

## SUBCHAPTER A—RULES OF PRACTICE

### PART 500—APPEARANCE AND PRACTICE

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AUTHORITY: Sec. 2, Pub. L. 80-896, 62 Stat. 1240, as amended (50 U.S.C. App. 2001); Sec. 3, Pub. L. 81-455, 64 Stat. 12, as amended (22 U.S.C. 1622); 18 U.S.C. 207.

SOURCE: 52 FR 17556, May 11, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

#### **§500.1 Appearance and representation.**

(a) An individual may appear in his or her own behalf; a member of a partnership may represent the partnership; a bona fide officer of a corporation, trust or association may represent the corporation, trust or association; an officer or employee of the United States Department of Justice, when designated by the Attorney General of the United States, may represent the United States in a claim proceeding.

(b) A person may be represented by an attorney at law admitted to practice in any State or Territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

(c) In cases falling within the purview of subchapter B of this chapter, persons designated by veterans', service, and other organizations to appear before the Commission in a representative capacity on behalf of claimants shall be deemed duly authorized to practice before the Commission when the designating organization shall have been issued a letter of accreditation by the Commission. Petitions for accreditation shall be in writing, executed by duly authorized officer or officers, and addressed to the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States, Washington, DC 20579. Upon receipt of a petition setting forth perti-

nent facts as to the organization's history, purpose, number of posts or chapters and their locations, approximate number of paid-up memberships, statements that the organization will not charge any fee for services rendered by its designees in behalf of claimants and that it will not refuse on the grounds of non-membership to represent any claimant who applies for such representation if such claimant has an apparently valid claim, accompanied by a copy of the organization's constitution, or charter, by-laws, and its latest financial statement, the Commission in its discretion will consider and in appropriate cases issue or deny letters of accreditation.

(d) A person may not be represented before the Commission except as authorized in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section.

#### **§500.2 Notice of entry or withdrawal of counsel in claims.**

(a) Counsel entering an appearance in a claim originally filed by a claimant in the claimant's behalf, or upon request for a substitution of attorneys, shall be required to file an authorization by such claimant.

(b) When counsel seeks to withdraw from the prosecution of a claim, it must appear that the client (claimant) has been duly notified.

(c) When a claimant advises the Commission that counsel no longer represents such claimant, a copy of the Commission's acknowledgement shall be forwarded to such counsel.

#### **§500.3 Fees.**

(a) No remuneration on account of services rendered or to be rendered to or on behalf of any claimant in connection with any claim falling within the purview of subchapter B of this chapter shall exceed ten per centum of the amount allowed on account of such claim, except that the Commission in its discretion may fix a lesser per centum with respect to any claim filed thereunder.

(b) The total remuneration on account of services rendered or to be rendered to or on behalf of any claimant

in connection with any claim falling within title I of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, shall not exceed ten per centum of the total amount paid on account of such claim.

**§ 500.4 Suspension of attorneys.**

(a) The Commission may disqualify, or deny, temporarily or permanently, the privilege of appearing or practicing before it in any way to any person who is found after a hearing in the matter—

(1) Not to possess the requisite qualifications to represent others before the Commission; or

(2) To be lacking in character or integrity or to have engaged in unethical or improper professional conduct; or

(3) To have violated sections 10 and 214 of the War Claims Act of 1948, as amended, or section 4(f) of the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended, or § 500.3 of part 500 of these regulations.

(b) Contemptuous or contumacious conduct at any hearing shall be ground for exclusion from said hearing and for summary suspension without a hearing for the duration of the hearing.

**§ 500.5 Disqualification of former employees; disqualification of partners of current employees.**

(a) No member, officer or employee of the Commission, including a special Government employee shall, after employment has ceased, knowingly act as an agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any person or party (other than the United States) in any formal or informal appearance before, or, with the intent to influence, make any oral or written communication on behalf of any person or party (other than the United States) (1) to the Commission or any other department, agency, court, court-martial, or any civil, military, or naval commission of the United States or the District of Columbia, or any officer or employee thereof, (2) in connection with any judicial or other proceeding, application, request for a ruling or other determination, contract, claim, controversy, investigation, charge, accusation, arrest, or other particular matter involving a specific party or parties in which the United States or the District of Colum-

bia is a party or has a direct and substantial interest, and (3) in which such member, officer, employee, or special Government employee, participated personally and substantially through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation or otherwise, while so employed.

(b) No member, officer, or employee of the Commission, including a special Government employee, shall, within two years after employment has ceased, knowingly act as agent or attorney for, or otherwise represent, any person or party (other than the United States) in any formal or informal appearance before, or with intent to influence, make any oral or written communication on behalf of any person or party (other than the United States) (1) to an organization enumerated in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, or any officer or employee thereof, (2) in connection with any matter enumerated and described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, and (3) which was actually pending under his or her official responsibility as an employee within a period of one year prior to the termination of such responsibility.

(c) No member, officer, or employee of the Commission, including a special Government employee, in an executive level position, in a position with a comparable or greater rate of pay, or in a position that involved significant decision making or supervisory responsibility as designated by the Director of the Office of Government Ethics under 18 U.S.C. 207(d)(1)(C), shall, within two years after employment has ceased, knowingly represent or aid, counsel, advise, consult or assist in representing any person or party (other than the United States) by personal presence at any formal or informal appearance before (1) an organization enumerated in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, or an officer or employee thereof, (2) in connection with any matter enumerated and described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, and (3) in which he or she participated personally or substantially as an employee (18 U.S.C. 207(b)(ii)).

(d) No member, officer, or employee of the Commission other than a special Government employee with service of

less than sixty days in a given calendar year, who has been an employee in an executive level position or a position with a comparable or greater rate of pay, or in a position which involved significant decision making or supervisory responsibility as designated by the Director of Office of Government Ethics under 18 U.S.C. 207(d)(1)(C), shall, within one year after such employment has ceased, knowingly engage in conduct described in the next sentence. The prohibited knowing conduct is that of acting as attorney or agent for, or otherwise representing anyone other than the United States, in any formal or informal appearance before, or with the intent to influence, making any oral or written communication on behalf of anyone other than the United States (1) to the Commission, or any employee thereof, (2) in connection with any rulemaking or any matter enumerated and described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section and (3) which is pending before the Commission or in which it has a direct and substantial interest.

(e) No partner of an employee shall act as agent or attorney for anyone other than the United States before an organization enumerated in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, or any officer or employee thereof, in connection with any matter enumerated and described in paragraph (a)(2) of this section in which such Government employee is participating or has participated personally and substantially as a Government employee through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation or otherwise, or which is the subject of his or her official responsibility.

**§ 500.6 Disciplinary proceedings against former employees.**

(a) Upon a determination by the Commission's Designated Ethics Officer, after investigation, that there is reasonable cause to believe that a former officer or employee, including a former special Government employee, has violated 18 U.S.C. 207 (a), (b) or (c), the Designated Ethics Officer shall cause a copy of written charges of the violation(s) to be served upon such individual, either personally or by registered mail. The charges shall be ac-

companied by a notice to the former employee to show cause within a specified time of not less than 30 days after receipt of the notice why he or she should not be prohibited from engaging in representational activities in relation to matters pending before the Commission, as authorized by 18 U.S.C. 207(j), or subjected to other appropriate disciplinary action under that statute. The notice to show cause shall include:

(1) A statement of allegations, and their basis, sufficiently detailed to enable the former employee to prepare an adequate defense;

(2) Notification of the right to a hearing; and

(3) An explanation of the method by which a hearing may be requested.

