501—6.9(17A,80B,80D) Settlement agreements.

6.9(1) *Combination agreements.* Upon a finding that probable cause exists to take public disciplinary action, the council and the law enforcement or reserve officer may enter into a combined statement of charges and settlement agreement. Combination agreements are voluntary, and a law enforcement or reserve officer is not entitled to be offered a combination agreement. A combination agreement will include a brief statement of the charges, the circumstances that led to the charges, and the terms of settlement. By electing to sign a combined agreement, the law enforcement or reserve officer waives the right to a contested case hearing. A combined agreement is a public record under Iowa Code chapter 22.

6.9(2) *Contested case settlement.* Any contested case may be resolved by a settlement agreement prior to hearing.

6.9(3) *Settlement approval.* All settlements will be submitted to the council for approval. By signing the combination or settlement agreement, the law enforcement or reserve officer authorizes the council's representative or the prosecuting attorney to have ex parte communications with the council related to the agreement.

6.9(4) *Disapproval of settlement.* If the council fails to approve a settlement, it will be of no force or effect to either party and will not be admissible at hearing. Upon rejecting a proposed agreement, the council may suggest alternative terms that the law enforcement or reserve officer is free to accept or reject.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 17A.10, 17A.17, 80B.11(1)*"h,"* 80B.13, 80B.13A, and 80D.4A.

[**ARC 0732D**, IAB 11/11/26, effective 1/1/27]