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MSPB REVISES ITS ADJUDICATORY REGULATIONS

The [U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board \(MSPB\)](#) completed a substantial revision to its adjudicatory regulations with the publication of a Final Rule in today's Federal Register ([77 FR 62349](#)). The Final Rule affects 5 C.F.R. Parts 1200, 1201, 1203, 1208, and 1209. The revisions follow a notice-and-comment rulemaking via the Federal Register, as required by the Administrative Procedure Act, [5 U.S.C. § 553](#). The Final Rule is effective November 13, 2012. The revisions follow an unprecedented review and the first significant reconsideration of MSPB's regulations since the agency's establishment in 1979.

This initiative began in January 2011 and included suggestions for revisions from MSPB staff, an internal MSPB working group's in-depth review of the regulations, and input on their recommendations and the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking from a wide range of stakeholder agencies, organizations, and individuals.

Chairman Grundmann stated, "Today marks the culmination of a tremendous amount of work by MSPB staff with broad participation and input from our stakeholders and the public. We greatly appreciate the comments we received throughout the process, and they improved the Final Rule. As a result of this input, we are going to step back and look even more closely at our jurisdictional regulations in a follow-up rulemaking this fiscal year. We look forward to further improving our regulations for everyone, and we pledge to monitor and review the impact of the changes published today."

Relevant documents—including a side-by-side comparison of the previous regulations, the changes published today and the rationale for the changes, plus a shorter summary of significant changes—are posted on MSPB's website at www.mspb.gov/regulatoryreview.

The U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) is an independent, quasi-judicial agency whose mission is to protect the Merit System Principles and promote an effective Federal workforce free of Prohibited Personnel Practices.