(b) If a former employee who submits an answer to the notice to show cause does not request a hearing or if the Designated Ethics Officer does not receive an answer within five days after the expiration of the time prescribed by the notice, the Designated Ethics Officer shall forward the record, including the report(s) of investigation, to the Chairman. In the case of a failure to answer, such failure shall constitute a waiver of defense.

(c) Upon receipt of a former employee's request for a hearing, the Designated Ethics Officer shall notify him or her of the time and place thereof, giving due regard both to such person's need for an adequate period to prepare a suitable defense and an expeditious resolution of allegations that may be damaging to his or her reputation.

(d) The presiding officer at the hearing and any related proceedings shall be a Federal administrative law judge or other Federal official with comparable duties. The presiding officer shall insure that the former employee has, among others, the rights:

(1) To self-representation or representation by counsel;

(2) To introduce and examine witnesses and submit physical evidence;

(3) To confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses;

(4) To present oral argument; and

(5) To a transcript or recording of the proceedings, upon request.

(e) The Designated Ethics Officer shall designate one or more officers or employees of the Commission to

present the evidence against the former employee and perform other functions incident to the proceedings.

(f) A decision adverse to the former employee must be sustained by substantial evidence that he or she violated 18 U.S.C. 207 (a), (b) or (c).

(g) The presiding officer shall issue an initial decision based exclusively on the transcript of testimony and exhibits, together with all papers and requests filed in the proceeding, and shall set forth in the decision findings and conclusions, supported by reasons, on the material issues of fact and law presented on the record.

(h) Within 30 days after issuance of the initial decision, either party may appeal to the Chairman, who in that event shall issue the final decision based on the record of the proceedings or those portions thereof cited by the parties to limit the issues. If the final decision modifies or reverses the initial decision, the Chairman shall specify the findings of fact and conclusions of law that vary from those of the presiding officer.

(i) If a former employee fails to appeal from an adverse initial decision within the prescribed period of time, the presiding officer shall forward the record of the proceedings to the Chairman.

(j) In case of a former employee who filed an answer to the notice to show cause but did not request a hearing, the Chairman shall make the final decision on the record submitted by the Designated Ethics Officer pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

(k) The Chairman, in a case where:

(1) The defense has been waived;

(2) The former employee has failed to appeal from an adverse initial decision; or

(3) The Chairman has issued a final decision that the former employee violated 18 U.S.C. 207 (a), (b) or (c) may issue an order:

(i) Prohibiting the former employee from making on behalf of any person or party (other than the United States), any informal or formal appearance before, or, with the intent to influence, any oral or written communication to, the Commission on a pending matter of business for a period not to exceed five years, or

(ii) Prescribing other appropriate disciplinary action.

## PART 501—SUBPOENAS, DEPOSITIONS, AND OATHS

Sec.

501.1 Extent of authority.

501.2 Subpoenas.

501.3 Service of process.

501.4 Witnesses.

501.5 Depositions.

501.6 Documentary evidence.

501.7 Time.

AUTHORITY: Sec. 2, Pub. L. 80-896, 62 Stat. 1240, as amended (50 U.S.C. App. 2001); sec. 3, Pub. L. 81-455, 64 Stat. 12, as amended (22 U.S.C. 1622).

SOURCE: 52 FR 17559, May 11, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

### § 501.1 Extent of authority.

(a) *Subpoenas, oaths and affirmations.* The Commission or any member thereof may issue subpoenas, administer oaths and affirmations, take affidavits, conduct investigations and examine witnesses in connection with any hearing, examination, or investigation within its jurisdiction.

(b) *Certification.* The Commission or any member thereof may, for the purpose of any such hearing, examination, or investigation, certify the correctness of any papers, documents, and other matters pertaining to the administration of any laws relating to the functions of the Commission.

### § 501.2 Subpoenas.

(a) *Issuance.* A member of the Commission or a designated employee may, on such member or employee's own volition of upon written application by any party and upon a showing of general relevance and reasonable scope of the evidence sought, issue subpoenas requiring persons to appear and testify or to appear and produce documents. Applications for issuance of subpoenas duces tecum shall specify the books, records, correspondence, or other documents sought. The subpoena shall show on its face the name and address of the party at whose request the subpoena was issued.

(b) *Deposit for costs.* The Commission or designated employee, before issuing

any subpoena in response to any application by an interested party, may require a deposit in an amount adequate to cover fees and mileage involved.

(c) *Motion to quash.* If any person subpoenaed does not intend to comply with the subpoena, such person shall, within 15 days after the date of service of the subpoena, petition in writing to quash the subpoena. The basis for the motion must be stated in detail. Any party desiring to file an answer to a motion to quash must file such answer not later than 15 days after the filing of the motion. The Commission shall rule on the motion to quash, duly recognizing any answer thereto filed. The motion, answer, and any ruling thereon shall become part of the official record.

(d) *Appeal from interlocutory order.* An appeal may be taken to the Commission by the interested parties from the denial of a motion to quash or from the refusal to issue a subpoena for the production of documentary evidence.

(e) *Order of court upon failure to comply.* Upon the failure or refusal of any person to comply with a subpoena, the Commission may invoke the aid of the United States District Court within the jurisdiction of which the hearing, examination or investigation is being conducted, or wherein such person resides or transacts business. Such court, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 81-696, approved August 16, 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2001(d)), may issue an order requiring such person to appear at the designated place of hearing, examination or investigation, then and there to give or produce testimony or documentary evidence concerning the matter in question. Any failure to obey such an order may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof. All processes in any such case may be served in the judicial district wherein such person resides or transacts business or wherever such person may be found.

### § 501.3 Service of process.

(a) *By whom served.* The Commission shall serve all orders, notices and other papers issued by it, together with any other papers which it is required by law to serve.

(b) *Kinds of service.* Subpoenas, orders, rulings, and other processes of the Commission may be served by deliver-

ing in person, by first class or registered mail, or by telegraph or by publication.

(c) *Personal service.* Service by delivering in person may be accomplished by:

(1) Delivering a copy of the document to the person to be served, to a member of the partnership to be served, to an executive officer or a director of the corporation to be served, or to a person competent to accept service; or

(2) By leaving a copy thereof at the residence, principal office or place of business of such person, partnership, or corporation.

(3) Proof of service. The return receipt for said order, other process or supporting papers, or the verification by the person serving, setting forth the manner of said service, shall be proof of the service of the document.

(4) Service upon attorney or agent. When any party has appeared by an authorized attorney or agent, service upon such attorney or agent shall be deemed service upon the party.

(d) *Service by first class mail.* Service by first class mail shall be regarded as complete upon deposit in the United States mail properly stamped and addressed.

(e) *Service by registered mail.* Service by registered mail shall be regarded as complete on the date the return post office registered receipt for said orders, notices and other papers is received by the Commission.

(f) *Service by telegraph.* Service by telegraph shall be regarded as complete when deposited with a telegraph company properly addressed and with charges prepaid.

(g) *Service by publication.* Service by publication is completed when due notice shall have been given in the publication for the time and in the manner provided by law or rule.

(h) *Date of service.* The date of service shall be the day upon which the document is deposited in the United States mail or delivered in person, as the case may be.

(i) *Filing with Commission.* Papers required to be filed with the agency shall be deemed filed upon actual receipt by the Commission accompanied by proof of service upon parties required to be served. Upon such actual receipt the

filing shall be deemed complete as of the date of deposit in the mail or with the telegraph company as provided in paragraphs (e) and (f) of this section.

