relevant, material, reliable, and probative evidence; exclude irrelevant, immaterial, unreliable, repetitious or cumulative evidence; exclude cross-examination which is primarily intended to elicit self-serving declarations in favor of the witness; and limit cross-examination of any questions of fact in issue; for a full and true disclosure of the facts in issue; act upon petitions to intervene; act upon submission of facts, or argument; initially consider offers of settlement or other proposals of adjustment upon which recommendations to the Administration may be made; hear oral argument at the close of testimony; fix the time for filing briefs, motions and other documents to be filed in connection with hearings and replies thereto; and issue the initial or recommended decisions and dispose of any other pertinent matter that normally and properly arises in the course of proceedings. When the presiding officer is unavailable for any reason, and the exercise of any of his powers and functions, as described herein, is due, timely, and necessary, the Chief Administrative Law Judge may exercise such powers and functions until the presiding officer becomes available or until his successor is designated.

[General Order 41, 3d Rev., 29 FR 14475, Oct. 22, 1964; 29 FR 15374, Nov. 17, 1964, as amended at 63 FR 9157, Feb. 24, 1998]

§ 201.88 Postponement or change of place by presiding officer.

If, in the judgment of the presiding officer, convenience or necessity so requires he may postpone the time or change the place of hearing.

§201.89 Disqualification of presiding officer.

Any presiding officer may at any time withdraw if he deems himself disqualified, in which case another presiding officer will be designated. If a party to a proceeding, or his representative, files in good faith a timely and sufficient affidavit of personal bias or disqualification of a presiding officer, the Administration will determine the matter as a part of the record and decision in the case.

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Subpart I—Summary Disposition (Rule 9)

§201.91 Filing of motions, answers.

Any party or (if a petition to intervene shall have been filed but not have been acted upon) any prospective party may at or before the first prehearing conference in any proceeding, or at such later time as might be allowed by the presiding officer, move with supporting affidavits for a summary disposition in his favor of all or any part of the proceeding. Any adverse party may within 20 days serve opposing affidavits or may countermove for summary disposition. Oral argument thereon may be granted in the discretion of the presiding officer.

§201.92 Ruling on motion.

The presiding officer may grant such motion if the application, motion, or other pleadings, affidavits or depositions, if any, and matters of official notice show that there is no genuine issue as to any material facts, that there is no necessity that further facts be developed in the record, and that such party is entitled to a decision as a matter of law.

§201.93 Review of ruling, appeal.

The order of the presiding officer denying a motion for summary disposition shall be subject to interlocutory appeal under the provisions of §201.123. An order granting a motion for summary disposition is automatically reviewable by the Administration in accordance with the provisions of §201.133 and shall not be final until acted upon by the Administration.

Subpart J—Prehearing Conference; Settlements; Procedural Agreements (Rule 10)

§201.101 Prehearing conference.

Prior to any hearing a prehearing conference may be held before the presiding officer. Written notice of a prehearing conference shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Administration or the Chief Hearing Examiner to all parties of record including persons whose petitions for leave to intervene in the proceeding have not