

## § 831.1108

(e) Exclude any person from the hearing for contumacious conduct or misbehavior that obstructs the hearing;

(f) Hold conferences for simplification of the issues, or for any other purpose;

(g) Dispose of procedural requests or similar matters;

(h) Authorize the filing of briefs and set the time for filing;

(i) Make initial decisions; and

(j) Take any other action in the course of the proceeding consistent with the purposes of this subpart.

### § 831.1108 Witnesses.

(a) Witnesses shall testify under oath or affirmation and shall be subject to cross-examination.

(b) Each party is responsible for securing the attendance of his witnesses. OPM has no power of subpoena in these cases.

### § 831.1109 Evidence.

(a) Rules of evidence are not strictly applied, but the presiding officer shall exclude irrelevant or unduly repetitious evidence.

(b) Each exhibit of a documentary character shall be submitted to the presiding officer, duly marked, and made a part of the record. An exhibit does not become evidence unless received in evidence by the presiding officer.

### § 831.1110 Initial decision.

(a) Upon completion of a hearing pursuant to § 831.1106, the presiding officer shall make and file an initial decision, a copy of which shall be served on each party or counsel by certified or registered mail.

(b) The initial decision shall include a statement of findings and conclusions, with the reasons therefor, and shall be based upon a consideration of the entire record.

(c) The initial decision shall become the final decision of OPM unless the case is appealed or reviewed pursuant to § 831.1111.

### § 831.1111 Appeal and review.

(a) An appeal from an initial decision, or a decision of the Associate Director under § 831.1105(b), may be made to OPM, with service on the other

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party, within 30 calendar days from the date of the decision. An appeal shall be in writing and shall state plainly and concisely the grounds for the appeal, with a specific reference to the record when issues of fact are raised. The other party may file an opposition to the appeal within 15 days after service on him. On notice to the parties, OPM may extend the time limits prescribed in this paragraph.

(b) Within 30 calendar days from the date of an initial decision or a decision of the Associate Director, OPM, on its own motion, may direct that the record be certified to it for review.

[34 FR 17618, Oct. 31, 1969]

### § 831.1112 Final decision.

(a) On appeal from or review of an initial decision or a decision of the Associate Director, OPM shall decide the case on the record. The record shall include the notice, answer, transcript of testimony and exhibits, briefs, the initial decision or the decision of the Associate Director, the papers filed in connection with the appeal and opposition to the appeal and all other papers, requests and exceptions filed in the proceeding.

(b) OPM may adopt, modify, or set aside the findings, conclusions, or order of the presiding officer or the Associate Director.

(c) The final decision of OPM shall be in writing and include a statement of findings and conclusions, the reasons or basis therefor, and an appropriate order, and shall be served on the parties.

[33 FR 12498, Sept. 4, 1968, as amended at 34 FR 17618, Oct. 31, 1969]

## Subpart L—Disability Retirement

SOURCE: 58 FR 49179, Sept. 22, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

### § 831.1201 Introduction.

This subpart sets out the requirements an employee must meet to qualify for disability retirement, how an employee applies for disability retirement, how an agency applies for disability retirement for an employee, when a disability annuity ends, an individual's retirement rights after the