

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.

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