EXAMINER, THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY WHERE THE INVESTIGATION OR HEARING IS CONDUCTED OR THE PERSON IS PRESENT, RESIDES, OR TRANSACTS BUSINESS MAY PASS AN ORDER DIRECTING COMPLIANCE WITH THE SUBPOENA OR COMPELLING TESTIMONY.

- (4) (I) A PERSON MAY NOT BE EXCUSED FROM ATTENDING A PROCEEDING AND TESTIFYING OR PRODUCING BOOKS, CORRESPONDENCE, MEMORANDA, PAPERS, AND OTHER RECORDS BEFORE A HEARING EXAMINER IN OBEDIENCE TO A SUBPOENA ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION ON THE GROUND THAT THE TESTIMONY OR EVIDENCE REQUIRED OF THE PERSON MAY TEND TO INCRIMINATE THE PERSON OR SUBJECT THE PERSON TO A PENALTY OR FORFEITURE.
- (II) AFTER HAVING CLAIMED THE PRIVILEGE OF THE PERSON AGAINST SELF-INCRIMINATION, A PERSON MAY NOT BE PROSECUTED OR SUBJECTED TO ANY PENALTY OR FORFEITURE BECAUSE OF ANY TRANSACTION, MATTER, OR THING ABOUT WHICH THE PERSON IS COMPELLED TO TESTIFY OR PRODUCE EVIDENCE.
- (III) A PERSON MAY BE PROSECUTED AND PUNISHED FOR PERJURY COMMITTED IN TESTIFYING.

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- (A) (1) A HEARING EXAMINER SHALL CONDUCT A HEARING OR APPEAL IN A MANNER THAT ASCERTAINS THE SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS OF THE PARTIES.
- (2) (I) A HEARING EXAMINER IS NOT BOUND BY STATUTORY OR COMMON LAW RULES OF EVIDENCE OR TECHNICAL RULES OF PROCEDURE.
- (II) A HEARING EXAMINER SHALL CONSIDER EVIDENCE OFFERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 10-213 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.
- (B) (1) (I) A HEARING EXAMINER MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY PROCEEDING IN WHICH THE HEARING EXAMINER HAS A DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST.
- (II) THE STATUS OF THE SECRETARY AS A PARTY TO A CASE MAY NOT CONSTITUTE A DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST AS TO A HEARING EXAMINER.