

7—**2506.17(17A) Continuances.** Applications for continuances can be made to the presiding officer.

**2506.17(1)** A written application for a continuance will:

*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 party's representative.

No application for continuance will be made or granted without notice to all parties, except in an emergency where notice is not feasible. The agency may waive notice of such requests for a particular case or an entire class of cases.

**2506.17(2)** In determining whether to grant a continuance, the presiding officer may consider:

*a.* Prior continuances;

*b.* The interests of all parties;

*c.* The likelihood of informal settlement;

*d.* The existence of an emergency;

*e.* Any objection;

*f.* Any applicable time obligations;

*g.* The existence of a conflict in the schedules of counsel, parties, or witnesses;

*h.* The timeliness of the request; and

*i.* Other relevant factors.

The presiding officer may order a party to furnish evidence of facts supporting or opposing the request.

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