United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farmers
Home
Administration

Washington
D.C.
20250

FmHA AN 2301 (1951)
June 7, 1991

SUBJECT: Hearing Officers for Salary Offset

TO: All State Directors, District Directors, and County Supervisors, FmHA

PURPOSE/INTENDED OUTCOME:

To establish the procedure for obtaining a hearing officer for salary offset appeals.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS AN:

This replaces FmHA AN 1852 (1951) issued on January 12, 1989.

IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES:

Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) Instruction 1951-C requires that an appeal of a proposed salary offset be heard by a hearing officer who is either an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) or someone who is not an employee of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), An ALJ is normally unavailable to handle a salary offset appeal in a timely manner.

The USDA Office of Finance and Management (OFM) has recently established an agreement with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide salary offset hearing officers for each other. Requests for this service should be sent by the State Director to Farmers Home Administration, FMAD, Room 5049-S, 14th and Independence Ave., SW. Washington, D.C. 20250, ATTN: Beth Lambert.

EXPIRATION DATE: June 30, 1992

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:
Preceding FmHA Instruction 1951-C

FmHA Farmers Home Administration is an Equal Opportunity Lender.
Complaints of discrimination should be sent to:
Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250

The borrower's case file, a copy of the FmHA Form Letter 1951-4 sent to the employee advising him/her of the intent to offset and copies of the borrower's request for a hearing with any attachment should also be provided. The Financial and Management Analysis Division (FMAD) will coordinate the request for a hearing with OFM and VA. The hearing will normally be based upon a review of the written submissions and documentation provided by the borrower and FmHA. Oral hearings may be conducted by a conference telephone call.

If you have any questions, contact Beth Lambert at (202) ~~475-5502~~ or FTS 475-5502.

690-0502

LA VERNE AUSMAN
Administrator