

charge under the Fair Housing Act can only be resolved with the agreement of the aggrieved person on whose behalf the charge was issued. If the agreement is in the public interest, the ALJ shall accept it by issuing an initial decision and consent order based on the agreement.

Subpart E—Discovery

§ 180.500 Discovery.

(a) *In general.* This subpart governs discovery in aid of administrative proceedings under this part. Discovery in Fair Housing Act matters shall be completed 15 days before the date scheduled for hearing or at such time as the ALJ shall direct. Discovery in non-Fair Housing Act matters shall be completed as the ALJ directs.

(b) *Scope.* The parties are encouraged to engage in voluntary discovery procedures. Discovery shall be conducted as expeditiously and inexpensively as possible, consistent with the needs of all parties to obtain relevant evidence. Unless otherwise ordered by the ALJ, the parties may obtain discovery regarding any matter, not privileged, that is relevant to the subject matter involved in the proceeding, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition, and location of documents or persons having knowledge of any discoverable matter. It is not grounds for objection that information sought will be inadmissible if the information appears reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

(c) *Methods.* Parties may obtain discovery by one or more of the following methods:

- (1) Deposition upon oral examination or written questions.
- (2) Written interrogatories.
- (3) Requests for the production of documents or other evidence for inspection and other purposes.
- (4) Requests for admissions.
- (5) Upon motion of a party, the presiding ALJ may issue an order requiring a physical or mental examination of a party or of a person in the custody or under the legal control of a party.

(d) *Frequency and sequence.* Unless otherwise ordered by the ALJ or restricted by this subpart, the frequency

or sequence of these methods is not limited.

(e) *Non-intervening aggrieved person.* For purposes of obtaining discovery from a non-intervening aggrieved person, the term *party* as used in this subpart includes the aggrieved person.

§ 180.505 Supplementation of responses.

A party is under a duty, in a timely fashion, to:

(a) Supplement a response with respect to any question directly addressed to:

(1) The identity and location of persons having knowledge of discoverable matters; and

(2) The identity of each person expected to be called as an expert witness, the subject matter on which the expert witness is expected to testify, and the substance of the testimony.

(b) Amend a response if the party later obtains information upon the basis of which:

(1) The party knows the response was incorrect when made, or

(2) The party knows the response, though correct when made, is no longer true, and the circumstances are such that a failure to amend the response is, in substance, a knowing concealment.

(c) Supplement other responses, as imposed by order of the ALJ or by agreement of the parties.

§ 180.510 Interrogatories.

(a) Any party may serve on any other party written interrogatories to be answered by the party served. If the party served is a public or private corporation, a partnership, an association, or a governmental agency, the interrogatories may be answered by any authorized officer or agent who shall furnish such information as may be available to the party. A party may serve not more than 30 written interrogatories on another party without an order of the ALJ.

(b) Each interrogatory shall be answered separately and fully in writing under oath or affirmation, unless it is objected to, in which event, the reasons for the objection shall be stated in lieu of an answer. The answers shall be signed by the person making them, and