has not been assigned to the division for hearing. The request may be made in person or by mail or electronic mail. A request for a subpoena must be received by the division or the office, whichever is applicable, at least seven calendar days before the scheduled hearing, or the subpoena will not be issued.

6.16(2) A request for a subpoena shall include the following information, as applicable:

- a. The name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the person requesting the subpoena;
- b. The name and address of the person to whom the subpoena shall be directed;
- c. The date and time and location at which the person shall be commanded to attend and give testimony;
- d. Whether the testimony is requested in connection with a deposition or hearing;
- e. A description of the books, papers, records or other real evidence requested; and
- f. The date, time and location for production, or inspection and copying.

6.16(3) Each subpoena shall contain, as applicable:

- a. The caption of the case;
- b. The name, address and telephone number of the person who requested the subpoena;
- c. The name and address of the person to whom the subpoena is directed;
- d. The date and time and location at which the person is commanded to appear;
- e. Whether the testimony is commanded in connection with a deposition or hearing;
- f. A description of the books, papers, records or other real evidence the person is commanded to produce;
- g. The date, time and location for production, or inspection and copying;
- h. The time within which a motion to quash or modify the subpoena must be filed;
- i. The signature, address and telephone number of the presiding officer or designee;
- j. The date of issuance;
- k. A return of service.

6.16(4) The presiding officer or designee shall mail copies of all subpoenas to the parties to the contested case. The person who requested the subpoena is responsible for serving the subpoena upon the subject of the subpoena. The person who requested the subpoena is responsible for the costs associated with such service, and for the payment of any witness fees and mileage expenses in connection with execution of the subpoena. If a subpoena is requested to compel testimony or documents for rebuttal or impeachment at hearing, the person requesting the subpoena shall so state in the request and may ask that copies of the subpoena not be mailed to the parties in the contested case.

6.16(5) Any person who is aggrieved or adversely affected by compliance with the subpoena, or any party to the contested case who desires to challenge the subpoena, must within 14 days after service of the subpoena, or before the time specified for compliance if such time is less than 14 days, file with the division or office, whichever is applicable, a motion to quash or modify the subpoena. The motion shall describe the legal reasons why the subpoena should be quashed or modified, and may be accompanied by legal briefs or factual affidavits. However, if a subpoena solely requests the production of books, papers,

records, or other real evidence and does not also seek to compel testimony, the person who is aggrieved or adversely affected by compliance with the subpoena may alternatively serve written objection on the requesting party before the earlier of the date specified for compliance or 14 days after the subpoena is served. The serving party may then move the presiding officer to issue an order compelling production.

6.16(6) Upon receipt of a timely motion to quash or modify a subpoena or motion to compel production, the presiding officer may issue a decision. The presiding officer may quash or modify the subpoena, deny or grant the motion, or issue an appropriate protective order. Prior to ruling on the motion, the presiding officer may schedule oral argument or hearing by telephone or in person.

6.16(7) A person who is aggrieved by a ruling of a presiding officer and desires to challenge the ruling must appeal the ruling to the office in accordance with the procedure applicable to intra-agency appeals of proposed decisions set forth in rules 129—6.27(8B,17A) and 129—6.29(8B,17A), provided that all of the time frames are reduced by one-half.

6.16(8) If the person contesting the subpoena is not a party to the contested case proceeding, the presiding officer's decision is final for purposes of judicial review. If the person contesting the subpoena is a party to the contested case proceeding, the presiding officer's decision is not final for purposes of judicial review until there is a final decision in the contested case.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.17(8B,17A) Motions.

6.17(1) No technical form for motions is required. However, prehearing motions must be in writing, state the grounds for relief, and state the relief sought.

6.17(2) Any party may file a written response to a motion within 15 days after the motion is served, unless the time period is extended or shortened by rules of the office or the presiding officer. The presiding officer may consider a failure to respond within the required time period in ruling on a motion.

6.17(3) The presiding officer may schedule oral argument on any motion upon request by any party or the presiding officer's own motion.

