

§ 251.22

(3) Interoffice memoranda or correspondence not available by law except to a party in litigation with a CARP, the Copyright Office, or the Library of Congress;

(4) Personnel, medical, or similar files whose disclosure would be an invasion of personal privacy;

(5) Communications among arbitrators of a CARP concerning the drafting of decisions, opinions, reports, and findings on any CARP matter or proceeding;

(6) Communications among the Librarian of Congress and staff of the Copyright Office or Library of Congress concerning decisions, opinions, reports, selection of arbitrators, or findings on any matter or proceeding conducted under 17 U.S.C. chapter 8;

(7) Offers of settlement that have not been accepted, unless they have been made public by the offeror;

(8) Records not herein listed but which may be withheld as “exempted” if a CARP or the Librarian of Congress finds compelling reasons for such action.

§ 251.22 Public access.

(a) *Location of records.* All of the following records relating to rate adjustment and distribution proceedings under this subchapter shall be maintained at the Copyright Office:

(1) Records required to be filed with the Copyright Office; or

(2) Records submitted to or produced by the Copyright Office or Library of Congress under 17 U.S.C. 801 and 802, or

(3) Records submitted to or produced by a Copyright Arbitration Royalty Panel during the course of a concluded proceeding. In the case of records submitted to or produced by a CARP that is currently conducting a proceeding, such records shall be maintained by the chairperson of that panel at the location of the hearing or at a location specified by the panel. Upon conclusion of the proceeding, all records shall be delivered by the chairperson to the Copyright Office.

(b) *Requesting information.* Requests for information or access to records described in §251.21 shall be directed to the Copyright Office at the address listed in §251.1. No requests shall be directed to or accepted by a Copyright

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Arbitration Royalty Panel. In the case of records in the possession of a CARP, the Copyright Office shall make arrangements with the panel for access and copying by the person making the request.

(c) *Fees.* Fees for photocopies of CARP or Copyright Office records are the applicable Office charge. Fees for searching for records, certification of documents, and other costs incurred are as provided in 17 U.S.C. 705, 708.

[59 FR 23981, May 9, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 63040, Dec. 7, 1994]

§ 251.23 FOIA and Privacy Act.

Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act provisions applicable to CARP proceedings can be found in parts 203 and 204 of subchapter A of this chapter.

Subpart D—Standards of Conduct

§ 251.30 Basic obligations of arbitrators.

(a) *Definitions.* For purposes of these regulations, the following terms shall have the meanings given in this subsection:

(1) A “selected arbitrator” is a person named by the Librarian of Congress, or by other selected arbitrators, for service on a particular CARP, in accordance with §251.6 of these regulations;

(2) A “listed arbitrator” is a person named in the “arbitration list” published in accordance with §251.3 of these regulations.

(b) *General principles applicable to arbitrators.* Selected arbitrators are persons acting on behalf of the United States, and the following general principles apply to them. Where a situation is not covered by standards set forth specifically in this subpart, selected arbitrators shall apply these general principles in all cases in determining whether their conduct is proper. Listed arbitrators shall apply these principles where applicable.

(1) Arbitrators are engaged in a matter of trust that requires them to place ethical and legal principles above private gain.

(2) Arbitrators shall not hold financial interests that conflict with the

conscientious performance of their service.

(3) Arbitrators shall not engage in financial transactions using nonpublic information or allow the improper use of such information to further any private interest.

(4) Selected arbitrators shall not solicit or accept any gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity whose interests may be affected by the arbitrators' decisions. Listed arbitrators may accept gifts of nominal value or gifts from friends and family as specified in §251.34(b).

(5) Arbitrators shall put forth their honest efforts in the performance of their service.

(6) Arbitrators shall act impartially and not give preferential treatment to any individual, organization, or entity whose interests may be affected by the arbitrators' decisions.

(7) Arbitrators shall not engage in outside employment or activities, including seeking or negotiating for employment, that conflicts with the performance of their service.

(8) Arbitrators shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that they are violating the law or the ethical standards set forth in this subpart.

(9) Arbitrators shall maintain order and decorum in the proceedings, be patient, dignified, and courteous to the parties, witnesses, and their representatives, and dispose promptly the business before them.

[59 FR 23981, May 9, 1994, as amended at 63 FR 30635, June 5, 1998]

§251.31 Financial interests.

(a) No selected arbitrator shall have a direct or indirect financial interest—

(1) In the case of a distribution proceeding, in any claimant to the proceeding whether or not in a voluntary settlement agreement, or any copyright owner who receives royalties from such claimants because of their representation;

(2) In the case of a rate adjustment proceeding, in any individual, organization or entity that would be affected by the outcome of the proceeding.

(b) "Direct or indirect financial interest" shall include: Being employed by, being a consultant to, being a rep-

resentative or agent for, being a member or affiliate of, being a partner of, holding any office in, owning any stocks, bonds, or other securities, or deriving any income from the prohibited entity.

(c) "Direct or indirect financial interest" shall not include—

(1) Owning shares in any stock or bond mutual fund or blind trust which might have an interest in a prohibited entity but whose decisions to invest or sell is not under the control of the selected arbitrator, or

(2) Receiving any post-employment benefit such as health insurance or a pension so long as the benefit would not be affected by the outcome of the proceeding.

(d) For the purposes of this section, the financial interests of the following persons will serve to disqualify the selected arbitrator to the same extent as if they were the arbitrator's own interests:

(1) The arbitrator's spouse;

(2) The arbitrator's minor child;

(3) The arbitrator's general partner, except that the personal financial holdings, including stock and bond investments, of such partner will not serve to disqualify the selected arbitrator; or

(4) An organization or entity for which the arbitrator serves as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee.

[59 FR 23981, May 9, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 63040, Dec. 7, 1994]

§251.32 Financial disclosure statement.

(a) Within 45 days of their nomination, each nominated arbitrator shall file with the Librarian of Congress a confidential financial disclosure statement as provided by the Library of Congress, which statement shall be reviewed by the Librarian and designated Library staff to determine what conflicts of interest, if any, exist according to §251.31.

(b) If any conflicts do exist, the Librarian shall not choose that person for the proceeding for which he or she has the financial conflict, except—

(1) The listed arbitrator may divest himself or herself of the interest that caused the disqualification, and become qualified to serve; or