**§ 501.4 Witnesses.**

(a) *Examination of witnesses.* Witnesses shall appear in person and be examined orally under oath, except that for good cause shown, testimony may be taken by deposition.

(b) *Witness fees and mileage.* Witnesses summoned by the Commission on its own behalf or on behalf of a claimant or interested party shall be paid the same fees and mileage that are allowed and paid witnesses in the District Courts of the United States. Witness fees and mileage shall be paid by the Commission or by the party at whose request the witness appears.

(c) *Transcript of testimony.* Every person required to attend and testify or to submit documents or other evidence shall be entitled to retain or, on payment of prescribed costs, procure a copy of the transcript of the testimony or the documents produced.

**§ 501.5 Depositions.**

(a) *Application to take.* (1) An application to take a deposition shall be in writing setting forth the reason why such deposition should be taken, the name and address of the witness, the matters concerning which it is expected the witness will testify, and the time and place proposed for the taking of the deposition, together with the name and address of the person before whom it is desired that the deposition be taken. If such deposition is being offered in connection with a hearing or examination, the application for deposition shall be made to the Commission at least 15 days prior to the proposed date of such hearing or examination.

(2) Application to take a deposition may be made during a hearing or examination, or subsequent to a hearing or examination, only where it is shown for good cause that the facts as set forth in the application to take the deposition were not within the knowledge of the person signing the application prior to the time of the hearing or examination.

(3) The Commission or its representative shall, upon receipt of the applica-

tion and a showing of good cause, make and cause to be served upon the parties an order which will specify the name of the witness whose deposition is to be taken, the time, the place, and where practicable the designation of the officer before whom the witness is to testify. Such officer may or may not be the one specified in the application. The order shall be served upon all parties at least 10 days prior to the date of the taking of the deposition.

(b) *Who may take.* Such deposition may be taken before the designated officer or, if none is designated, before any officer authorized to administer oaths by the laws of the United States. If the examination is held in a foreign country, it may be taken before a secretary of an embassy or legation, consul-general, consul, vice consul, or consular agent of the United States.

(c) *Examination and certification of testimony.* At the time and place specified in said order the officer taking such deposition shall permit the witness to be examined and cross-examined under oath by all parties appearing, and the testimony shall be reduced to writing by, or under the direction of, the presiding officer. All objections to questions or evidence shall be deemed waived unless made in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section. The officer shall not have power to rule upon any objections but shall note them upon the deposition. The testimony shall be subscribed by the witness in the presence of the officer who shall attach a certificate stating that the witness was duly sworn, that the deposition is a true record of the testimony and exhibits given by the witness and that said officer is not counsel or attorney to any of the interested parties. The officer shall immediately seal and deliver an original and two copies of said transcript, together with the officer's certificate, by registered mail to the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, Washington, DC 20579 or to the field office designated.

(d) *Admissibility in evidence.* The deposition shall be admissible in evidence, subject to such objections to the questions and answers as were noted at the

time of taking the deposition, or within ten (10) days after the return thereof, and would be valid were the witness personally present at the hearing.

(e) *Errors and irregularities.* All errors or irregularities occurring shall be deemed waived unless a motion to suppress the deposition or some part thereof is made with reasonable promptness after such defect is, or with due diligence might have been, ascertained.

(f) *Scope of use.* The deposition of a witness, if relevant, may be used if the Commission finds:

(1) That the witness has died since the deposition was taken; or

(2) that the witness is at a distance greater than 100 miles radius of Washington, DC, the designated field office or the designated place of the hearing; or

(3) that the witness is unable to attend because of other good cause shown.

(g) *Interrogatories and cross-interrogatories.* Depositions may also be taken and submitted on written interrogatories in substantially the same manner as depositions taken by oral examinations. When a deposition is taken upon interrogatories and cross-interrogatories, none of the parties shall be present or represented, and no person, other than the witness, such person's representative or attorney, a stenographic reporter and the presiding officer, shall be present at the examination of the witness, which fact shall be certified by such officer, who shall propound the interrogatories and cross-interrogatories to the witness in their order and reduce the testimony to writing in the witness' own words.

(h) *Fees.* A witness whose deposition is taken pursuant to the regulations in this part, and the officer taking the deposition, shall be entitled to the same fees and mileage allowed and paid for like service in the United States District Court for the district in which the deposition is taken. Such fees shall be paid by the Commission or by the party at whose request the deposition is being taken.

[52 FR 17559, May 11, 1987, as amended at 52 FR 19731, May 27, 1987]

#### **§ 501.6 Documentary evidence.**

Documentary evidence may consist of books, records, correspondence or other documents pertinent to any hearing, examination, or investigation within the jurisdiction of the Commission. The application for the issuance of subpoenas duces tecum shall specify the books, records, correspondence or other documents sought. The production of documentary evidence shall not be required at any place other than the witness' place of business. The production of such documents shall not be required at any place if, prior to the return date specified in the subpoena, such person either has furnished the issuer of the subpoena with a properly certified copy of such documents or has entered into a stipulation as to the information contained in such documents.

#### **§ 501.7 Time.**

(a) *Computation.* In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by the regulations, by order of the Commission, or by any applicable statute, the day of the act, event, or default after which the designated period of time begins to run is not to be included. The last day of the period so computed is to be included, unless it is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next day which is neither a Saturday, Sunday nor a holiday. When the period of time prescribed or allowed is less than 7 days, intermediate Saturdays, Sundays and holidays shall be excluded in the computation.

(b) *Enlargement.* When by the regulations in this chapter or by a notice given thereunder or by order of the Commission an act is required or allowed to be done at or within a specific time, the Commission for good cause shown may, at any time in its discretion (1) with or without motion, notice, or previous order or (2) upon motion, permit the act to be done after the expiration of the specified period.

### **PART 502—EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONDUCT**

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502.1 Adoption of regulations.

**§ 502.1**

- 502.2 Review of statements of employment and financial interests.
- 502.3 Disciplinary and other remedial action.
- 502.4 Gifts, entertainment, and favors.
- 502.5 Outside employment and other activity.
- 502.6 Specific provisions of agency regulations governing special Government employees.
- 502.7 Statements of employment and financial interests.
- 502.8 Supplementary statements.

AUTHORITY: E.O. 11222 of May 8, 1965, 3 CFR, 1965 Supp., p. 130; 5 CFR 735.101 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 52 FR 17560, May 11, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 502.1 Adoption of regulations.**

Pursuant to 5 CFR 735.104(f), the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States (referred to hereinafter as “the Commission”) hereby adopts the following sections of part 735 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations: Sections 735.101–102, 735.201a, 735.202 (a), (d), (e), (f) through 735.210, 735.303(a), 735.304, 735.305(a), 735.403(a), 735.404, 735.405, 735.407 through 735.411, 735.412 (b) and (d). These adopted sections are modified and supplemented as set forth in this part.

**§ 502.2 Review of statements of employment and financial interests.**

Each statement of employment and financial interests submitted under this part shall be reviewed by the Commission’s Designated Ethics Officer. When this review indicates a conflict between the interests of an employee or special Government employee of the Commission and the performance of such employee’s services for the Government, the Designated Ethics Officer shall have the indicated conflict brought to the attention of the employee or special Government employee, grant the employee or special Government employee an opportunity to explain the indicated conflict, and attempt to resolve the indicated conflict. If the indicated conflict cannot be resolved, the Designated Ethics Officer shall forward a written report on the indicated conflict to the Chairman of the Commission through the counselor for the agency designated under 5 CFR 735.105(a).