6.17(4) Motions pertaining to the hearing, except motions for summary judgment, must be filed and served at least ten days prior to the date of hearing unless there is good cause for permitting later action or the time for such action is lengthened or shortened by rule of the office or an order of the presiding officer.

6.17(5) Motions for summary judgment shall comply with the requirements of Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.981 and shall be subject to disposition according to the requirements of that rule to the extent such requirements are not inconsistent with the provisions of this rule or any other provision of law governing the procedure in contested cases.

Motions for summary judgment must be filed and served at least 20 days prior to the scheduled hearing date, or other time period determined by the presiding officer. Any party resisting the motion shall file and serve a resistance within 15 days, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, from the date a copy of the motion was served. The time fixed for hearing or nonoral submission shall be not less than 15 days after the filing of the motion, unless a shorter time is ordered by the presiding officer. A summary judgment order rendered on all issues in a contested case is subject to rehearing pursuant to rule 129—6.30(8B,17A) and appeal pursuant to rule 129—6.29(8B,17A).

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.18(8B,17A) Prehearing conference.

6.18(1) Any party may request a prehearing conference. Additionally, the presiding officer may order a prehearing conference on the presiding officer's own motion. A written request for prehearing conference or an order for prehearing conference on the presiding officer's own motion shall be filed not less than ten days prior to the hearing date. A prehearing conference shall be scheduled not less than three business days prior to the hearing date. The presiding officer shall give written notice of the prehearing conference to all parties. For good cause, the presiding officer may permit variances from this rule.

6.18(2) Each party shall disclose at or prior to the prehearing conference:

a. A final list of the witnesses who the party anticipates will testify at hearing. Witnesses not listed may be excluded from testifying unless there was good cause for the failure to include their names; and

b. A final list of exhibits which the party anticipates will be introduced at hearing. Exhibits other than rebuttal exhibits that are not listed may be excluded from admission into evidence unless there was good cause for the failure to include them.

Witness or exhibit lists may be amended subsequent to the prehearing conference within the time limits established by the presiding officer at the prehearing conference. Any such amendments must be served on all parties.

6.18(3) In addition to the requirements of subrule 6.18(2), the parties at a prehearing conference may:

- a.* Enter into stipulations of law or fact;
- b.* Enter into stipulations concerning the admissibility of exhibits;
- c.* Identify matters which the parties intend to request be officially noticed;
- d.* Unless precluded by statute, enter into stipulations for waiver of the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 17A, as permitted by Iowa Code section 17A.10(2), or waiver of office rules; and
- e.* Consider any additional matters which will expedite the hearing.

6.18(4) Prehearing conferences shall be conducted by telephone or other electronic means unless otherwise ordered.

6.18(5) The parties shall exchange and receive witness and exhibit lists in advance of a prehearing conference.

6.18(6) The parties shall exchange copies of all exhibits marked for introduction at hearing in the manner provided in subrule 6.23(4) no later than three business days in advance of hearing, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer at the prehearing conference.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.19(8B,17A) Continuances. Unless otherwise provided, applications for continuances shall be made to the presiding officer.

6.19(1) A written application for a continuance shall:

- a.* Be made at the earliest possible time and no less than seven days before the hearing except in case of unanticipated emergencies;
- b.* State the specific reasons for the request; and
- c.* Be signed by the requesting party or the requesting party's representative.

An oral application for a continuance may be made if the presiding officer waives the requirement for a written motion. However, a party making such an oral application for a continuance must confirm that request by written application within five days after the oral request unless that requirement is waived by the presiding officer. No application for continuance shall be made or granted without notice to all parties except in an emergency where notice is not feasible. The office may waive notice of such requests for a particular case or an entire class of cases.

6.19(2) In determining whether to grant a continuance, the presiding officer may consider:

- a.* Any prior continuances;
- b.* The interests of all parties;
- c.* The likelihood of informal settlement;
- d.* The existence of an emergency;
- e.* Any objection to the continuance;
- f.* Any applicable time requirements;
- g.* The existence of a conflict in the schedules of counsel, parties, or witnesses;
- h.* The timeliness of the request;
- i.* Any applicable state or federal statutes or regulations; and
- j.* Other relevant factors.

