

by the Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments.

(b) Terminal equipment labels shall include an identification numbering system in a manner required by the Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments.

(c) If the Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments chooses to continue the practice of utilizing a designated “FCC” number, it shall include in its labeling requirements a warning that the Commission no longer directly approves or registers terminal equipment.

(d) Labeling developed for terminal equipment by the Administrative Council on Terminal Attachments shall contain sufficient information for providers of wireline telecommunications, the Federal Communications Commission, and the U.S. Customs Service to carry out their functions, and for consumers to easily identify the responsible party of their terminal equipment. The numbering and labeling scheme shall be nondiscriminatory, creating no competitive advantage for any entity or segment of the industry.

(e) FCC numbering and labeling requirements existing prior to the effective date of these rules shall remain unchanged until the Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments publishes its numbering and labeling requirements.

[66 FR 7587, Jan. 24, 2001, as amended at 67 FR 57182, Sept. 9, 2002]

## Subpart E—Complaint Procedures

### §§ 68.400–68.412 [Reserved]

#### § 68.414 Hearing aid-compatibility: Enforcement.

Enforcement of §§ 68.4 and 68.112 is hereby delegated to those states which adopt those sections and provide for their enforcement. The procedures followed by a state to enforce those sections shall provide a 30-day period after a complaint is filed, during which time state personnel shall attempt to resolve a dispute on an informal basis. If a state has not adopted or incorporated §§ 68.4 and 68.112, or failed to act within 6 months from the filing of a complaint with the state public utility commission, the Commission will accept such

complaints. A written notification to the complainant that the state believes action is unwarranted is not a failure to act.

[49 FR 1368, Jan. 11, 1984]

#### § 68.415 Hearing aid-compatibility and volume control informal complaints.

Persons with complaints under §§ 68.4 and 68.112 that are not addressed by the states pursuant to § 68.414, and all other complaints regarding rules in this part pertaining to hearing aid compatibility and volume control, may bring informal complaints as described in § 68.416 through § 68.420. All responsible parties of terminal equipment are subject to the informal complaint provisions specified in this section.

[66 FR 7587, Jan. 24, 2001]

#### § 68.417 Informal complaints; form and content.

(a) An informal complaint alleging a violation of hearing aid compatibility and/or volume control rules in this subpart may be transmitted to the Consumer Information Bureau by any reasonable means, e.g., letter, facsimile transmission, telephone (voice/TRS/TTY), Internet e-mail, ASCII text, audio-cassette recording, and Braille.

(b) An informal complaint shall include:

(1) The name and address of the complainant;

(2) The name and address of the responsible party, if known, or the manufacturer or provider against whom the complaint is made;

(3) A full description of the terminal equipment about which the complaint is made;

(4) The date or dates on which the complainant purchased, acquired or used the terminal equipment about which the complaint is being made;

(5) A complete statement of the facts, including documentation where available, supporting the complainant's allegation that the defendant has failed to comply with the requirements of this subpart;

(6) The specific relief or satisfaction sought by the complainant, and

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(7) The complainant's preferred format or method of response to the complaint by the Commission and defendant (e.g., letter, facsimile transmission, telephone (voice/TRS/TTY), Internet e-mail, ASCII text, audio-cassette recording, Braille; or some other method that will best accommodate the complainant's disability).

[66 FR 7587, Jan. 24, 2001]

### **§ 68.418 Procedure; designation of agents for service.**

(a) The Commission shall promptly forward any informal complaint meeting the requirements of § 68.17 to each responsible party named in or determined by the staff to be implicated by the complaint. Such responsible party or parties shall be called on to satisfy or answer the complaint within the time specified by the Commission.

(b) To ensure prompt and effective service of informal complaints filed under this subpart, every responsible party of equipment approved pursuant to this part shall designate and identify one or more agents upon whom service may be made of all notices, inquiries, orders, decisions, and other pronouncements of the Commission in any matter before the Commission. Such designation shall be provided to the Commission and shall include a name or department designation, business address, telephone number, and, if available, TTY number, facsimile number, and Internet e-mail address. The Commission shall make this information available to the public.

[66 FR 7587, Jan. 24, 2001, as amended at 73 FR 25591, May 7, 2008]

### **§ 68.419 Answers to informal complaints.**

Any responsible party to whom the Commission or the Consumer Information Bureau under this subpart directs an informal complaint shall file an answer within the time specified by the Commission or the Consumer Information Bureau. The answer shall:

(a) Be prepared or formatted in the manner requested by the complainant pursuant to § 68.417, unless otherwise permitted by the Commission or the Consumer Information Bureau for good cause shown;

(b) Describe any actions that the defendant has taken or proposes to take to satisfy the complaint;

(c) Advise the complainant and the Commission or the Consumer Information Bureau of the nature of the defense(s) claimed by the defendant;

(d) Respond specifically to all material allegations of the complaint; and

(e) Provide any other information or materials specified by the Commission or the Consumer Information Bureau as relevant to its consideration of the complaint.

[66 FR 7587, Jan. 24, 2001]

### **§ 68.420 Review and disposition of informal complaints.**

(a) Where it appears from the defendant's answer, or from other communications with the parties, that an informal complaint has been satisfied, the Commission or the Consumer Information Bureau on delegated authority may, in its discretion, consider the informal complaint closed, without response to the complainant or defendant. In all other cases, the Commission or the Consumer Information Bureau shall inform the parties of its review and disposition of a complaint filed under this subpart. Where practicable, this information (the nature of which is specified in paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section, shall be transmitted to the complainant and defendant in the manner requested by the complainant, (e.g., letter, facsimile transmission, telephone (voice/TRS/TTY), Internet e-mail, ASCII text, audio-cassette recording, or Braille).

(b) In the event the Commission or the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau determines, based on a review of the information provided in the informal complaint and the defendant's answer thereto, that no further action is required by the Commission or the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau with respect to the allegations contained in the informal complaint, the informal complaint shall be closed and the complainant and defendant shall be duly informed of the reasons therefor. A complainant, unsatisfied with the defendant's response to the informal complaint and the staff decision to terminate action on the informal complaint, may file a complaint with