

Surface Transportation Board, DOT

§ 1017.9

(i) Any party to a hearing under these regulations is entitled to be accompanied, represented, and advised by counsel, as well as to appear in person or by or with counsel.

(j) The Administrative Law Judge shall issue a final written decision at the earliest practicable date, but not later than 60 days after the filing of the petition requesting the hearing, as stated in § 1017.4(b)(10) or § 1017.4(c)(9) of this part, whichever is applicable.

§ 1017.6 Result if employee fails to meet deadlines.

An employee will not be granted a hearing and will have his/her disposable pay offset in accordance with the Board's offset schedule if the employee:

(a) Fails to file a petition for a hearing in conformity with the requirements of § 1017.4(b)(8) or § 1017.4(c)(9) of this part, whichever is applicable. However, failure to file within the requisite time period set out in § 1017.4(b)(8) or § 1017.4(c)(9) of this part whichever is applicable, will not result in denial of a hearing or in immediate offset, if the Administrative Law Judge excuses the late filing if the employee can show that the delay was because of circumstances beyond his/her control or because of failure to receive notice of the filing deadline.

(b) Is scheduled to appear and fails to appear at the hearing without good cause.

§ 1017.7 Written decision following hearing.

(a) Written decisions provided after a request for a hearing will include:

(1) A statement of the facts presented to support the nature and origin of the alleged debt;

(2) The Administrative Law Judge's analysis, findings, and conclusions, in light of the hearing, concerning the employee's or the Board's grounds;

(3) The amount and validity of the alleged debt; and

(4) The repayment schedule (including percentage), if applicable.

(b) The Administrative Law Judge's decision does not preclude an employee from requesting a waiver of a salary payment under 5 U.S.C. 5584, 10 U.S.C. 2774, or 32 U.S.C. 716, or in any way questioning the amount or validity of a

debt by submitting a subsequent claim to GAO in accordance with procedures prescribed by GAO.

§ 1017.8 Exception to entitlement to notice, hearing, written responses and final decisions.

The Board shall except from the provisions of § 1017.4 through § 1017.7 any adjustment to pay arising out of an employee's election of coverage or a change in coverage under a Federal benefits program, requiring periodic deductions from pay, if the amount to be recovered was accumulated over four pay periods or less.

§ 1017.9 Coordinating offset with another Federal agency.

(a) *The Board as creditor agency.* When the Chief, Section of Financial Services, determines that an employee of another Federal agency owes a delinquent debt to the Board, he/she shall:

(1) Arrange for a hearing upon proper petitioning by the employee;

(2) Certify in writing to the other Federal agency that the employee owes the debt, the amount and basis of the debt, the date on which payment is due, the date the Government's right to collect the debt accrued, that the Board's regulations for administrative offset have been approved by the Office of Personnel Management, and that the provisions of 4 CFR 102.3(f) have been fully complied with;

(3) If collection must be made in installments, advise the paying agency of the amount or percentage of disposable pay to be collected in each installment;

(4) Advise the paying agency of any action taken under 5 U.S.C. 5514(a);

(5) If the employee is in the process of separating, the Board must submit its debt claim to the paying agency as provided in this part. The paying agency must certify any amounts already collected, notify the employee, and send a copy of the certification and notice of the employee's separation to the creditor agency—if the paying agency is aware that the employee is entitled to money from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, it must certify to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) that:

(i) The debtor owes the U.S. a debt, including the amount of that debt;