**§ 502.3 Disciplinary and other remedial action.**

An employee or special Government employee of the Commission who violates any of the regulations in this part or adopted under § 502.1 may be disciplined. The disciplinary action may be in addition to any penalty prescribed by law for the violation. In addition to or in lieu of disciplinary action, remedial action to end conflicts or appearance of conflicts of interest may include but is not limited to:

- (a) Changes in assigned duties;
- (b) Divestment by the employee or special Government employee of the employee’s conflicting interest; or
- (c) Disqualification for a particular assignment.

**§ 502.4 Gifts, entertainment, and favors.**

The Commission authorizes the exceptions to 5 CFR 735.202(a) set forth in 5 CFR 735.202(b) (1) through (4).

**§ 502.5 Outside employment and other activity.**

An employee of the Commission may engage in outside employment or other outside activity not incompatible with the full and proper discharge of the duties and responsibilities of such employee’s Government employment; *Provided, however*, That no professional officer or employee of the Commission shall engage in the private practice of such officer or employee’s profession, and no officer or employee, regardless of the nature of his or her duties with the Commission, shall engage in the private practice of law, except upon the prior approval in writing by the Chairman of the Commission.

**§ 502.6 Specific provisions of agency regulations governing special Government employees.**

- (a) Special Government employees of the Commission shall adhere to the standards of conduct applicable to employees as set forth in this part and adopted under § 502.1, except 5 CFR 735.203(b).
- (b) Special Government employees of the Commission may teach, lecture, or write in a manner not inconsistent with 5 CFR 735.203(c).

(c) Pursuant to 5 CFR 735.305(b), the Commission authorizes the same exceptions concerning gifts, entertainment, and favors for special Government employees as are authorized for employees by §502.4.

**§502.7 Statements of employment and financial interests.**

(a) In addition to the employees required to submit statements of employment and financial interests under 5 CFR 735.403(a), attorneys in charge of divisions shall submit statements of employment and financial interests.

(b) Each statement of employment and financial interests required by this section shall be submitted to the Chairman of the Commission.

(c) An employee who believes that his or her position has been improperly included in this section as one requiring the submission of a statement of employment and financial interests may obtain a review thereof under the Commission's grievance procedure.

**§502.8 Supplementary statements.**

Notwithstanding the filing of the annual supplementary statement required by 5 CFR 735.406, each employee shall at all times avoid acquiring a financial interest that could result, or taking an action that would result, in a violation of the conflicts-of-interest provisions of section 208 of title 18, United States Code, or the regulations in this part or adopted under §502.1.

**PART 503—PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Sec.

503.1 Organization and authority—Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 552.

SOURCE: 52 FR 17561, May 11, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

**§503.1 Organization and authority—Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.**

(a) The Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States ("the Commission") is an independent agency of the Federal Government created by Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1954 (68 Stat. 1279) effective July 1, 1954. The Commission was transferred to the Department of Justice as an independent agency within that Department as of October 1, 1980, under the terms of Public Law 96-209, approved March 14, 1980 (94 Stat. 96, 22 U.S.C. 1622c). Its duties and authority are defined in the International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, as amended (64 Stat. 12, 22 U.S.C. 1621-1645o) and the War Claims Act of 1948 (62 Stat. 1240, 50 U.S.C. App. 2001-2017p).

(b) The Commission has jurisdiction to determine claims of United States nationals against foreign governments for compensation for losses and injuries sustained by such nationals, pursuant to programs which may be authorized under either of said Acts. Available funds have their sources in international settlements or liquidation of foreign assets in this country by the Department of Justice or Treasury, and from public funds when provided by the Congress.

(c) The Chairman and the two part-time members of the Commission are appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate to serve for 3-year terms of office as provided by Public Law 96-209, *supra*.

(d) All functions of the Commission are vested in the Chairman with respect to the internal management of the affairs of the Commission, including but not limited to:

(1) The appointment of personnel employed under the Commission;

(2) The direction of employees of the Commission and the supervision of their official duties;

(3) The distribution of business among employees and organizational units under the Commission;

(4) The preparation of budget estimates; and

(5) The use and expenditures of funds of the Commission available for expenses of administration.

## § 503.2

(e) Requests for records shall be made in writing by mail or presented in person to the Administrative Officer, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, Washington, DC, 20579.

(f) The offices of the Commission are located at 1111 20th Street NW. (Vanguard Building), 4th Floor, Washington, DC.

### **§ 503.2 Material to be published in the Federal Register pursuant to Public Law 89-487.**

The Commission shall separately state and concurrently publish the following materials in the FEDERAL REGISTER for the guidance of the public:

(a) Descriptions of its central and field organization and the established places at which, the officers from whom, and the methods whereby, the public may secure information, make submittals or requests, or obtain decisions.

(b) Statements of the general course and method by which its functions are channeled and determined, including the nature and requirements of all formal and informal procedures available.

(c) Rules of procedure, descriptions of forms available or the places at which forms may be obtained, and instructions as to the scope and contents of all papers, reports, or examinations.

(d) Substantive rules of general applicability adopted as authorized by law, and statements of general policy or interpretations of general applicability formulated and adopted by the agency.

(e) Every amendment, revision, or repeal of the foregoing.

### **§ 503.3 Effect of nonpublication.**

Except to the extent that a person has actual and timely notice of the terms thereof, no person shall in any manner be required to resort to, or be adversely affected by, any matter required to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and not so published.

### **§ 503.4 Incorporation by reference.**

For purposes of this part, matter which is reasonably available to the class of persons affected thereby shall be deemed published in the FEDERAL REGISTER when incorporated by ref-

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erence therein with the approval of the Director of the Federal Register.

### **§ 503.5 Records generally available.**

The Commission will make promptly available to any member of the public the following documents:

(a) Proposed and Final Decisions (including dissenting opinions) and all orders made with respect thereto;

(b) Statements of policy and interpretations which have been adopted by the Commission which have not been published in the FEDERAL REGISTER; and

(c) A current index, which shall be updated at least quarterly, covering the foregoing material adopted, issued or promulgated after July 4, 1967. Publication of an index is deemed both unnecessary and impractical. However, copies of the index are available upon request for a fee of the direct cost of duplication.

### **§ 503.6 Current index.**

The Commission shall maintain and make available for public inspection and copying, current indexes providing identifying information for the public as to any matter issued, adopted, or promulgated after July 4, 1967, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2).

### **§ 503.7 Additional documents and records generally available for inspection and copying.**

The following kinds of documents are also available for inspection and copying in the offices of the Commission:

(a) Rules of practice and procedure.

(b) Annual report of the Commission to the Congress of the United States.

(c) Bound volumes of Commission decisions.

(d) International Claims Settlement Act of 1949, with amendments; the War Claims Act of 1948, with amendments; and related Acts.

(e) Claims agreements with foreign governments effecting the settlement of claims under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

(f) Press releases and other miscellaneous material concerning Commission operations.

(g) Indexes of claims filed under the various claims programs administered by the Commission.

**§ 503.8 Effect of noncompliance.**

No decision, statement of policy, interpretation, or staff manual or instruction that affects any member of the public will be relied upon, used, or cited as precedent by the Commission against any private party unless it has been indexed and either made available or published as provided by this part, or unless that private party shall have actual and timely notice of the terms thereof.

**§ 503.9 Availability of records.**

(a) Each person desiring access to a record covered by this part must comply with the following provisions:

(1) A written request must be made for the record.

