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## THE U.S. MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD'S RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

The U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) is maximizing telework for its employees at all locations until further notice as we continue to respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the National Emergency.

As previously announced, MSPB's operating posture impacts some hearing and mediation schedules, and the docketing/processing of new appeals/pleadings submitted by mail, overnight or personal delivery, or fax. For example, response times may vary because the presence of staff in each Regional and Field Office and at MSPB's Headquarters to process mail, deliveries, and faxes and perform other in-office functions varies from day to day. We continue to assess each situation and communicate with affected parties to provide for effective ways to continue the hearing and adjudication of initial appeals and the processing of matters pending before the Board. We strongly encourage the use of e-Appeal Online for both new and pending cases, and by all parties, in order to reduce delays in all appeals.

MSPB will continue to review and adjust our operations with respect to COVID-19 to support the health and safety of our employees and continue our essential functions. If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate MSPB Regional or Field Office or the Office of the Clerk of the Board. Telephone and e-mail addresses are located on the Contact tab of MSPB's website (<a href="www.mspb.gov">www.mspb.gov</a>).

For more information on COVID-19, please visit <a href="www.coronavirus.gov">www.coronavirus.gov</a>, <a href="www.coronavirus">www.coronavirus</a>, and <a href="www.usa.gov/coronavirus">www.usa.gov/coronavirus</a>).

The U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) is an independent, quasi-judicial agency whose mission is to protect the Merit System Principles and promote an effective Federal workforce free of Prohibited Personnel Practices.