The presiding officer may require documentation of any grounds for continuance.

6.19(2) The presiding officer may enter an order granting or denying an uncontested or contested application for a continuance.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.20(8B,17A) Withdrawals. A party requesting a contested case proceeding may withdraw that request prior to the hearing only in accordance with office rules. Requests for withdrawal may be oral or

written. If the request is oral, the presiding officer may require the party to submit a written request after the oral request. Unless otherwise provided, a withdrawal shall be with prejudice.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.21(8B,17A) Intervention.

6.21(1) Motion. A motion for leave to intervene in a contested case proceeding shall state the grounds for the proposed intervention, the position and interest of the proposed intervenor, and the possible impact of intervention on the proceeding. A proposed answer or petition in intervention shall be attached to the motion. Any party may file a response within 14 days of service of the motion to intervene unless the time period is extended or shortened by the presiding officer.

6.21(2) When filed. Motion for leave to intervene shall be filed as early in the proceeding as possible to avoid adverse impact on existing parties or the conduct of the proceeding. Unless otherwise ordered, a motion for leave to intervene shall be filed before the prehearing conference, if any, or at least 20 days before the date scheduled for hearing, whichever is earlier. Any later motion must contain a statement of good cause for the failure to file in a timely manner. Unless inequitable or unjust, an intervenor shall be bound by any agreement, arrangement, or other matter previously raised in the case. Requests by untimely intervenors for continuances which would delay the proceeding will be denied.

6.21(3) Grounds for intervention. In order to be entitled to intervene, the movant must demonstrate that:

- a. Intervention would not unduly prolong the proceedings or otherwise prejudice the rights of existing parties;
- b. The movant will be aggrieved or adversely affected by a final order in the proceeding; and
- c. The interests of the movant are not adequately represented by existing parties.

6.21(4) Effect of intervention. If appropriate, the presiding officer may order consolidation of the petitions and briefs of different parties whose interests are aligned with each other and limit the number of representatives allowed to participate in the proceedings. A person granted leave to intervene is a party to the proceeding. The order granting intervention may restrict the issues that may be raised by the intervenor or otherwise condition the intervenor's participation in the proceeding.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.22(8B,17A) Hearing procedures.

6.22(1) Role of presiding officer. The presiding officer shall preside at and be in control of the proceedings and shall have the authority to:

- a. Issue such orders and rulings as will ensure the orderly conduct of the proceedings;
- b. Rule on motions and objections;
- c. Administer oaths to witnesses;
- d. Admit or exclude testimony or other evidence;
- e. Require that the parties submit briefs; and
- f. Issue a proposed decision.

6.22(2) Public hearing. The hearing shall be open to the public. At the request of a party or on the presiding officer's own motion, the presiding officer may issue a protective order to protect all or a part of a record or information which is privileged or confidential by law.

6.22(3) Decorum. The presiding officer shall maintain the decorum of the hearing and may refuse to admit or may expel anyone whose conduct is disruptive or disorderly.

6.22(4) Record of proceedings. Oral proceedings shall be recorded either by mechanical or electronic means or by certified shorthand reporters. Oral proceedings or any part thereof shall be transcribed at the request of any party, with the expense of the transcription charged to the requesting party. The recording or stenographic notes of oral proceedings or the transcription shall be filed with and maintained by the office for at least five years from the date of decision.

6.22(5) Right to participation. Subject to terms and conditions prescribed by the presiding officer, parties in a contested case proceeding have the right to introduce evidence on issues of material fact, cross-examine witnesses who testify at the hearing as necessary for a full and true disclosure of the facts, present evidence in rebuttal, and submit briefs and engage in oral argument.

6.22(6) Examination of witnesses. All witnesses shall be sworn or affirmed by the presiding officer or the court reporter and be subject to examination and cross-examination. The presiding officer may limit questioning consistent with Iowa Code section 17A.14 and other applicable law.

