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MSPB RELEASES EVALUATION OF PILOT PROGRAMS

The Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) has released findings of an internal study of two pilot programs, the issuance of bench decisions and the use of videoconferencing in hearings, that were undertaken beginning in 1998 as management improvement initiatives. The findings are based on surveys conducted by the MSPB Office of Policy and Evaluation to obtain the views of appellants, representatives, and MSPB judges. The study results are presented in "Report on Bench Decision and Video-Conferenced Hearing Surveys," available on the "What's New" page at the MSPB web site, www.mspb.gov.

The Board's study covers the period through October 1999. Both pilot programs currently remain in operation. Questions or comments regarding the pilots are welcome and may be directed to the Office of the Clerk of the Board, Merit Systems Protection Board, 1615 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20419; e-mail clerk@mspb.gov; or fax (202) 653-7130.

The Board is an independent, quasi-judicial agency with responsibility for deciding Federal employee appeals from personnel actions taken against them and for protecting the integrity of the civil service and other Federal merit systems. The Board also conducts studies of the civil service and other merit systems in the Executive Branch.

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