(2) Such request must indicate that it is being made under the Freedom of Information Act.

(3) The envelope in which the request is sent must be prominently marked with the letters "FOIA".

(4) The request must be addressed to the appropriate official or employee of the Commission as set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.

(5) The foregoing requirements must be complied with whether the request is mailed or hand-delivered to the Commission.

(b) If the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section are not met, the ten day time limit described in § 503.10(a) will not begin to run until the request has been identified by an official or employee of the Commission as a request under the Freedom of Information Act and has been received by the appropriate official or employee of the Commission.

(c) Each person desiring access to a record covered in this part that is located in the Commission, or to obtain a copy of such a record, must make a written request to the Administrative Officer, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, 1111 20th Street NW., Washington, DC 20579.

(d) Each request should reasonably describe the particular record requested. The request should specify the subject matter, the date when it was made and the person or office that made it. If the description is insufficient, the official or employee handling the request may notify the person

making the request and, to the extent possible, indicate the additional data required.

(e) Each record made available under this section is available for inspection and copying during regular working hours. Original documents may be copied but may not be released from custody.

(f) Authority to administer this part in connection with Commission records is delegated to the Administrative Officer or the Commission employee acting in that official's capacity.

**§ 503.10 Actions on requests.**

(a) The Administrative Officer or any employee acting in that official's capacity shall determine within ten days (excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays) after the receipt of any such request whether to comply with such request. Upon receipt of a request for a Commission record which is available, the Administrative Officer or other employee shall notify the requester as to the time the record is available, and shall promptly make the record available after advising such requester of the applicable fees under § 503.13. The person making such request shall be notified immediately after any adverse determination, the reasons for making such adverse determination and the right of such person to appeal.

(b) Any denial of a request for a record shall be written and signed by the Administrative Officer or other employee, including a statement of the reason for denial. Such statement shall contain, as applicable:

(1) A reference to the specific exemption under the Freedom of Information Act authorizing the withholding of a record, and to the extent consistent with the purpose of the exemption, an explanation of how the exemption applies to the record withheld.

(2) If a record requested does not exist or has been legally disposed of, the requester shall be so notified.

(c) In unusual circumstances, the time limit prescribed in paragraph (a) may be extended by written notice to the person making such request setting forth the reasons for such extension and the date on which a determination is expected to be dispatched. No such

notice shall specify a date that would result in an extension for more than ten working days. As used in this paragraph, “unusual circumstances” means, but only to the extent reasonably necessary to the proper processing of the particular request—

(1) The need to search for and collect the requested records from other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request;

(2) The need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records which are demanded in a single request; or

(3) The need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another agency having a substantial interest in the determination of the request or among two or more components of the agency having substantial subject-matter interest therein.

(d) With respect to determinations on appeals, such determinations shall be made within twenty days (excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) after the receipt of such appeal. If, on appeal, the denial of the request for records is in whole or in part upheld, the person making such request shall be notified of the provisions for judicial review of that determination under section 552(a)(4) of title 5, United States Code.

#### § 503.11 Appeals.

(a) Any person to whom a record has not been made available within the time limits established by paragraph (d) of § 503.10, and any person who has been given an adverse determination pursuant to paragraph (b) of § 503.10, that a requested record will not be disclosed, may apply to the Chairman of the Commission, or in the Chairman's absence an officer or employee designated by the Chairman, for reconsideration of the request. A determination that a record will not be disclosed is not administratively final for the purpose of judicial review unless it was made by the Chairman or Chairman's designee, unless the applicable time limit has passed without a determination of the appeal having been made.

(b) Each application for reconsideration must be made in writing within

thirty days from the date of receipt of the original denial and must include all information and arguments relied upon by the person making the request. Such application must indicate that it is an appeal from a denial of a request made under the Freedom of Information Act. The envelope in which the application is sent must be prominently marked with the letters “FOIA”. If these requirements are not met, the twenty day limit described in § 503.10 will not begin to run until the application has been identified as an application under the Freedom of Information Act and has been received by the appropriate office.

(c) Whenever it is to be determined necessary, the person making the request may be required to furnish additional information, or proof of factual allegations and other proceedings appropriate in the circumstances may be ordered. The decision of the Chairman or Chairman's designee as to the availability of the record is administratively final.

(d) The decision not to disclose a record under this part is considered to be a withholding for the purposes of section 552(a)(3) of title 5, United States Code.

#### § 503.12 Exemptions.

In the event any document or record requested hereunder shall contain material which is exempt from disclosure under this section, any reasonably segregable portion of such record shall, notwithstanding such fact, and to the extent feasible, be provided to any person requesting same, after deletion of the portions which are exempt under this section. Documents or records determined to be exempt from disclosure hereunder may nonetheless be provided upon request in the event it is determined that the provision of such document would not violate the public interest or the right of any person to whom such information may pertain, and the disclosure is not prohibited by law or Executive Order. The following categories of records are exempt from disclosure under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552(b):

(a) Records which are specifically required by Executive Order to be kept

secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive Order. This exception may apply to records in the custody of the Commission which have been transmitted to the Commission by another agency which has designated the record as nonpublic under Executive Order.

(b) Records related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Commission.

(c) Records specifically exempted from disclosure by statute.

(d) Information given in confidence. This includes information obtained by or given to the Commission which constitutes confidential commercial or financial information, privileged information, or other information which was given to the Commission in confidence or would not customarily be released by the person from whom it was obtained.

(e) Inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters which would not be available by law to a private party in litigation with the Commission. Such communications include inter-agency memoranda, drafts, staff memoranda transmitted to the Commission, written communications between the Commission and its staff regarding the preparation of Commission decisions, other documents received or generated in the process of issuing a decision or regulation, and reports and other work papers of staff attorneys, accountants, and investigators.

(f) Personnel and medical files and similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(g) Records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information:

(1) Could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings;

(2) Would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication;

(3) Could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(4) Could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential

source, including a state, local or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis and, in the case of a record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source;

(5) Would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law; or

(6) Could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual.

#### **§ 503.13 Fees for services.**

The following provisions shall apply in the assessment and collection of fees for services rendered in processing requests for disclosure of Commission records under this part.

(a) *Fee for duplication of records.* \$0.15 per page.

(b) *Search and review fees.* (1) Searches for records by clerical personnel—\$2.00 per quarter hour, including time spent searching for and copying any record.

(2) Search for and review of records by professional and supervisory personnel—\$5.50 per quarter hour spent searching for any record or reviewing a record to determine whether it may be disclosed, including time spent in copying any record.

(c) *Certification and validation fee.* \$1.00 for each certification, validation or authentication of a copy of any record.

(d) *Imposition of fees.* (1) Commercial use requests—Where a request appears to seek disclosure of records for a commercial use, the requester shall be charged for the time spent by Commission personnel in searching for the requested record and in reviewing the record to determine whether it should be disclosed, and for the cost of each page of duplication. “Commercial use” is defined as a use or purpose that furthers the commercial, trade or profit interests of the requester or the person on whose behalf the request is made. The request also must reasonably identify the records sought.

(2) Requests from representatives of news media—Where a request seeks disclosure of records to a representative of the news media, the requester shall be charged only for the actual duplication cost of the records and only to the extent that the number of duplications exceeds 100 pages; provided, however, that the request must reasonably describe the records sought, and it must appear that the records are for use by the requester in such person's capacity as a news media representative. "Representative of the news media" refers to any person actively gathering news for an entity that is organized and operated to publish or broadcast news to the public. The term "news" means information that is about current events or that would be of current interest to the public. A "freelance" journalist not actually employed by a news organization shall be eligible for inclusion under this category if such person can demonstrate a solid basis for expecting publication by a news organization.