6.22(7) Sequestering witnesses. The presiding officer, on the officer's own motion or upon the request of a party, may sequester witnesses during the hearing.

6.22(8) Witness fees. The parties in a contested case shall be responsible for any witness fees and expenses incurred by witnesses appearing at the contested case hearing, unless otherwise specified or allocated in an order. The costs for lay witnesses shall be determined in accordance with Iowa Code section 622.69. The costs for expert witnesses shall be determined in accordance with Iowa Code section 622.72. Witnesses are entitled to reimbursement for mileage and may be entitled to reimbursement for meals and lodging, as incurred.

6.22(9) Depositions. Depositions may be used at hearing to the extent permitted by Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.704.

6.22(10) Objections. All objections to procedures, admissions of evidence, or any other matter shall be timely made and stated on the record.

6.22(11) Witness right to legal representation. Witnesses are entitled to be represented by an attorney at their own expense. An attorney to a witness may assert legal privileges personal to the client, but may not make other objections. The attorney may only ask questions of the client to prevent a misstatement from entering the record.

6.22(12) Order of proceedings. The presiding officer shall generally conduct hearings in the following order:

a. The presiding officer shall give an opening statement, which shall be on the record, in which the presiding officer briefly identifies himself or herself, identifies the primary parties and their representatives, notes the fact that all testimony is being recorded, and describes the nature of the proceedings;

b. The parties shall be given an opportunity to present opening statements;

c. The parties shall present their cases in the sequence determined by the presiding officer;

d. When all parties and witnesses have been heard, the parties may be given the opportunity to present final arguments.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.23(8B,17A) Evidence.

6.23(1) The presiding officer shall rule on admissibility of evidence in accordance with Iowa Code section 17A.14 and may, where appropriate, take official notice of facts in accordance with Iowa Code section 17A.14(4).

6.23(2) Stipulation of facts is encouraged. The presiding officer may make a decision based on stipulated facts.

6.23(3) Evidence in the proceeding shall be confined to the issues as to which the parties received notice prior to the hearing unless the parties waive their right to such notice or the presiding officer determines good cause justifies expansion of the issues. If the presiding officer decides to admit evidence on issues outside the scope of the notice over the objection of a party that did not have actual notice of those issues, that party, upon timely request, shall receive a continuance sufficient to amend its pleadings and to prepare on the additional issue.

6.23(4) The party seeking admission of an exhibit must provide opposing parties with an opportunity to examine the exhibit prior to the ruling on its admissibility. Copies of documents shall be provided to opposing parties. All exhibits admitted into evidence shall be appropriately marked and be made part of the record. The way in which the parties shall mark exhibits shall be determined at the prehearing conference, if any. If there is no prehearing conference, the way in which the parties shall mark exhibits shall be determined by mutual agreement between the parties prior to hearing.

6.23(5) Any party may object to specific evidence or may request limits on the scope of any examination or cross-examination. Such objection shall be timely, and the objecting party shall briefly state the grounds for the objection. The objection, the ruling on the objection, and the reasons for the ruling shall be noted in the record. The presiding officer may rule on the objection at the time it is made or may reserve a ruling until the written decision.

6.23(6) Whenever evidence is ruled inadmissible, the party offering that evidence may submit an offer of proof on the record. The party making the offer of proof for excluded oral testimony shall briefly summarize the testimony or, with permission of the presiding officer, present the testimony. If the excluded evidence consists of a document or exhibit, it shall be marked as part of an offer of proof and inserted in the record.

6.23(7) Irrelevant, immaterial and unduly repetitious evidence should be excluded. A finding will be based upon the kind of evidence upon which reasonably prudent persons are accustomed to rely for the conduct of their serious affairs and may be based on hearsay or other types of evidence which may or would be inadmissible in a jury trial.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.24(8B,17A) Default.

6.24(1) If a party fails to appear or participate in a contested case proceeding after proper service of notice, the presiding officer may, if no adjournment is granted, enter a default decision or proceed with the hearing and render a decision in the absence of the party.

