



Merit Systems Protection Board

Contact: Arlin Winefordner
(202) 653-6772, ext. 1162
FAX: (202) 653-7130
V/TDD 1-800-877-8339
(Federal Relay Service)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 16, 2010

THE MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD (MSPB) ALLOWS LENIENCY IN MEETING FILING DEADLINES

Due to the recent widespread weather emergency and subsequent closures of Federal offices, Chairman Susan Tsui Grundmann announces a policy for granting extensions to filing deadlines. This policy applies to Petitions for Appeal, Petitions for Review, case-related documents, pleadings, and other submissions, including electronic filings via e-Appeal Online, that are delayed by adverse weather conditions.

To be considered for leniency, late-filed submissions must include a statement that the delay was due to inclement weather, closure of a Federal office, or lack of access to MSPB's e-Appeal Online webpage.

The Clerk of the Board and Regional and Field Office judges will exercise discretion in accepting filings delayed due to weather or other conditions mentioned above. Normally, when MSPB receives a late filing that does not include an explanation for the delay, it issues a show cause order. The Chairman's announcement allows MSPB to accept and acknowledge filings without issuing show cause orders in appropriate cases.

If you have questions concerning this policy, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board or the appropriate MSPB Regional or Field Office. Telephone and e-mail addresses are located on the [Contact](#) tab of the MSPB website (www.mspb.gov).

The U.S. Merit System Protection Board is an independent, non-partisan quasi-adjudicatory agency with responsibility for deciding Federal employee appeals from management action taken against them and for protecting the integrity of the civil service and other Federal merit systems. The MSPB also conducts studies of the civil service and other merit systems in the Executive Branch.