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THE MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD ANNOUNCES AN ADDITIONAL EXTENSION OF DEADLINES TO ACCOUNT FOR THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2023, OUTAGE OF THE E-APPEAL ONLINE SYSTEM

On August 4, 2023, the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) announced that it will launch a new, modern version of its current e-Appeal Online system on October 2, 2023. As part of that press release, MSPB announced a planned offline system transition period and downtime of the current e-Appeal Online system to allow for the migration of data and records.

The current e-Appeal Online system was scheduled to go offline beginning on Saturday, September 9, 2023, through Sunday, October 1, 2023; this offline period would prevent users from filing new appeals or pleadings using the current e-Appeal Online system. Unfortunately, on Friday, September 8, 2023, at approximately 1:00 p.m. EDT, the current e-Appeal Online system experienced an unscheduled outage that lasted through 11:59 p.m. that day – the time at which it was previously scheduled to be taken offline. This outage affected parties' ability to file new appeals and pleadings and to view the e-Appeal Repository.

Given the unscheduled outage of the current e-Appeal Online system on September 8, 2023, and the effect that the outage may have had on parties who were attempting to file new appeals or pleadings, MSPB is extending the previously announced extension of filing and processing deadlines to include Friday, September 8, 2023. Accordingly:

- All filing and processing deadlines that fell on Friday, September 8, 2023, are now extended to Tuesday, October 10, 2023.
- All filing and processing deadlines that fall from Saturday, September 9, 2023, through Friday, October 6, 2023, will be **extended by 28 calendar days.**
- These extensions apply to **all deadlines** before MSPB, including those at the initial appeal and petition for review levels. The extensions are automatic, so parties will not be required to request them or show good cause for an extension.

- These automatic extensions do not apply, however, to any deadlines that passed before Friday, September 8, 2023, or to deadlines that fall on or after Saturday, October 7, 2023.
- Filing time limits of external reviewing authorities (e.g., Federal courts and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission) are **not** affected.

All other announcements from the August 4, 2023, press release regarding the availability of the e-Appeal Repository through the transition period, the suspension of case processing at MSPB during the transition period, and the October 2, 2023, go live date for the new e-Appeal remain in effect.

For the latest information about the new e-Appeal, including frequently asked questions, visit the <u>e-Appeal Information Hub</u> on the MSPB website.

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.