

## Foreign Service Grievance Board

## § 906.1

(c) The Board shall expedite its decisions on requested suspensions of proposed Agency actions. The Board may permit or require argument with respect to such requests by the Parties and Exclusive Representative, if any.

[56 FR 55459, Oct. 28, 1991]

### PART 905—BURDEN OF PROOF

Sec.

905.1 Grievances other than disciplinary actions.

905.2 Disciplinary grievances.

905.3 Separation for cause.

AUTHORITY: Secs. 610 and 1106 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-465 (22 U.S.C. 4010 and 4136), as amended.

#### § 905.1 Grievances other than disciplinary actions.

(a) In all grievances other than those concerning disciplinary actions, the grievant has the burden of establishing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the grievance is meritorious.

(b) Where a grievant establishes that an evaluation contained falsely prejudicial material which may have been a substantial factor in an agency action, and the question is presented whether the agency would have taken the same action had the evaluation not contained that material, the burden will shift to the agency to establish, by a preponderance of the evidence, that it would have done so.

(c) Where a grievant establishes that a procedural error occurred which is of such a nature that it may have been a substantial factor in an agency action with respect to the grievant, and the question is presented whether the agency would have taken the same action had the procedural error not occurred, the burden will shift to the agency to establish, by a preponderance of the evidence, that it would have done so.

[50 FR 31356, Aug. 2, 1985]

#### § 905.2 Disciplinary grievances.

In grievances over disciplinary actions, the agency has the burden of establishing by a preponderance of the evidence that the disciplinary action was justified, provided, however, that

in a grievance concerning suspension without pay pursuant to section 610(a)(3) of the Act, the Board's determination of the grievance shall be limited to:

(a) Whether the required procedures have been followed; and

(b) Whether there exists reasonable cause to believe a crime has been committed for which a sentence of imprisonment may be imposed and there is a nexus between the conduct and the efficiency of the Service.

For this purpose, reasonable cause to believe that a member has committed a crime for which a sentence of imprisonment may be imposed shall be defined as a member of the Service having been convicted of, and sentence of imprisonment having been imposed for, a job-related crime.

[56 FR 55459, Oct. 28, 1991]

#### § 905.3 Separation for cause.

In separation for cause cases, the agency has the burden of establishing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the proposed separation is for such cause as will promote the efficiency of the service.

[50 FR 31356, Aug. 2, 1985]

### PART 906—HEARINGS

Sec.

906.1 Decision whether to hold a hearing.

906.2 Mandatory hearing.

906.3 Notification.

906.4 Hearing panels and members.

906.5 Prehearing conferences.

906.6 Powers of presiding member.

906.7 Conduct of hearing.

906.8 Witnesses.

906.9 Failure of party to appear.

AUTHORITY: Secs. 610 and 1106 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-465 (22 U.S.C. 4010 and 4136), as amended.

SOURCE: 50 FR 31356, Aug. 2, 1985, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 906.1 Decision whether to hold a hearing.

After deciding either to accept jurisdiction over a grievance or to postpone decision of that question under § 904.2(a) of this chapter, the Board will make an initial determination of whether a hearing shall be held in accordance with part 906 of this chapter,