6.24(2) Where appropriate and not contrary to law, any party may move for default against a party who has requested the contested case proceeding and has failed to file a required pleading or has failed to appear after proper service.

6.24(3) Default decisions or decisions rendered on the merits after a party has failed to appear or participate in a contested case proceeding become the final action of the office unless, within 15 days after the date of notification or mailing of the decision, a motion to vacate is filed and served on all parties or an appeal of a decision on the merits is timely initiated within the time provided by rule 129—6.29(8B,17A). A motion to vacate must state all facts relied upon by the moving party that establish good cause existed for that party's failure to appear or participate at the contested case proceeding. Each fact so stated must be substantiated by at least one sworn affidavit of a person with personal knowledge of each such fact, which affidavit(s) must be attached to the motion.

6.24(4) The time for further appeal of a decision for which a timely motion to vacate has been filed is stayed pending a decision on the motion to vacate.

6.24(5) Properly substantiated and timely filed motions to vacate shall be granted only for good cause shown. The burden of proof as to good cause is on the moving party. Adverse parties shall have ten days to respond to a motion to vacate. Adverse parties shall be allowed to conduct discovery as to the issue of good cause and to present evidence on the issue prior to a decision on the motion, if a request to do so is included in that party's response.

6.24(6) "Good cause" for purposes of this rule shall have the same meaning as "good cause" for setting aside a default judgment under Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure 1.977.

6.24(7) A decision denying a motion to vacate is subject to further appeal within the time limit allowed for further appeal of a decision on the merits in the contested case proceeding. A decision granting a motion to vacate is subject to interlocutory appeal by the adverse party pursuant to rule 129—6.27(8B,17A).

6.24(8) If a motion to vacate is granted and no timely interlocutory appeal has been taken, the presiding officer shall issue another notice of hearing and the contested case shall proceed accordingly.

6.24(9) A default decision may award any relief consistent with the request for relief made in the petition and embraced in its issues.

6.24(10) A default decision may provide either that the default decision is to be stayed pending a timely motion to vacate or that the default decision is to take effect immediately, subject to a request for stay under rule 129—6.31(8B,17A).

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.25(8B,17A) Ex parte communication.

6.25(1) Prohibited communications. Unless required for the disposition of ex parte matters specifically authorized by statute, following issuance of the notice of hearing, there shall be no communication, directly or indirectly, between the presiding officer and any party or representative of any party or any other person with a direct or indirect interest in such case in connection with any issue of fact

or law in the case except upon notice and opportunity for all parties to participate. This does not prohibit persons jointly assigned such tasks from communicating with each other. Nothing in this provision is intended to preclude the presiding officer from communicating with members of the office or seeking the advice or help of persons other than those with a personal interest in, or those engaged in personally investigating as defined in subrule 6.11(2), prosecuting, or advocating in, either the case under consideration or a pending factually related case involving the same parties as long as those persons do not directly or indirectly communicate to the presiding officer any ex parte communications they have received of a type that the presiding officer would be prohibited from receiving or that furnish, augment, diminish, or modify the evidence in the record.

6.25(2) Prohibitions on ex parte communications commence with the issuance of the notice of hearing in a contested case and continue for as long as the case is pending.

6.25(3) Written, oral or other forms of communication are “ex parte” if made without notice and opportunity for all parties to participate.

6.25(4) To avoid prohibited ex parte communications, notice must be given in a manner reasonably calculated to give all parties a fair opportunity to participate. Notice of written communications shall be provided in compliance with rule 129—6.14(8B,17A) and may be supplemented by telephone, electronic mail or other means of notification. Where permitted, oral communications may be initiated through conference telephone call, or other similar electronic means, that include all parties or their representatives.

6.25(5) Persons who jointly act as presiding officer in a pending contested case may communicate with each other without notice or opportunity for parties to participate.

6.25(6) Other persons may be present in deliberations or otherwise advise the presiding officer without notice or opportunity for the parties to participate as long as they are not disqualified from participating in the making of a proposed or final decision under any provision of law and they comply with subrule 6.25(1).

