(d) The original and two copies of the answer shall be filed with the Chief administrative law judge, Department of Labor, Washington, D.C.

(e) In any case where formal complaints have been amended, the respondent shall have the right to amend his answer within such time as may be fixed by the administrative law judge.

[11 FR 14493, Dec. 18, 1946. Redesignated at 24 FR 10952, Dec. 30, 1959, as amended at 61 FR 19987, May 3, 1996]

§ 50–203.4 Motions.

(a) All motions except those made at the hearing shall be filed in writing with the Chief administrative law judge, Department of Labor, Washington, D.C., and shall be included in the record. Such motions shall state briefly the order or relief applied for and the grounds for such motion. The moving party shall file an original and two copies of all such motions. All motions made at the hearing shall be stated orally and included in the stenographic report of the hearing.

(b) The administrative law judge designated to conduct the hearing may in his discretion reserve his ruling upon any question or motion.

[11 FR 14493, Dec. 18, 1946. Redesignated at 24 FR 10952, Dec. 30, 1959, as amended at 61 FR 19987, May 3, 1996]

§ 50–203.5 Intervention.

Any employer, employee, labor or trade organization or other interested person or organization desiring to intervene in any pending proceeding prior to, or at the time it is called for hearing, but not after a hearing, except for good cause shown, shall file a petition in writing for leave to intervene, which shall be served on all parties to the proceeding, with the Chief administrative law judge, Department of Labor, or with the administrative law judge designated to conduct the hearing, setting forth the position and interest of the petitioner and the grounds of the proposed intervention. The Chief administrative law judge, or the administrative law judge, as the case may be, may grant leave to intervene to such extent and upon such terms as he shall deem just.

[11 FR 14493, Dec. 18, 1946. Redesignated at 24 FR 10952, Dec. 30, 1959, as amended at 61 FR 19987, May 3, 1996]

§ 50–203.6 Witnesses and subpoenas.

(a) Witnesses shall be examined orally under oath except that for good and exceptional cause the administrative law judge may permit their testimony to be taken by deposition under oath.

(b) The administrative law judge shall upon application by any party, and upon a showing of general relevance and reasonable scope of the evidence sought, issue subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence under oath, including books, records, correspondence, or documents. Applications for the issuance of subpoenas duces tecum shall specify the books, records, correspondence or other documents sought.

(c) Witnesses summoned before the administrative law judge shall be paid the same fees and mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States, and witnesses whose depositions are taken and the persons taking the same shall severally be entitled to the same fees as are paid for like services in the courts of the United States. Witness fees and mileage shall be paid by the party at whose instance the witnesses appear, and the person taking the depositions shall be paid by the party at whose instance the depositions are taken.

[11 FR 14493, Dec. 18, 1946. Redesignated at 24 FR 10952, Dec. 30, 1959, and amended at 36 FR 289, Jan. 8, 1971; 61 FR 19987, May 3, 1996]

§ 50–203.7 Prehearing conferences.

(a) At any time prior to the hearing the administrative law judge may, on motion of the parties or on his own motion, whenever it appears that the public interest will be served thereby, direct the parties to appear before him for a conference at a designated time and place to consider, among other things:

(1) Simplification of the issues;

(2) The necessity or desirability of amending the pleadings for purposes of clarification, amplification or limitation;

(3) Obtaining stipulations of fact or admissions of undisputed facts or the authenticity of documents;

(4) The procedure at the hearing;

(5) Limiting the number of witnesses;

(6) The propriety of mutual exchange among parties of prepared testimony or exhibits; or

(7) Any other matters which would tend to expedite the disposition of the proceeding.

(b) The action taken at the conference may be recorded, in summary form or otherwise, for use at the hearing. Such record, when agreed to by the parties and approved by the administrative law judge, shall be conclusive as to the action embodied therein. Stipulations and admissions of fact and amendments to pleadings shall be made a part of the record of the proceeding.

[11 FR 14493, Dec. 18, 1946. Redesignated at 24 FR 10952, Dec. 30, 1959, as amended at 61 FR 19987, May 3, 1996]

§ 50–203.8 Hearing.

(a) The hearing for the purpose of taking evidence upon a formal complaint shall be conducted by an administrative law judge. Administrative law judges shall, so far as practicable, be assigned to cases in rotation. In case of the death, illness, disqualification or unavailability of the administrative law judge presiding in any proceeding, another administrative law judge may be designated to take his place. Such hearings shall be open to the public unless otherwise ordered by the administrative law judge.

(b) The administrative law judges shall perform no duties inconsistent with their duties and responsibilities as administrative law judges. Save to the extent required for the disposition of ex parte matters as authorized by law, no administrative law judge shall consult any person or party as to any fact in issue unless upon notice and opportunity for all parties to participate.

(c) Administrative law judges shall act independently in the performance of their functions as administrative law judge and shall not be responsible to, or subject to the supervision or direction of, any officer, employee or agent engaged in the performance of investigative or prosecuting functions for the Department of Labor in the enforcement of the Public Contracts Act.

(d) At all hearings it shall be the right of counsel for the Government to open and close, subject to the right of the administrative law judge to designate, upon cause shown, who shall open and close.

(e) It shall be the duty of the administrative law judge to inquire fully into the facts as to whether the respondent has breached or violated any of the provisions of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act of June 30, 1936 (49 Stat. 2036, as amended; 41 U.S.C. 35–45), or any rules or regulations prescribed thereunder, as set forth in the formal complaint. Counsel for the Government, and the administrative law judge, shall have the power to call, examine, and cross-examine witnesses and to introduce into the record documentary or other evidence.

(f) Any party to the proceeding shall have the right to appear at such hearing in person, by counsel, or otherwise, to call, examine, and cross-examine witnesses, and to introduce into the record documentary or other evidence.

(g) In any such proceedings, the rules of evidence prevailing in courts of law or equity shall not be controlling. However, it shall be the policy to exclude irrelevant, immaterial, or unduly repetitious evidence.

(h) In any such proceedings, in the discretion of the administrative law judge, stipulations of fact may be made with respect to any issue.

(i) Any objection with respect to the conduct of the hearing, including any objection to the introduction of evidence, shall be stated orally, together with a short statement of the grounds for such objection, and included in the stenographic report of the hearing. No such objection shall be deemed waived by further participation in the proceeding.

(j) Unless the administrative law judge otherwise directs, any party to the proceeding shall be entitled to a reasonable period at the close of the hearing for oral argument, which shall not be included in the stenographic report of the hearing unless the administrative law judge directs.

(k) In the discretion of the administrative law judge, the hearing may be