(3) Requests from educational and non-commercial scientific institutions—Where a request seeks disclosure of records to an educational or non-commercial scientific institution, the requester shall be charged only for the actual duplication cost of the records and only to the extent that the number of duplications exceeds 100 pages; provided, however, that the request must reasonably describe the records sought and it must appear that the records are to be used by the requester in furtherance of its educational or non-commercial scientific research programs. "Educational institution" refers to a preschool, a public or private elementary or secondary school, or an institution of undergraduate, graduate, professional or vocational education, which operates a program or programs of scholarly research. "Non-commercial scientific institution" refers to an institution that is not operated on a "commercial" basis, within the meaning of paragraph (d)(1) of this section and which is operated solely for the purpose of conducting scientific research, the results of which are not intended to promote any particular product or industry.

(4) All other requests—Where a request seeks disclosure of records to a

person or entity other than one coming within paragraphs (d) (1), (2) and (3) of this section, the requester shall be charged the full cost of search and duplication. However, the first two hours of search time and the first 100 pages of duplication shall be furnished without charge.

(e) *Aggregating of requests.* If there exists a solid basis for concluding that a requester or group of requesters has submitted a series of partial requests for disclosure of records in an attempt to evade assessment of fees, the requests may be aggregated so as to constitute a single request, with fees charged accordingly.

(f) *Unsuccessful searches.* Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, the cost of searching for a requested record shall be charged even if the search fails to locate such record or it is determined that the record is exempt from disclosure.

(g) *Interest.* In the event a requester fails to remit payment of fees charged for processing a request under this part within 30 days from the date such fees were billed, interest on such fees may be assessed beginning on the 31st day after the billing date, to be calculated at the rate prescribed in section 3717 of title 31, United States Code.

(h) *Advance payments.* (1) If, but only if, it is estimated or determined that processing of a request for disclosure of records will result in a charge of fees of more than \$250.00, the requester may be required to pay the fees in advance in order to obtain completion of such processing.

(2) If a requester has previously failed to make timely payment (i.e., within 30 days of billing date) of fees charged under this part, the requester may be required to pay such fees and interest accrued thereon, and to make an advance payment of the full amount of estimated fees chargeable in connection with any pending or new request, in order to obtain processing of such pending or new request.

(3) With regard to any request coming within paragraphs (h) (1) and (2) of this section, the administrative time limits set forth in §§ 503.10 and 503.11 of this part will begin to run only after the requisite fee payments have been received.

(i) *Non-payment.* In the event of non-payment of billed charges for disclosure of records, the provisions of the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (Pub. L. 97-365), including disclosure to consumer credit reporting agencies and referral to collection agencies, may be utilized to obtain payment.

(j) *Waiver or reduction of charges.* Fees otherwise chargeable in connection with a request for disclosure of a record shall be waived or reduced where—

(1) It is determined that disclosure is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester; or

(2) It is determined that the cost of collection would be equal to or exceed the amount of such fees. No charges shall be assessed if such fees amount to \$8.00 or less.

## PART 504—PRIVACY ACT AND GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE REGULATIONS

### Subpart A—Privacy Act Regulations

- 504.1 Definitions—Privacy Act.
- 504.2 General policies—Privacy Act.
- 504.3 Conditions of disclosure.
- 504.4 Accounting of certain disclosures.
- 504.5 Access to records or information
- 504.6 Determination of requests for access to records.
- 504.7 Amendment of a record.
- 504.8 Appeals from denial of requests for amendment to records.
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- 504.20 Definitions.
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504.29 Requests for information.

SOURCE: 52 FR 17565, May 11, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

## Subpart A—Privacy Act Regulations

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 552a(f).

### § 504.1 Definitions—Privacy Act.

For the purpose of this part:

*Agency* includes any executive department, military department, government corporation, government controlled corporation, or other establishment in the executive branch of the government (including the Executive Office of the President) or any independent regulatory agency. The Foreign Claims Settlement Commission (*Commission*) is an *agency* within the meaning of the term.

*Individual* means a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

*Maintain* includes maintain, collect, use or disseminate.

*Record* means any item, collection, or grouping of information about an individual that is maintained by an agency, including, but not limited to, an individual's education, financial transactions, medical history, and criminal or employment history, and that contains an individual's name, or the identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual, such as a finger or voice print or a photograph.

*Routine use* means, with respect to the disclosure of a record, the use of such record for a purpose which is compatible with the purpose for which it was collected.

*Statistical record* means a record in a system of records maintained for statistical research or reporting purposes only and not used in whole or in part in making any determination about an identifiable individual except as provided by section 8 of Title 13, United States Code.

*System of records* means a group of any records under the control of any agency from which information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual.

**§ 504.2 General policies—Privacy Act.**

The Commission will protect the privacy of an individual identified in any information or record systems which it maintains. Accordingly, its officials and employees, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation, will:

(a) Permit an individual to determine what records pertaining to such individual are collected, maintained, used or disseminated by the Commission.

(b) Permit an individual to prevent a record pertaining to such individual obtained by the Commission for a particular purpose from being used or made available for another purpose without the individual's consent.

(c) Permit an individual to gain access to information pertaining to such individual in Commission records, to have a copy made of all or any portion thereof, and to correct or amend such records.

(d) Collect, maintain, use, or disseminate any record of identifiable personal information in a manner that assures that such action is for a necessary and lawful purpose, that the information is current and accurate for its intended use, and that adequate safeguards are provided to prevent misuse of such information.

(e) Permit exemptions from record requirements provided under the Privacy Act only where an important public policy use for such exemption has been determined in accordance with specific statutory authority.

**§ 504.3 Conditions of disclosure.**

The Commission will not disclose any record contained in a system of records by any means of communication to any person or any other agency except by written request of or prior written consent of the individual to whom the record pertains unless such disclosure is:

(a) To those officers and employees of the Commission who have a need for the record in the performance of their duties;

(b) Required under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552;

(c) For a routine use;

(d) To the Bureau of Census for purposes of planning or carrying out a census or survey or related activity under

the provisions of Title 13, United States Code;

(e) To a recipient who has provided the Commission with adequate advance assurance that the record will be used solely as a statistical research or reporting record, and the record is to be transferred in a form that is not individually identifiable;

(f) To the National Archives of the United States as a record which has sufficient historical or other value to warrant its continued preservation by the United States Government or for evaluation to determine whether the record has such value;

(g) To another agency or to an instrumentality of any government jurisdiction within or under control of the United States for a civil or criminal law enforcement activity authorized by law, provided the head of the agency or instrumentality has made a prior written request to the Commission, specifying the particular record and the law enforcement activity for which it is sought;

(h) To a person pursuant to a showing of compelling circumstances affecting the health or safety of an individual if upon such disclosure, notification is transmitted to the last known address of such individual;

(i) To either House of Congress, or, to the extent of matter within its jurisdiction, any committee or subcommittee thereof, any joint committee of Congress or subcommittee of any such joint committee;

(j) To the Comptroller General, or any of that official's authorized representatives, in the course of the performance of the duties of the General Accounting Office; or

(k) Pursuant to the order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

**§ 504.4 Accounting of certain disclosures.**

(a) Except for disclosures under § 504.3 (a) and (b) of this part, the Administrative Officer shall keep an accurate accounting of each disclosure of a record to any person or to another agency made under § 504.3 (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), and (k) of this part.