6.25(7) Communications with the presiding officer involving uncontested scheduling or procedural matters do not require notice or opportunity for parties to participate. Parties should notify other parties prior to initiating such contact with the presiding officer when feasible, and shall notify other parties when seeking to continue hearings or other deadlines pursuant to rule 129—6.19(8B,17A).

6.25(8) Disclosure of prohibited communications. A presiding officer who receives a prohibited ex parte communication during the pendency of a contested case must initially determine if the effect of the communication is so prejudicial that the presiding officer should be disqualified. If the presiding officer determines that disqualification is warranted, a copy of any prohibited written communication, all written responses to the communication, a written summary stating the substance of any prohibited oral or other communication not available in written form for disclosure, all responses made, and the identity of each person from whom the presiding officer received a prohibited ex parte communication shall be submitted for inclusion in the record under seal by protective order. If the presiding officer determines that disqualification is not warranted, such documents shall be submitted for inclusion in the record and served on all parties. Any party desiring to rebut the prohibited communication must be allowed the opportunity to do so upon written request filed within ten days after notice of the communication.

6.25(9) Promptly after being assigned to serve as presiding officer at any stage in a contested case proceeding, a presiding officer shall disclose to all parties material factual information received through ex parte communication prior to such assignment unless the factual information has already been or shortly will be disclosed pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.13(2) or through discovery. Factual information contained in an investigative report or similar document need not be separately disclosed by the presiding officer as long as such documents have been or will shortly be provided to the parties.

6.25(10) The presiding officer may render a proposed or final decision imposing appropriate sanctions for violations of this rule including default, a decision against the offending party, censure, or suspension or revocation of the privilege to practice before the office. Violation of ex parte communication prohibitions by office personnel shall be reported to the CIO for possible sanctions including censure, suspension, dismissal, or other disciplinary action.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.26(8B,17A) Recording costs. Upon request, the office shall provide a copy of the tape-recorded hearing or a printed transcript of the whole or any portion of the hearing at cost. The cost of preparing the tape or transcript of the hearing shall be paid by the requesting party. Parties who request that a hearing be recorded by certified shorthand reporters rather than by electronic means shall bear the cost of that recordation, unless otherwise provided by law.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.27(8B,17A) Interlocutory appeals. Upon written request of a party or on the CIO's own motion, the CIO may review an interlocutory order of the presiding officer. In determining whether to do so, the CIO shall weigh the extent to which granting the interlocutory appeal would expedite final resolution of the case and the extent to which such review of that interlocutory order by the office at the time it reviews the proposed decision of the presiding officer would provide an adequate remedy. Any request for interlocutory review must be filed within 14 days of issuance of the challenged order, but no later than the time for compliance with the order or the date of hearing, whichever is earlier.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.28(8B,17A) Final decision.

6.28(1) Final decision of office. When the CIO presides over the reception of evidence at the hearing, the CIO's decision is a final decision.

6.28(2) Proposed decision. When the CIO does not preside at the reception of evidence, the presiding officer shall make a proposed decision.

6.28(3) Contents of decision. The proposed or final decision or order shall:

- a. Be in writing or stated on the record.
- b. Include findings of fact. Findings of fact, if set forth within statutory language, shall be accompanied by a concise, explicit statement of underlying facts supporting the findings.
- c. Include conclusions of law stated separately from the findings of fact and supported by cited authority or a reasoned opinion.
- d. Be based on the record of the contested case. The record of the contested case shall include all materials specified in Iowa Code section 17A.12(6). This record shall include any request for a contested case hearing and other relevant procedural documents regardless of their form.

6.28(4) Proposed decision becomes final. The proposed decision of the presiding officer becomes the final decision of the office without further proceedings unless there is an appeal to, or review on motion of, the office within the time provided in rule 129—6.31(8B,17A).

6.28(5) Reports. The office shall send the division a copy of any request for review of a proposed decision issued by a presiding officer from the division. The office shall notify the division of the results of the review, the office's final decision, and any judicial decision issued.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.29(8B,17A) Appeals and review.

