

physical harm to the employees and to comply with occupational safety and health standards promulgated under the act.

Activities

The Commission was created to adjudicate enforcement actions initiated under the act when they are contested by employers, employees, or representatives of employees. A case arises when a citation is issued against an employer as the result of an Occupational Safety and Health Administration inspection and it is contested within 15 working days.

The Commission is more of a court system than a simple tribunal, for within the Commission there are two levels of adjudication. All cases that require a hearing are assigned to an administrative law judge, who decides the case. Ordinarily the hearing is held in the community where the alleged violation

occurred or as close as possible. At the hearing, the Secretary of Labor will generally have the burden of proving the case. After the hearing, the judge must issue a decision, based on findings of fact and conclusions of law.

A substantial number of the decisions of the judges become final orders of the Commission. However, each decision is subject to discretionary review by the three members of the Commission upon the direction of any one of the three, if done within 30 days of the filing of the decision. When that occurs, the Commission issues its own decision.

Once a case is decided, any person adversely affected or aggrieved thereby may seek a review of the decision in the United States Courts of Appeals.

The Commission's principal office is in Washington, DC. There are also two regional offices where Commission judges are stationed.

Review Commission Judges—Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission

City/Address	Telephone
Atlanta, GA (Rm. 2R90, Bldg. 1924, 100 Alabama St. SW., 30303-3104)	404-562-1640
Denver, CO (1050 17th St., 80265)	303-844-2281

Sources of Information

Publications Copies of the Commission's *Rules of Procedure*, *Guide to Review Commission Procedures*, *Guide to E-Z Trial Procedures*, and *Employee Guide to Review Commission Procedures: Supplement to the Guide to*

Review Commission Procedures, decisions, and pamphlets explaining the functions of the Commission are available from the Public Information Office at the Commission's Washington office and on the Internet at www.oshrc.gov.

For further information, contact the Public Information Officer, Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, 1120 Twentieth Street NW., Washington, DC 20036-3419. Phone, 202-606-5398. Fax, 202-606-5050. Internet, www.oshrc.gov.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

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Phone, 202-208-8000. Internet, www.usoge.gov.

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[For the Office of Government Ethics statement of organization, see the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Title 5, Part 2600]

The Office of Government Ethics exercises leadership in the executive branch to prevent conflicts of interest on the part of Government employees and to resolve those conflicts of interest that do occur. In partnership with executive branch agencies and departments, the Office fosters high ethical standards for employees and strengthens the public's confidence that the Government's business is conducted with impartiality and integrity. The Office is the principal agency for administering the Ethics in Government Act for the executive branch.

The Office of Government Ethics is a separate executive agency established under the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended (5 U.S.C. app. 401).

The Director of the Office is appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate for a 5-year term.

Activities

The chief responsibilities of the Office are as follows:

- developing rules and regulations pertaining to standards of ethical conduct of executive branch officials, public and confidential financial disclosure of executive branch officials, executive agency ethics training programs, and the identification and resolution of conflicts of interest;
- monitoring and investigating compliance with the executive branch financial disclosure requirements of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, as amended;
- providing ethics program assistance and information to executive branch agencies through a desk officer system;
- conducting periodic reviews of the ethics programs of executive agencies;
- ordering corrective action on the part of agencies and employees, including orders to establish or modify an agency's ethics program;

—providing guidance on and promoting understanding of ethical standards in executive agencies through an extensive program of Government ethics advice, education, and training;

—evaluating the effectiveness of the Ethics Act, the conflict of interest laws, and other related statutes; and

—recommending appropriate new legislation or amendments.

Sources of Information

Electronic Access Information regarding Office of Government Ethics services and programs is available in electronic format on the Internet, at www.usoge.gov.

Publications The Office of Government Ethics periodically updates its publication, *The Informal Advisory Letters and Memoranda and Formal Opinions of the United States Office of Government Ethics*, available from the Government Printing Office. In addition, the Office has available ethics publications, instructional videotapes, and a CD-ROM. Upon request, the Office also provides copies of executive branch public financial disclosure reports (SF 278's) in accordance with the Ethics Act and the Office's regulations.

For further information, contact the Office of Government Ethics, Suite 500, 1201 New York Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20005-3917. Phone, 202-208-8000. TDD, 202-208-8025. Fax, 202-208-8037. Internet, www.usoge.gov.