(b) Except for a disclosure made to another agency or to an instrumentality of any governmental jurisdiction

under § 504.3(g) of this part, the Administrative Officer shall make the accounting as required under paragraph (a) of this section available to any individual upon written request made in accordance with § 504.5.

(c) The Administrative Officer shall inform any person or other agency about any correction or notation of dispute made in accordance with § 504.7 of this part of any record that has been disclosed to the person or agency if an accounting of the disclosure was made.

(d) An accounting of disclosures of records within this section shall consist of the date, nature, the purpose of each disclosure of a record to any person or to another agency, and the name and address of the person or agency to whom the disclosure is made.

(e) Such accounting shall be retained for 5 years or the life of the record, whichever is longer, after the disclosure for which the accounting is made.

#### **§ 504.5 Access to records or information**

(a) Upon request in person or by mail, any individual shall be informed whether or not a system of records maintained by the Commission contains a record or information pertaining to such individual.

(b) Any individual requesting access to such record or information in person shall appear in person at the offices of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, 1111 20th Street, NW., Room 400, Washington, DC., between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and

(1) Provide information sufficient to identify the record, e.g., the individual's own name, claim and decision number, date and place of birth, etc.;

(2) Provide identification to verify the individual's identity, e.g., driver's license, identification or Medicare card; and

(3) Any individual requesting access to records or information pertaining to such individual may be accompanied by a person of the individual's own choosing while reviewing the record thereof. If an individual elects to be so accompanied, advance notification of the election shall be required along with a written statement authorizing disclosure and discussion of the record

in the presence of the accompanying person at any time, including the time access is granted.

(c) Any individual making a request for access to records or information pertaining to such individual by mail shall address such request to the Administrative Officer (Privacy Officer), Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, 1111 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20579, and shall provide information acceptable to the Administrative Officer to verify the individual's identity.

(d) Responses to requests under this section normally will be made within ten (10) days of receipt (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays). If it is not possible to respond to requests within such period, an acknowledgment will be sent to the individual within ten (10) days of receipt of the request (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays).

#### **§ 504.6 Determination of requests for access to records.**

(a) Upon request made in accordance with § 504.5, the Administrative Officer shall:

(1) Determine whether or not such request will be granted;

(2) Make such determination and provide notification within a reasonable period of time after receipt of such request.

(b) If access to a record is denied because information has been compiled by the Commission in reasonable anticipation of a civil or criminal action or proceeding, the Administrative Officer shall notify the individual of such determination and the reason therefor.

(c) If access to the record is granted, the individual making such request shall notify the Administrative Officer whether the records requested are to be copied and mailed to the individual.

(d) If records are to be made available for personal inspection, the individual shall arrange with the Administrative Officer a mutually agreeable time and place for inspection of the record.

#### **§ 504.7 Amendment of a record.**

(a) Any individual may request amendment of a record pertaining to

## § 504.8

such individual according to the procedure in paragraph (b) of this section except those records described under paragraph (d) of this section.

(b) After inspection by an individual of a record pertaining to such individual, he or she may file a written request, presented in person or by mail, with the Administrative Officer, for an amendment to a record. Such request shall specify the particular portions of the record to be amended, the desired amendments and the reasons therefor.

(c) Not later than 10 days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) after the receipt of a request made in accordance with this section to amend a record in whole or in part, the Administrative Officer shall:

(1) Make any correction of any portion of the record which the individual believes is not accurate, relevant, timely or complete and thereafter inform the individual of such correction; or

(2) Inform the individual, by certified mail return receipt requested, of the refusal to amend such record, setting forth the reasons therefor, and notify the individual of the right to appeal that determination as provided under § 504.8 of this part.

(d) The provisions for amending records do not permit the alteration of evidence presented in the course of Commission proceedings in the adjudication of claims, nor do they permit collateral attack upon what has already been subject to final agency action in the adjudication of claims in programs previously completed by the Commission pursuant to statutory time limitations.

### **§ 504.8 Appeals from denial of requests for amendment to records.**

(a) An individual whose request for amendment of a record pertaining to such individual is denied may request a review of such determination. Such request shall be addressed to the Chairman of the Commission, and shall specify the reasons for which the refusal to amend is challenged.

(b) If on appeal the refusal to amend the record is upheld, the Commission shall permit the individual to file a statement setting forth the reasons for disagreement with the determination.

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The statement must also be submitted within 30 days of receipt of the denial. The statement shall be included in the system of records in which the disputed record is maintained and shall be marked so as to indicate (1) that a statement of disagreement has been filed, and (2) where in the system of records the statement may be found.

### **§ 504.9 Fees.**

Fees to be charged, if any, to any individual for making copies of such individual's record excluding the cost of any search for and review of the record shall be as follows:

(a) Photocopy reproductions, each copy \$0.15.

(b) Where the Commission undertakes to perform for a requester, or any other person, services which are clearly not required to be performed under the Privacy Act, either voluntarily or because such services are required by some other law, the question of charging fees for such services shall be determined by the official or designee authorized to release the information, under the Federal user charge statute, 31 U.S.C. 583a, any other applicable law, and the provisions of § 503.13 of part 503 of the Commission's regulations.

### **§ 504.10 Exemptions.**

No system of records maintained by the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission is exempt from the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a as permitted under certain conditions by 5 U.S.C. 552a (j) and (k). However, the Chairman of the Commission reserves the right to promulgate rules in accordance with the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 553(b) (1), (2) and (3), (c) and (e) to exempt any system of records maintained by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a(k).

### **§ 504.11 Reports.**

(a) The Administrative Officer or designee shall provide adequate advance notice to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget of any proposal to establish or alter any Commission system of records, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(o).

(b) If at any time a system of records maintained by the Commission is determined to be exempt from the application of 5 U.S.C. 552a in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552a (j) and (k), the number of records contained in such system shall be separately listed and reported to the Office of Management and Budget.

#### § 504.12 Notices.

The Commission shall publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER at least annually a notice of the existence and character of the systems of records which it maintains. Such notice shall include:

- (a) The name and location of each system;
- (b) The categories of individuals on whom the records are maintained in each system;
- (c) The categories of records maintained in each system;
- (d) Each routine use of the records contained in each system including the categories of users and the purpose of each use;
- (e) The policies and practices of the Commission regarding storage, retrievability, access controls, retention, and disposal of the records;
- (f) The title and business address of the agency official who is responsible for each system of records;
- (g) Commission procedures whereby an individual can be notified if a system of records contains a record pertaining to such individual;
- (h) Commission procedures whereby an individual can be notified how to gain access to any record pertaining to such individual contained in a system of records, and how to contest its content, and
- (i) The categories of sources of records in each system.

### Subpart B—Government in the Sunshine Regulations

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 552b.

#### § 504.20 Definitions.

For purposes of this part: *Agency* means any agency, as defined in 5 U.S.C. 552b(e), which includes the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, headed by a collegial body composed of

two or more individual members, a majority of whom are appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, and any subdivision thereof authorized to act on behalf of the agency;

*Closed meeting* and *closed portion of a meeting* mean, respectively, a meeting or that part of a meeting designated as provided in § 504.27 as closed to the public by reason of one or more of the closure provisions listed in § 504.24.

*Commission* means the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, which is a collegial body that functions as a unit composed of three individual members, appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

*Meeting* means the deliberations of at least two (quorum) members of the Commission where such deliberations determine or result in joint conduct or disposition of official Commission business.

