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THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BEFORE

THE OFFICE OF EMPLOYEE APPEALS

In the Matter of:)	
)	
DARLENE DORSEY)	OEA Matter No. 2401-0209-04
Employee)	
)	Date of Issuance: October 6, 2005
v.)	
)	Daryl J. Hollis, Esq.
)	Senior Administrative Judge
D.C. PUBLIC SCHOOLS)	
Agency)	

Darlene Dorsey, *Pro se*
Harriet Segar, Esq., Agency Representative

INITIAL DECISION

INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF FACTS

On July 26, 2004, Employee, an Educational Aide, filed a petition for appeal from Agency's final decision separating her from Government service pursuant to a reduction-in-force (RIF).

This matter was assigned to me on June 21, 2005. By Order dated June 22, 2005, I scheduled a Prehearing Conference for August 4, 2005. This notice was sent by first class mail to the employee's address of record, and was not returned to the Office as undelivered. Pursuant to the notice, Employee was required to submit a Prehearing Statement by the close of business on July 28, 2005. This she did not do. Further, Employee did not appear for the Prehearing. The record is closed.

JURISDICTION

The Office has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 1-606.03 (2001).

ISSUE

Whether this matter should be dismissed for failure to prosecute.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

OEA Rule 622.3, 46 D.C. Reg. 9313 (1999), reads in pertinent part as follows:

If a party fails to take reasonable steps to prosecute . . . an appeal, the Administrative Judge, in the exercise of sound discretion, may dismiss the action. . . . Failure of a party to prosecute . . . an appeal includes, but is not limited to, a failure to:

- (a) Appear at a scheduled proceeding after receiving notice;
- (b) Submit required documents after being provided with a deadline for such submission. . .

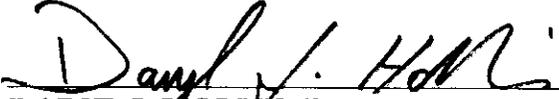
Further, this Office has consistently held that a matter may be dismissed for failure to prosecute when a party fails to appear at a scheduled proceeding or fails to submit required documents. *See, e.g., Employee v. Agency*, OEA Matter No. 1602-0078-83, 32 D.C. Reg. 1244 (1985).

Here, Employee did not submit the required Prehearing Statement and did not appear for the Prehearing Conference. I conclude that the employee's inactions constitute a failure to prosecute, and that therefore the matter should be dismissed.

ORDER

It is hereby ORDERED that this matter is DISMISSED.

FOR THE OFFICE:


DARYL J. HOLLIS, Esq.
Senior Administrative Judge