

(e) The employee may thereafter request either (1) indemnification to satisfy a verdict, judgment or award entered against the employee or (2) payment to satisfy the requirements of a settlement proposal. The employee shall submit a written request, with documentation including copies of the verdict, judgment, award or settlement proposal, as appropriate, to the head of his or her division or office, who thereupon shall submit to the General Counsel, in a timely manner, a recommended disposition of the request. The General Counsel shall also seek the views of the Department of Justice. The General Counsel shall forward the request, the division or office's recommendation and the General Counsel's recommendation to the Commission for decision.

(f) Any payment under this section either to indemnify a Commodity Futures Trading Commission employee or to settle a personal damage claim shall be contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

PART 143—COLLECTION OF CLAIMS OWED THE UNITED STATES ARISING FROM ACTIVITIES UNDER THE COMMISSION'S JURISDICTION

Sec.

143.1 Purpose.

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AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 9 and 15, 9a, 12a(5), 13a, 13a-1(d) and 13(a); 31 U.S.C. 3701-3719; 28 U.S.C. 2461 note.

SOURCE: 50 FR 5384, Feb. 8, 1985, unless otherwise noted.

§ 143.1 Purpose.

This part implements the Federal Claims Collection Act, as amended by the Debt Collection Act, 31 U.S.C. 3701-3719, and interpreted by the Department of Justice and General Account-

ing Office in the Federal Claims Collection Standards (4 CFR parts 101-105), and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996. This part provides procedures which the Commission will use to collect claims owed the United States arising from activities under the Commission's jurisdiction, including amounts due the United States from fees, fines, civil penalties, damages, interest and other sources. This part further sets forth procedures for the Commission to determine and collect interest, penalties, and administrative costs on unpaid claims and to refer unpaid claims for litigation. This part also sets forth the maximum inflation-adjusted civil monetary penalties that may be assessed and enforced against persons for violations of the Commodity Exchange Act or regulations thereunder.

[61 FR 55566, Oct. 28, 1996]

§ 143.2 Notice of claim.

(a) The Commission will send a written notice to any person who owes payment to the United States under this part, stating the basis for the claim, the interest, penalties, and administrative costs that may be imposed for non-payment, and the date full payment is due.

(b) If the claim is disputed, the debtor shall respond to the notice in writing and state the reasons for non-payment. If the claim is not disputed but full payment is not made by the date indicated in the notice, the debtor shall state the reasons for the failure to make full payment.

(c) If no response or an unsatisfactory response is received by the date indicated in the notice, the Commission may take any further action appropriate under the Commodity Exchange Act or regulations thereunder, or under 4 CFR parts 101-105 and the Federal Claims Collection Act, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 3701-3719.

§ 143.3 Interest, penalty charges, and administrative costs.

(a) The Commission will assess interest on unpaid claims. The rate of interest assessed shall be the rate of the current value of funds to the U.S.

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Treasury (*i.e.*, the Treasury tax and loan account rate) as prescribed and published by the Secretary of the Treasury. The Commission will charge penalty fees of not more than 6 percent per year on any portion of a claim that is delinquent for more than 90 days. The Commission will also impose actual administrative costs to cover the processing and handling of delinquent claims.

(b) Interest on claims will be charged and will run from the date the notice of claim is mailed if the amount of the claim is not paid within 30 days from that date. Interest will be calculated only on the principal of the claim. The rate of interest charged is the rate in effect on the date from which interest begins to run. The rate will remain fixed for the duration of the indebtedness.

(c) The Commission may waive in whole or in part interest, penalty charges or administrative costs if it finds that:

(1) The debtor is unable to pay any significant sum within a reasonable period of time;

(2) Collection of interest or penalty charges jeopardizes collection of the principal of the claim; or

(3) It is in the best interests of the United States.

§ 143.4 Collection by offset.

(a) Whenever feasible, the Commission will collect claims under this part by means of administrative offset against obligations of the United States to the debtor.

(b) The Commission will notify the debtor in writing of its intent to use offset procedures to collect the debt unless the debtor agrees to repayment. The notice to the debtor shall include the type and amount of the claim and an explanation of the debtor's rights for records and review under 31 U.S.C. 3716(a).

(c) The Commission will seek to coordinate administrative offset with other federal agencies in accordance with 4 CFR part 102.

§ 143.5 Collection by compromise.