6.29(1) Appeal by party. Any adversely affected party may appeal a proposed decision to the CIO within 14 days after issuance of the proposed decision. Such an appeal is required to exhaust administrative remedies and is a jurisdictional prerequisite to seeking judicial review.

6.29(2) Review. The CIO may initiate review of a proposed decision on the CIO's own motion at any time within 21 days following the issuance of such a decision.

6.29(3) Notice of appeal. An appeal of a proposed decision is initiated by filing a timely notice of appeal with the office. The notice of appeal must be signed by the appealing party or a representative of that party and contain a certificate of service. The notice shall specify:

- a. The parties initiating the appeal;
- b. The proposed decision or order appealed from;
- c. The specific findings or conclusions to which exception is taken and any other exceptions to the decision or order;
- d. The relief sought; and
- e. The grounds for relief.

6.29(4) *Requests to present additional evidence.* A party may request the taking of additional evidence only by establishing that the evidence is material, that good cause existed for the failure to present the evidence at the hearing, and that the party has not waived the right to present the evidence. A written request to present additional evidence must be filed with the notice of appeal or, by a nonappealing party, within 14 days of service of the notice of appeal. The CIO may remand a case to the presiding officer for further hearing or may preside at the taking of additional evidence.

6.29(5) *Scheduling.* The office shall issue a schedule for consideration of the appeal.

6.29(6) *Briefs and arguments.* Unless otherwise ordered, within 20 days of the notice of appeal or order for review, each appealing party may file exceptions and briefs. Within 14 days thereafter, any party may file a responsive brief. Briefs shall cite any applicable legal authority and specify relevant portions of the record in that proceeding. Written requests to present oral argument shall be filed with the briefs. The CIO may resolve the appeal on the briefs or provide an opportunity for oral argument. The CIO may shorten or extend the briefing period as appropriate.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.30(8B,17A) Applications for rehearing.

6.30(1) *By whom filed.* Any party to a contested case proceeding may file an application for rehearing from a final order.

6.30(2) *Content of application.* The application for rehearing shall state on whose behalf it is filed, the specific grounds for rehearing, and the relief sought. In addition, the application shall state whether the applicant desires reconsideration of all or part of the office decision on the existing record and whether, on the basis of the grounds enumerated in subrule 6.29(4), the applicant requests an opportunity to submit additional evidence.

6.30(3) *Time of filing.* The application shall be filed with the office within 20 days after issuance of the final decision.

6.30(4) *Notice to other parties.* A copy of the application shall be timely mailed by the applicant to all parties of record not joining therein. If the application does not contain a certificate of service, the office shall serve copies on all parties.

6.30(5) *Disposition.* Any application for a rehearing shall be deemed denied unless the CIO grants the application within 20 days after its filing.

6.30(6) *Proceedings.* If the CIO grants an application for rehearing, the CIO may set the application for oral argument or for hearing if additional evidence will be received. If additional evidence will be received, the CIO may remand the case to the presiding officer for further hearing or may preside at the taking of additional evidence. If additional evidence will not be received, the CIO may issue a ruling without oral argument or hearing. The CIO may, on the request of a party or on the CIO's own motion, order or permit the parties to provide written argument on one or more designated issues. The CIO may be assisted by an administrative law judge in all proceedings related to an application for rehearing.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.31(8B,17A) Stays of office actions.

6.31(1) *When available.*

a. Any party to a contested case proceeding may petition the office for a stay of an order issued in that proceeding or for other temporary remedies, pending review by the office. The petition shall be filed with the notice of appeal and shall state the reasons justifying a stay or other temporary remedy. The CIO may rule on the stay or authorize the presiding officer to do so.

b. Any party to a contested case proceeding may petition the office for a stay or other temporary remedies pending judicial review of all or part of that proceeding. The petition shall state the reasons justifying a stay or other temporary remedy. Seeking a stay from the office is required to exhaust administrative remedies prior to seeking a stay from the district court.

6.31(2) *When granted.* In determining whether to grant a stay, the CIO or the presiding officer shall consider the factors listed in Iowa Code section 17A.19(5)“c.”

