

where the Complainant has not requested either a hearing or a decision. The final action shall contain notice of the right to appeal the final action to the EEOC, the right to file a civil action in federal district court, the name of the proper defendant in any such lawsuit and the applicable time limits for appeals and lawsuits. A copy of the Notice of Appeal Petition (EEOC Form 573) shall be attached to the final action.

(b) *Department final order after decision by EEOC Administrative Judge.* When an EEOC Administrative Judge has issued a decision under 29 CFR 1614.109 (b), (g) or (i), the Department shall take final action on the complaint by issuing a final order within 40 days of receipt of the hearing file and the EEOC Administrative Judge's decision. The final order shall notify the Complainant whether or not the Department will fully implement the decision of the EEOC Administrative Judge and shall contain notice of the Complainant's right to appeal to the EEOC, the right to file a civil action in federal district court, the name of the proper defendant in any such lawsuit and the applicable time limits for appeals and lawsuits. If the final order does not fully implement the decision of the EEOC Administrative Judge, then the Department shall simultaneously file an appeal in accordance with 29 CFR 1614.403 and append a copy of the appeal to the final order. A copy of EEOC Form 573 shall be attached to the final order.

(c) *Decision and final order by EEOC Administrative Judge after hearing.* Unless the EEOC Administrative Judge makes a written determination that good cause exists for extending the time for issuing a decision, an EEOC Administrative Judge shall issue a decision on the complaint, and shall order appropriate remedies and relief where discrimination is found, within 180 days of receipt by the EEOC Administrative Judge of the complaint file from the Department. The EEOC Administrative Judge shall send copies of the hearing record, including the transcript, and the decision to the parties. If the Department does not issue a final order within 40 days of receipt of the EEOC Administrative Judge's deci-

sion in accordance with 29 CFR 1614.110, then the decision of the EEOC Administrative Judge shall become the final action of the Department.

(d) *Decision and final order by EEOC Administrative Judge without hearing.* (1) If a party believes that some or all material facts are not in genuine dispute and there is no genuine issue as to credibility, the party may, at least 15 days prior to the date of the hearing or at such earlier time as required by the EEOC Administrative Judge, file a statement with the EEOC Administrative Judge prior to the hearing setting forth the fact or facts and referring to the parts of the record relied on to support the statement. The statement must demonstrate that there is no genuine issue as to any such material fact. The party shall serve the statement on the opposing party.

(2) The opposing party may file an opposition within 15 days of receipt of the statement in 29 CFR 1614.109(g)(1). The opposition may refer to the record in the case to rebut the statement that a fact is not in dispute or may file an affidavit stating that the party cannot, for reasons stated, present facts to oppose the request. After considering the submissions, the EEOC Administrative Judge may order that discovery be permitted on the fact or facts involved, limit the hearing to the issues remaining in dispute, issue a decision without a hearing or make such other ruling as is appropriate.

(3) If the EEOC Administrative Judge determines that some or all facts are not in genuine dispute, the EEOC Administrative Judge may, after giving notice to the parties and providing them an opportunity to respond in writing within 15 days, issue an order limiting the scope of the hearing or issue a decision without holding a hearing.

§ 7.38 Appeals.

(a) *Appeals to the EEOC.* (1) A Complainant may appeal the Department's final action or dismissal of a complaint. The regulations at 29 CFR part 1614, subpart D, govern a Complainant's right of appeal.

(2) The Department may appeal as provided in 29 CFR 1614.110(a).

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(3) A class agent or the Department may appeal an EEOC Administrative Judge's decision accepting or dismissing all or part of a class complaint; a class agent may appeal a final decision on a class complaint; a class member may appeal a final decision on a claim for individual relief under a class complaint; and a class member, a class agent or the Department may appeal a final decision on a petition pursuant to 29 CFR 1614.204(g)(4).

(b) *Time limits for appeals to the EEOC.* Appeals described in 29 CFR 1614.401 (a) and (c) must be filed within 30 days of Complainant's receipt of the dismissal, final action or decision, or within 30 days of receipt by the attorney of record, if represented. Appeals described in 29 CFR 1614.401(b) must be filed within 40 days of receipt of the hearing file and decision. Where a Complainant has notified the Director of EEO of alleged noncompliance with a settlement agreement in accordance with 29 CFR 1614.504, the Complainant may file an appeal 35 days after service of the allegations of noncompliance, but no later than 30 days after receipt of the Department's determination.

(c) *How to appeal.* (1) The Complainant, the Department, a class agent, grievant or individual class claimant (referred to elsewhere in this part as the appellant) must file an appeal with the Director, Office of Federal Operations, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, at P.O. Box 19848, Washington, DC 20036, or by personal delivery or facsimile. The appellant should use EEOC Form 573, Notice of Appeal/Petition, and should indicate what is being appealed.

(2) The appellant shall furnish a copy of the appeal to the opposing party at the same time the appeal is filed with the EEOC. In or attached to the appeal to the EEOC, the appellant must certify the date and method by which service was made on the opposing party.

(3) If an appellant does not file an appeal within the time limits of this section, the appeal shall be dismissed by the EEOC as untimely.

(4) Any statement or brief on behalf of a Complainant in support of the appeal must be submitted to the Office of Federal Operations within 30 days of

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filing the notice of appeal. Any statement or brief on behalf of the Department in support of its appeal must be submitted to the Office of Federal Operations within 20 days of filing the notice of appeal. The Office of Federal Operations will accept statements or briefs in support of an appeal by facsimile transmittal, provided they are no more than 10 pages long.

(5) The Department must submit the complaint file to the Office of Federal Operations within 30 days of initial notification that the Complainant has filed an appeal or within 30 days of submission of an appeal by the Department.

(6) The Department may be represented by the Office of General Counsel in appeals before the Office of Federal Operations.

(7) Any statement or brief in opposition to an appeal must be submitted to the EEOC and served on the opposing party within 30 days of receipt of the statement or brief supporting the appeal, or, if no statement or brief supporting the appeal is filed, within 60 days of receipt of the appeal. The Office of Federal Operations will accept statements or briefs in opposition to an appeal by facsimile provided they are no more than 10 pages long.

(d) *Request for reconsideration.* A decision issued under paragraph (a) of §1614.405 is final within the meaning of 29 CFR 1614.407 unless the EEOC reconsiders the case. A party may request reconsideration within 30 days of receipt of a decision of the EEOC, which the EEOC in its discretion may grant, if the party demonstrates that:

(1) The appellate decision involved a clearly erroneous interpretation of material fact or law; or

(2) The decision will have a substantial impact on the policies, practices or operations of the Department.

OTHER COMPLAINT AND APPEAL PROCEDURES

§7.39 Negotiated grievance, MSPB appeal and administrative grievance procedures.

(a) *Negotiated grievance procedure.* An aggrieved person covered by a collective bargaining agreement that permits allegations of discrimination to