The Commission may settle claims not exceeding \$100,000 (excluding inter-

est) by compromise at less than the principal amount of the claim if—

(a) The debtor shows an inability to pay the full amount within a reasonable period of time;

(b) The Government would be unable to enforce collection in full through litigation or administrative means within a reasonable period of time;

(c) The cost of collecting the claim in full is not justified by the amount of the claim; or

(d) The Commission's enforcement policy would be served by settlement of the claim for less than the full amount.

[50 FR 5384, Feb. 8, 1985, as amended at 57 FR 61292, Dec. 24, 1992]

§ 143.6 Referral for litigation.

Claims that cannot be collected by the Commission under this part or for which collection action cannot be ended or suspended under 4 CFR part 104 will be referred to the Department of Justice for litigation.

§ 143.7 Delegation of authority to the Executive Director.

(a) The Commission hereby delegates, until such time as the Commission orders otherwise, to the Executive Director or to any Commission employee under the Executive Director's supervision as he or she may designate, authority to take action to carry out this part and the requirements of 4 CFR parts 101–105.

(b) Delegated waivers or compromise under this part shall be with the concurrence of the General Counsel and the Director of the Division of Enforcement or of their respective designees.

§ 143.8 Inflation-adjusted civil monetary penalties.

(a) Unless otherwise amended by an act of Congress, the inflation-adjusted maximum civil monetary penalty for each violation of the Commodity Exchange Act or the rules or orders promulgated thereunder that may be assessed or enforced by the Commission under the Commodity Exchange Act pursuant to an administrative proceeding or a civil action in Federal court will be:

(1) For each violation for which a civil monetary penalty is assessed

against any person (other than a contract market) pursuant to section 6(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act, 7 U.S.C. 9:

(i) For violations committed between November 27, 1996 and October 22, 2000, not more than the greater of \$110,000 or triple the monetary gain to such person for each such violation; and

(ii) For violations committed on or after October 23, 2000, not more than the greater of \$120,000 or triple the monetary gain to such person for each such violation;

(2) For each violation for which a civil monetary penalty is assessed against any contract market or other person pursuant to section 6c of the Commodity Exchange Act, 7 U.S.C. 13a-1:

(i) For violations committed between November 27, 1996 and October 22, 2000, not more than the greater of \$110,000 or triple the monetary gain to such person for each such violation; and

(ii) For violations committed on or after October 23, 2000, not more than the greater of \$120,000 or triple the monetary gain to such person for each such violation; and

(3) For each violation for which a civil monetary penalty is assessed against any contract market or any director, officer, agent, or employee of any contract market pursuant to section 6b of the Commodity Exchange Act, 7 U.S.C. 13a:

(i) For violations committed between November 27, 1996 and October 22, 2000, not more than \$550,000 for each such violation; and

(ii) For violations committed on or after October 23, 2000, not more than \$575,000 for each such violation.

(b) The Commission will adjust for inflation the maximum penalties set forth in this section at least once every four years.

(c) Unless otherwise amended by an act of Congress, the penalties set forth in this section or any penalty adjusted for inflation in the future pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section shall be applicable only to violations of the Commodity Exchange Act, Commission rules, or Commission orders which occur after the date on which such fu-

ture inflation adjustments become effective.

[61 FR 55566, Oct. 28, 1996, as amended at 65 FR 45711, July 25, 2000]

PART 144—PROCEDURES REGARDING THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION AND THE TESTIMONY OF PRESENT OR FORMER OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES IN RESPONSE TO SUBPOENAS OR OTHER DEMANDS OF A COURT

Sec.

144.0 Purpose and scope.

144.1 Service upon the Commission.

144.2 Service upon an employee or former employee of the Commission.

144.3 Testimony by present or former Commission employees.

144.4 Production or disclosure of records by present or former employees.

144.5 Procedures when production or disclosure of Commission records or information relating to Commission business is sought.

144.6 Fees.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301; 7 U.S.C. 4a(j) and 12a(5); 31 U.S.C. 9701, unless otherwise noted.

SOURCE: 50 FR 11149, Mar. 20, 1985, unless otherwise noted.

§ 144.0 Purpose and scope.

(a) The regulations in this part set forth procedures to be followed with respect to the disclosure, in response to a subpoena, order or other demand (collectively "demand") of a court or other authority of any material contained in the files of the Commission, of any information relating to material contained in the files of the Commission or any information acquired by any person while such person is or was an employee of the Commission as part of the performance of that person's official duties or by virtue of that person's official status. Employee as used in this part includes both members and employees of the Commission. Demand as used in this part does not include requests for the production of documents in compliance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 34.

(b) Nothing in this part affects disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552, the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Sunshine Act, 552b, or the