6.31(3) *Vacation.* A stay may be vacated by the issuing authority upon application of the office or any other party.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.32(8B,17A) No factual dispute contested cases. If the parties agree that no dispute of material fact exists as to a matter that would be a contested case if such a dispute of fact existed, the parties may present all relevant admissible evidence either by stipulation or otherwise as agreed by the parties, without necessity for the production of evidence at an evidentiary hearing. If such agreement is reached, a jointly submitted schedule detailing the method and timetable for submission of the record, briefs and oral argument should be submitted to the presiding officer for approval as soon as practicable. If the parties cannot agree, any party may file and serve a motion for summary judgment pursuant to the rules governing such motions.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.33(8B,17A) Emergency adjudicative proceedings.

6.33(1) Necessary emergency action. To the extent necessary to prevent or avoid immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare and consistent with the Constitution and other provisions of law, the office may issue a written order in compliance with Iowa Code section 17A.18A to order the cessation of any continuing activity, order affirmative action, or take other action within the jurisdiction of the office by emergency adjudicative order. Before issuing an emergency adjudicative order, the office shall consider factors including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Whether there has been a sufficient factual investigation to ensure that the office is proceeding on the basis of reliable information;
- b. Whether the specific circumstances which pose immediate danger to the public health, safety or welfare have been identified and determined to be continuing;
- c. Whether the person required to comply with the emergency adjudicative order may continue to engage in other activities without posing immediate danger to the public health, safety or welfare;
- d. Whether imposition of monitoring requirements or other interim safeguards would be sufficient to protect the public health, safety or welfare; and
- e. Whether the specific action contemplated by the office is necessary to avoid the immediate danger.

6.33(2) Issuance of order.

a. An emergency adjudicative order shall contain findings of fact, conclusions of law, and policy reasons to justify the determination of an immediate danger in the office's decision to take immediate action.

b. The written emergency adjudicative order shall be immediately delivered to persons who are required to comply with the order by utilizing one or more of the following procedures:

- (1) Personal delivery;
- (2) Certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last address on file with the office;
- (3) Certified mail to the last address on file with the office;
- (4) First-class mail to the last address on file with the office; or
- (5) Electronic service. E-mail notification may be used as the sole method of delivery if the person required to comply with the order has filed a written request that office orders be sent by e-mail and has provided an e-mail address for that purpose.

c. To the extent practicable, the office shall select the procedure for providing written notice that best ensures prompt, reliable delivery.

6.33(3) Oral notice. Unless the written emergency adjudicative order is provided by personal delivery on the same day that the order issues, the office shall make reasonable immediate efforts to contact by telephone, or other similar electronic means, the persons who are required to comply with the order.

6.33(4) Completion of proceedings. After the issuance of an emergency adjudicative order, the office shall proceed as quickly as feasible to complete any proceedings that would be required if the matter did not involve an immediate danger.

Issuance of a written emergency adjudicative order shall include notification of the date on which office proceedings are scheduled for completion. After issuance of an emergency adjudicative order, continuance of further office proceedings to a later date will be granted only in compelling circumstances upon application in writing.

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

129—6.34(8B,17A) Judicial review. Judicial review of the office's decision may be sought in accordance with the terms of Iowa Code chapter 17A.

6.34(1) Consistent with Iowa Code section 17A.19(3), if a party does not file a timely application for rehearing, a judicial review petition must be filed with the district court within 30 days after the issuance of the office's final decision. The office's final decision is deemed issued on the date it is mailed or the date of delivery if service is by other means, unless another date is specified in the order.

6.34(2) If a party does file a timely application for rehearing, a judicial review petition must be filed with the district court within 30 days after the application for rehearing is denied or deemed denied. An application for rehearing is denied or deemed denied as provided in subrule 6.30(5).

[ARC 2542C, IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 8B and 17A.

[Filed ARC 2542C (Notice ARC 2421C, IAB 3/2/16), IAB 5/25/16, effective 6/29/16]