shall be in the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge after consid- 
eration of the nature of the proceeding, the requirements of the public interest, 
the representations of the parties, and the probability of an agreement being 
reached which will result in a just dis- 
position of the issues involved.

(b) Content. Any agreement con- 
taining consent findings and an order 
disposing of a proceeding shall also 
provide:

(1) That the order shall have the 
same force and effect as an order made 
after full hearing;

(2) That the entire record on which 
any order may be based shall consist 
solely of the complaint and the agree- 
ment;

(3) That any further procedural steps 
are waived; and

(4) That any right to challenge or 
contest the validity of the findings and 
order entered into in accordance with 
the agreement is waived.

(c) Submission. On or before the expi- 
rations of the time granted for negotia- 
tions, the parties or their counsel may:

(1) Submit the proposed agreement to 
the Administrative Law Judge for his 
consideration;

(2) Inform the Administrative Law 
Judge that agreement cannot be 
reached.

(d) Disposition. In the event an agree- 
ment containing consent findings and 
an order is submitted within the time 
allowed, the Administrative Law 
Judge, within 30 days, shall accept 
such agreement by issuing his decision 
based upon the agreed findings, and his 
decision shall constitute the final Ad-


Hearings shall be held before an Ad- 
ministrative Law Judge of the Depart- 
ment of Labor who shall be designated 
by the Chief Administrative Law Judge 
of the Department of Labor. After com-

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