*Member* means any one of the three members of the Commission.

*Open meeting* means a meeting or portion of a meeting which is not a closed meeting or a closed portion of a meeting.

*Public observation* means the right of any member of the public to attend and observe, but not participate or interfere in any way, in an open meeting of the Commission within the limits of reasonable and comfortable accommodations made available for such purpose by the Commission.

#### § 504.21 Notice of public observation.

(a) A member of the public is not required to give advance notice of an intention to exercise the right of public observation of an open meeting of the Commission. However, in order to permit the Commission to determine the amount of space and number of seats which must be made available to accommodate individuals who desire to exercise the right of public observation, such individuals are requested to give notice to the Commission at least two business days before the start of the open meeting of the intention to exercise such right.

(b) Notice of intention to exercise the right of public observation may be

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given in writing, in person, or by telephone to the official designated in § 504.29.

(c) Individuals who have not given advance notice of intention to exercise the right of public observation will not be permitted to attend and observe the open meeting of the Commission if the available space and seating are necessary to accommodate individuals who gave advance notice of such intention.

**§ 504.22 Scope of application.**

The provisions of this part 504, §§ 504.20 through 504.29, apply to meetings of the Commission, and do not apply to conferences or other gatherings of employees of the Commission who meet or join with others, except at meetings of the Commission to deliberate on or conduct official agency business.

**§ 504.23 Open meetings.**

Every meeting of the Commission shall be open to public observation except as provided in § 504.24.

**§ 504.24 Grounds for closing a meeting.**

(a) Except in a case where the Commission determines otherwise, a meeting or portion of a meeting may be closed to public observation where the Commission determines that the meeting or portion of the meeting is likely to:

- (1) Disclose matters that are (i) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or foreign policy and (ii) in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order;
- (2) Relate solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Commission;
- (3) Disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 U.S.C. 552) provided that such statute (i) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on the issue, or (ii) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (4) Disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information ob-

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tained from a person and privileged or confidential;

- (5) Involve accusing any person of a crime, or formally censuring any person;
- (6) Disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (7) Disclose investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes, or information which if written would be contained in such records, but only to the extent that the production of such records or information would (i) interfere with enforcement proceedings, (ii) deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (iii) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (iv) disclose the identity of a confidential source and, in the case of a record compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, confidential information furnished only by the confidential source, (v) disclose investigative techniques and procedures, or (vi) endanger the life or physical safety of law enforcement personnel;
- (8) Disclose information contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of the Commission;
- (9) Disclose information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed action of the Commission, provided the Commission has not already disclosed to the public the content or nature of its proposed action, or is not required by law to make such disclosure on its own initiative prior to taking final action on such proposal; or
- (10) Specifically concern the Commission's issuance of a subpoena or the Commission's participation in a civil action or proceeding, an action in a foreign court or international tribunal, or an arbitration, or the initiation, conduct, or disposition by the Commission of a particular case of formal agency adjudication pursuant to the procedures in section 554 of Title 5,

United States Code, or otherwise involve a determination on the record after opportunity for a hearing.

(b) If the Commission determines that the public interest would require that a meeting to be open, it may nevertheless so hold.

**§ 504.25 Announcement of meetings.**

(a) The Commission meets in its offices at 1111 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC, from time to time as announced by timely notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(b) At the earliest practicable time, which is estimated to be not later than eight days before the beginning of a meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall make available for public inspection in its offices, and, if requested, shall furnish by telephone or in writing, a notice of the subject matter of the meeting, except to the extent that such information is exempt from disclosure under the provisions of § 504.24.

**§ 504.26 Procedures for closing of meetings.**

(a) The closing of a meeting shall occur when:

(1) A majority of the membership of the Commission votes to take such action. A separate vote of the Commission members shall be taken with respect to each Commission meeting a portion or portions of which are proposed to be closed to the public pursuant to § 504.24, or with respect to any information which is proposed withheld under § 504.24. A single vote may be taken with respect to a series of meetings, a portion or portions of which are proposed to be closed to the public, or with respect to any information concerning such series of meetings, so long as each meeting in such series involves the same particular matters and is scheduled to be held no more than thirty days after the initial meeting in such series. The vote of each Commission member participating in such vote shall be recorded and no proxies shall be allowed.

(2) Whenever any person whose interests may be directly affected by a portion of a meeting requests that the Commission close such portion to the public for any of the reasons referred

to in § 504.24 (e), (f) or (g), the Commission upon request of any one of its Commission members, shall take a recorded vote, whether to close such portion of the meeting.

(b) Within one day of any vote taken, the Commission shall make publicly available a written copy of such vote reflecting the vote of each member on the question and a full written explanation of its action closing the entire or portion of the meeting together with a list of all persons expected to attend the meeting and their affiliation.

(c) The Commission shall announce the time, place and subject matter of the meeting at least 8 days before the meeting.

(d) For every closed meeting, before such meeting is closed, the Commission's Chairman shall publicly certify that, the meeting may be closed to the public, and shall state each relevant closure provision. A copy of such certification, together with a statement setting forth the time and place of the meeting, and the persons present, shall be retained by the Commission.

**§ 504.27 Reconsideration of opening or closing, or rescheduling a meeting.**

The time or place of a Commission meeting may be changed following the public announcement only if the Commission publicly announces such changes at the earliest practicable time. The subject matter of a meeting, or the determination of the Commission to open or close a meeting, or portion of a meeting, to the public, may be changed following the public announcement only if a majority of the Commission members determines by a recorded vote that Commission business so requires and that no earlier announcement of the changes was possible, and the Commission publicly announces such changes and the vote of each member upon such change at the earliest practicable time.

**§ 504.28 Record of closed meetings, or closed portion of a meeting.**

(a) The Commission shall maintain a complete transcript or electronic recording adequate to record fully the proceedings of each closed meeting or closed portion of a meeting, except that in the case of a meeting or portion

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of a meeting closed to the public pursuant to §504.24 (d), (h), or (j), the Commission shall maintain either such transcript, recording, or a detailed set of minutes.

(b) Any minutes so maintained shall fully and clearly describe all matters discussed and shall provide a full and accurate summary of any actions taken, and the reasons therefor, including a description of each of the views expressed on any item and the record of any rollcall vote. All documents considered in connection with any action shall be identified in the minutes.

(c) The Commission shall promptly make available to the public, in its offices, the transcript, electronic recording, or minutes, of the discussion of any item on the agenda of a closed meeting, or closed portion of a meeting, except for such item or items of discussion which the Commission determines to contain information which may be withheld under §504.24. Copies of such transcript or minutes, or a transcription of such recording disclosing the identity of each speaker, shall be furnished to any person at the actual cost of duplication or transcription.

(d) The Commission shall maintain a complete verbatim copy of the transcript, a complete copy of the minutes, or a complete electronic recording of each closed meeting or closed portion of a meeting for a period of two years after the date of such closed meeting or closed portion of a meeting.

(e) All actions required or permitted by this section to be undertaken by the Commission shall be by or under the authority of the Chairman of the Commission.

**§ 504.29 Requests for information.**

Requests to the Commission for information about the time, place, and subject matter of a meeting, whether it or any portions thereof are closed to the public, and any requests for copies of the transcript or minutes or of a transcript of an electronic recording of a closed meeting, or closed portion of a meeting, to the extent not exempt from disclosure by the provisions of §504.24, shall be addressed to the Administrative Officer, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, 1111 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20579, telephone 202/ 653-6155.