

disciplinary jurisdiction of the exchange. Such an investigation shall be commenced:

(1) Upon the receipt of a request from the Commission, its Executive Director or his delegee, or

(2) Upon the discovery or receipt of information by the exchange which, in the judgment of the enforcement staff, indicates a possible basis for finding that a violation has occurred or will occur.

(b) Each enforcement staff investigation shall be completed within four months, unless there exists significant reason to extend it beyond such period. If for any reason the enforcement staff closes an investigation before determining whether a reasonable basis exists for finding that a violation has occurred, the staff shall fully set forth the reasons for so closing the investigation in its report.

§ 8.07 Investigation reports.

(a) The enforcement staff shall submit a written investigation report to the disciplinary committee of the exchange in every instance in which the enforcement staff has determined from surveillance or from an investigation that a reasonable basis exists for finding a violation. The investigation report shall include the reason the investigation was initiated, a summary of the complaint, if any, the relevant facts, the enforcement staff's conclusions and a recommendation as to whether the disciplinary committee should proceed with the matter.

(b) If after conducting an investigation the enforcement staff has determined that no reasonable basis exists for finding a violation, it shall prepare a written report including the reason the investigation was initiated, a summary of the complaint, if any, the relevant facts, the enforcement staff's conclusions and, if applicable, any recommendation that the disciplinary committee issue a warning letter in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section. The report shall become part of the investigation file which thereafter may be closed.

(c) In addition to the action required to be taken under either paragraph (a) or (b) of this section, the rules of an exchange may authorize the enforcement

staff to issue a warning letter to a person under investigation or to recommend that the disciplinary committee issue such a letter. A warning letter issued in accordance with this section is not a penalty or an indication that a finding of a violation has been made. A copy of such warning letter issued by the enforcement staff shall be included in the investigation report required by paragraph (a) or (b) of this section.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 3038-0022)

[43 FR 41950, Sept. 19, 1978, as amended at 46 FR 63036, Dec. 30, 1981]

§ 8.08 Disciplinary committee.

Each exchange shall establish one or more disciplinary committees which shall be authorized by the exchange to determine whether violations have been committed, to accept offers of settlement and to set and impose appropriate penalties. Each such disciplinary committee shall consist of one or more members of the exchange or persons on the staff of the exchange; however, persons on the enforcement staff may not serve on a disciplinary committee.

§ 8.09 Review of investigation report.

The disciplinary committee shall promptly review each investigation report. In the event the disciplinary committee determines that additional investigation or evidence is needed, it shall promptly direct the enforcement staff to conduct its investigation further. Within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 30 days after the receipt of a completed investigation report, the disciplinary committee shall take one of the following actions:

(a) If the disciplinary committee determines that no reasonable basis exists for finding a violation or that prosecution is otherwise unwarranted, it may direct that no further action be taken. Such determination must be in writing and contain a brief statement setting forth the reasons therefor.

(b) If the disciplinary committee determines that a reasonable basis exists for finding a violation which should be adjudicated, it shall direct that the person alleged to have committed the violation be served with a notice of

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charges and shall proceed in accordance with the rules of this subpart.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 3038-0022)

[43 FR 41950, Sept. 19, 1978, as amended at 46 FR 63036, Dec. 30, 1981]

§ 8.10 Predetermined penalties.

An exchange may adopt rules which set specific maximum penalties for particular violations. If the rules of an exchange establish predetermined penalties, the disciplinary committee shall have discretion in each case whether to employ the predetermined penalty. If the predetermined penalty is employed, it shall be stated in the notice of charges. In such case, after a hearing on a denied charge where a respondent is found to have committed the violation charged, the disciplinary committee shall impose the predetermined penalty or an appropriate lesser penalty.

§ 8.11 Notice of charges.

The notice of charges shall:

(a) State the acts, practices, or conduct in which the person is alleged to have engaged;

(b) State the rule alleged to have been violated (or about to be violated);

(c) State the predetermined penalty, if any;

(d) Prescribe the period within which a hearing on the charges may be requested;

(e) Advise the person charged that:

(1) He is entitled, upon request, to a hearing on the charges;

(2) If the rules of the exchange so provide, failure to request a hearing within the period prescribed in the notice, except for good cause, shall be deemed a waiver of the right to a hearing; and

(3) If the rules of the exchange so provide, failure in an answer to deny expressly a charge shall be deemed to be an admission of such charge.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 3038-0022)

[43 FR 41950, Sept. 19, 1978, as amended at 46 FR 63036, Dec. 30, 1981]

§ 8.12 Right to representation.

Upon being served with a notice of charges the respondent shall have the right to be represented by legal counsel

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or any other representative of his choosing in all succeeding stages of the disciplinary proceeding.

§ 8.13 Answer to charges.

The respondent shall be given a reasonable period of time to file an answer to the charges. The rules of an exchange may provide that:

(a) The answer must be in writing and include a statement that the respondent admits, denies or does not have and is unable to obtain sufficient information to admit or deny each allegation. A statement of a lack of sufficient information shall have the effect of a denial of an allegation.

(b) Failure to file an answer on a timely basis shall be deemed an admission of all allegations contained in the notice of charges.

(c) Failure in an answer to deny expressly a charge shall be deemed to be an admission of such charge.

§ 8.14 Admission or failure to deny charges.

(a) The rules of an exchange may provide that if the respondent admits or fails to deny any of the charges the disciplinary committee may find that the rule violation alleged in the notice of charges for which the respondent admitted or failed to deny any of the charges has been committed. If the exchange rules so provide, then:

(1) The disciplinary committee shall impose a penalty no greater than the predetermined penalty, if any, stated in the notice of charges for the corresponding violation found to have been committed.

(2) If no predetermined penalty was stated, the disciplinary committee shall impose a penalty for each violation found to have been committed.

(b) The disciplinary committee shall promptly notify the respondent in writing of any penalty to be imposed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section and shall advise him that he may request a hearing on such penalty within a reasonable period of time, which shall be stated in the notice, but that except for good cause shown no hearing shall be permitted on a penalty imposed pursuant to subparagraph (a)(1) of this section.