

an employee of the Hearing Clerk in the ordinary course of business;

(4) A certificate of service, which need not be separate from and may be incorporated in the document or paper of which it certifies service, showing the method, place and date of service in writing and signed by an individual with personal knowledge thereof, *Provided*, That such certificate must be verified by oath or declaration under penalty of perjury if the individual certifying service is not a party to the proceeding in which such document or paper is served, an attorney or representative of record for such a party, or an official or employee of the United States or of a State or political subdivision thereof.

[56 FR 174, Jan. 3, 1991; 56 FR 5151, Feb. 8, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 8459, Feb. 14, 1995]

§ 47.5 Scope and applicability of rules of practice.

Sections 47.6 through 47.25 shall be applicable to the procedure governing the filing and disposition of formal complaints in reparation proceedings. Sections 47.47 through 47.68 shall be applicable to the proceedings for determining whether a person is responsibly connected with a licensee under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act. Sections 47.1 through 47.5 and § 47.46 shall be applicable to all proceedings under §§ 47.6 through 47.25. Sections 47.1 and 47.2, except for § 47.2 (i) through (r), shall be applicable to all proceedings under §§ 47.47 through 47.68. In addition, except to the extent that they are inconsistent with §§ 1.130 through 1.151 of this chapter, §§ 47.1 through 47.5 and 47.46 are also applicable to procedures governing the filing and disposition of formal complaints and other moving papers relating to administrative proceedings to enforce the Act pursuant to §§ 1.130 through 1.151 of this chapter.

[43 FR 30787, July 18, 1978, as amended at 60 FR 8459, Feb. 14, 1995]

RULES APPLICABLE TO REPARATION PROCEEDINGS

§ 47.6 Formal complaints.

(a) *Filing; contents; number of copies.* If the procedure provided in § 47.3(b) fails to effect an amicable or informal ad-

justment and indicates the probability of a violation of the Act, the person filing the informal complaint may, if further proceedings are desired, file with the Division a formal complaint setting forth the information and accompanied by the papers indicated in § 47.3(a) (2) and (3) including a statement of the amount of damages claimed, with the basis therefor, and the method of determination. The original and three copies shall be furnished for filing, and service on the respondent. If there is more than one respondent, a further copy shall be furnished for each additional respondent.

(b) *Bond Required if Complainant is Nonresident.* If formal complaint for reparation is filed by a nonresident of the United States, complainant shall first file a bond in double the amount of the claim either with a surety company approved by the Treasury Department of the United States as surety or with two personal sureties, each of whom shall be a citizen of the United States and shall qualify as financially responsible for the entire amount of the bond. The bond shall run to the respondent and be conditioned upon the payment of costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, for the respondent if the respondent shall prevail, and of any reparation award that may be issued by the Secretary against the complainant on any counterclaim asserted by respondent: *Provided*, That the furnishing of a bond may be waived at the discretion of the Secretary if the complainant is a resident of a country which permits the filing of a complaint in an administrative forum or its equivalent which is substantially similar to that provided under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act by a resident of the United States against a citizen of that country without the furnishing of a bond. Nothing in this section shall limit the discretion of the Secretary to deny such a waiver in order to effectuate the purposes of the Act or to protect the interests of the businesses concerned.

(c) *Service upon respondent; proof of service.* If, upon receipt by the Division of the formal complaint, the complaint is found to be in proper form, a copy thereof shall be provided by the Division upon the respondent in accordance

with §47.4. If the complaint is not in the proper form, the Division shall return it and inform the complainant of the deficiencies therein.

(d) *Amendments.* At any time prior to the close of the hearing, the complaint may be amended; but, in case of an amendment adding new provisions, the hearing shall, if the respondent so requests, be adjourned for a reasonable time to be determined by the examiner: *Provided,* That, if the amendment introduces a new or different cause of action, it must be filed within 9 months after the cause of action accrued. Amendments subsequent to the first amendment or subsequent to the filing of an answer by the respondent may be made only with leave of the examiner or with the written consent of the adverse party.

[10 FR 2209, Feb. 27, 1945, as amended at 56 FR 176, Jan. 3, 1991]

§47.7 Report of investigation.

Where the facts and circumstances are deemed by the Director to warrant such action, the Division shall serve upon each of the parties a copy of the report made by the Division in connection with its investigation of the informal or formal complaint. Whenever the Secretary, or the Director, or the examiner deems it necessary, a supplemental investigation shall be made by the Division and a copy of the report thereon shall be served upon the parties. If an answer is filed by respondent, a copy of any report or reports of investigation served upon the parties shall be filed with the hearing clerk and shall be considered as part of the evidence in the proceeding: *Provided,* That either party shall be permitted to submit evidence in rebuttal in the same manner as is provided in the regulations in this part for the submission of other evidence in the proceeding.

[24 FR 10055, Dec. 12, 1959]

§47.8 The answer.

(a) *Filing and service.* Within 20 days after service of the formal complaint, unless extension of time has been requested and granted, the respondent may file with the Division, an answer, in triplicate, signed by the respondent or his attorney. A copy of the answer

shall be served upon the complainant by the Division as provided in §47.4.

(b) *Contents.* Such answer shall contain (1) a precise statement of the facts which constitute the grounds of defense, including any set-off or counterclaim, and shall specifically admit, deny, or explain each of the allegations of the complaint, unless respondent is without knowledge, in which case the answer shall so state; or (2) a statement that the respondent admits all of the allegations of the complaint; or (3) a statement containing an admission of liability in an amount less than that alleged in the complaint (in which event, an order may be made, pursuant to section 7(a) of the Act, directing payment of the undisputed amount), and a denial, as in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, of liability for the remaining amount. The answer may contain a waiver of hearing.

(c) *Failure to file answer; effect of.* Failure to file an answer within the time prescribed shall constitute a waiver of hearing and an admission of the facts alleged in the complaint. If the facts deemed admitted are considered insufficient to support the amount of reparation sought, the proceeding shall continue on the question of damages only.

(d) *Procedure upon admission of facts.* Upon the admission, in the answer or by failure to file an answer, of all the material allegations of fact contained in the complaint, an order may be issued without further procedure, official notice being taken of the license status of the respondent and the date of filing of the informal complaint, as disclosed by the records of the Department.

[10 FR 2212, Feb. 27, 1945, as amended at 24 FR 10055, Dec. 12, 1959]

§47.9 The reply.

(a) *Filing and service.* If the answer asserts a counterclaim or a set-off, the complaining party, within 20 days after service of the answer, may file a reply with the Division. A copy of the reply shall be served upon the respondent by the Division as provided in §47.4.

(b) *Contents.* The reply shall be confined strictly to the matters alleged in the counterclaim or set-off in the answer. It shall contain a precise statement of the facts which constitute the