

15-404.

(a) (1) A hearing on a complaint shall be conducted under Title 10, Subtitle 2 (Administrative Procedure Act – Contested Cases) of this article to the extent that subtitle is consistent with this title.

(2) In preparation for the hearing, the respondent may use the subpoena power of the Ethics Commission.

(b) At the hearing, the staff counsel:

(1) shall present to the Ethics Commission all available evidence relating to each alleged violation of this title; and

(2) may recommend any disposition of the complaint that appears appropriate to the staff counsel.

(c) The respondent may be represented by counsel.

15-405.

(a) After the Ethics Commission considers all of the evidence presented at the hearing, it shall make findings of fact and conclusions of law with respect to each alleged violation.

(b) If the Ethics Commission determines that the respondent has not violated this title, the Ethics Commission shall:

(1) dismiss the complaint in a signed order; and

(2) promptly send a copy of the order to the complainant and the respondent.

(c) If the Ethics Commission determines that the respondent has violated ANY PROVISION OF this title, the Ethics Commission may:

(1) issue an order of compliance directing the respondent to cease and desist from the violation;

(2) issue a reprimand; or

(3) recommend to the appropriate authority other appropriate discipline of the respondent, including censure or removal, if that discipline is authorized by law.

(D) IF THE ETHICS COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT A RESPONDENT HAS VIOLATED SUBTITLE 7 OF THIS TITLE, THE ETHICS COMMISSION MAY:

(1) REQUIRE A RESPONDENT WHO IS A REGULATED LOBBYIST TO FILE ANY ADDITIONAL REPORTS OR INFORMATION THAT REASONABLY RELATES TO INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER §§ 15-703 AND 15-704 OF THIS TITLE;

(2) IMPOSE A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 FOR EACH VIOLATION; OR