

of the proposed charges, he will advise the port director of that fact and instruct him to prepare, sign, and serve a notice of charges and the statement of charges. If one or more of the charges in the proposed statement of charges was satisfactorily answered by the broker in the preliminary proceedings, the Assistant Commissioner will instruct the port director to omit those charges from the statement of charges.

§ 111.62 Contents of notice of charges.

The notice of charges must inform the broker that:

(a) Sections 554 and 558, Title 5, United States Code, are applicable to the formal proceedings;

(b) The broker may be represented by counsel;

(c) The broker will have the right to cross-examine witnesses;

(d) Within 10 calendar days after service of this notice, the broker will be notified of the time and place of a hearing on the charges; and

(e) Prior to the hearing on the charges, the broker may file, in duplicate with the port director, a verified answer to the charges.

§ 111.63 Service of notice and statement of charges.

(a) *Individual.* The port director will serve the notice of charges and the statement of charges against an individual broker as follows:

(1) By delivery to the broker personally;

(2) By certified mail addressed to the broker, with demand for a return card signed solely by the addressee;

(3) By any other means which the broker may have authorized in a written communication to the port director; or

(4) If attempts to serve the broker by the methods prescribed in paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this section are unsuccessful, the port director may serve the notice and statement by leaving them with the person in charge of the broker's office.

(b) *Partnership, association or corporation.* The port director will serve the notice of charges and the statement of charges against a partnership, association, or corporation broker as follows:

(1) By delivery to any member of the partnership personally or to any officer of the association or corporation personally;

(2) By certified mail addressed to any member of the partnership or to any officer of the association or corporation, with demand for a return card signed solely by the addressee;

(3) By any other means which the broker may have authorized in a written communication to the port director; or

(4) If attempts to serve the broker by the methods prescribed in paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(3) of this section are unsuccessful, the port director may serve the notice and statement by leaving them with the person in charge of the broker's office.

(c) *Certified mail; evidence of service.* When the service under this section is by certified mail, the receipt of the return card duly signed will be satisfactory evidence of service.

§ 111.64 Service of notice of hearing and other papers.

(a) *Notice of hearing.* After service of the notice and statement of charges, the port director will serve upon the broker and his attorney if known, by one of the methods set forth in § 111.63 or by ordinary mail, a written notice of the time and place of the hearing. The hearing will be scheduled to take place within 30 calendar days after service of the notice of hearing.

(b) *Other papers.* Other papers relating to the hearing may be served by one of the methods set forth in § 111.63 or by ordinary mail or upon the broker's attorney.

§ 111.65 Extension of time for hearing.

If the broker or his attorney requests in writing a delay in the hearing for good cause, the hearing officer designated pursuant to § 111.67(a) may reschedule the hearing and in that case will notify the broker or his attorney in writing of the extension and the new time for the hearing.

§ 111.66 Failure to appear.

If the broker or his attorney fails to appear for a scheduled hearing, the hearing officer designated pursuant to § 111.67(a) will proceed with the hearing

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as scheduled and will hear evidence submitted by the parties. The provisions of this part will apply as though the broker were present, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, or his designee, may issue an order of suspension of the license or permit for a specified period of time or revocation of the license or permit, or assessment of a monetary penalty in lieu of suspension or revocation, in accordance with § 111.74 if he finds that action to be in order.

§ 111.67 Hearing.

(a) *Hearing officer.* The hearing officer must be an administrative law judge appointed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3105.

(b) *Rights of the broker.* The broker or his attorney will have the right to examine all exhibits offered at the hearing and will have the right to cross-examine witnesses and to present witnesses who will be subject to cross-examination by the Government representatives.

(c) *Interrogatories.* Upon the written request of either party, the hearing officer may permit deposition upon oral or written interrogatories to be taken before any officer duly authorized to administer oaths for general purposes or in customs matters. The other party to the hearing will be given a reasonable time in which to prepare cross-interrogatories and, if the deposition is oral, will be permitted to cross-examine the witness. The deposition will become part of the hearing record.

(d) *Transcript of record.* The port director will provide a competent reporter to make a record of the hearing. When the record of the hearing has been transcribed by the reporter, the port director will deliver a copy of the transcript of record to the hearing officer, the broker and the Government representative without charge.

(e) *Government representatives.* The Assistant Commissioner will designate one or more persons to represent the Government at the hearing.

§ 111.68 Proposed findings and conclusions.

The hearing officer will allow the parties a reasonable period of time after delivery of the transcript of record in which to submit proposed

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findings and conclusions and supporting reasons for the findings as contemplated by 5 U.S.C. 557(c).

§ 111.69 Recommended decision by hearing officer.

After review of the proposed findings and conclusions submitted by the parties pursuant to § 111.68, the hearing officer will make his recommended decision in the case and certify the entire record to the Secretary of Homeland Security, or his designee. The hearing officer's recommended decision must conform to the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 557.

§ 111.70 Additional submissions.

Upon receipt of the record, the Secretary of Homeland Security, or his designee, will afford the parties a reasonable opportunity to make any additional submissions that are permitted under 5 U.S.C. 557(c) or otherwise required by the circumstances of the case.

§ 111.71 Immaterial mistakes.

The Secretary of Homeland Security, or his designee, will disregard an immaterial misnomer of a third person, an immaterial mistake in the description of any person, thing, or place, or ownership of any property, any other immaterial mistake in the statement of charges, or a failure to prove immaterial allegations in the description of the broker's conduct.

§ 111.72 Dismissal subject to new proceedings.

If the Secretary of Homeland Security, or his designee, finds that the evidence produced at the hearing indicates that a proper disposition of the case cannot be made on the basis of the charges preferred, he may instruct the port director to serve appropriate charges as a basis for new proceedings to be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in this subpart.

§ 111.73 [Reserved]

§ 111.74 Decision and notice of suspension or revocation or monetary penalty.

If the Secretary of Homeland Security, or his designee, finds that one or