

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD**

JOSEPH P. CARSON,
Appellant,

DOCKET NUMBER
AT-1221-14-0637-W-1

v.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION
BOARD,
Agency.

DATE: December 23, 2014

Joseph P. Carson, Knoxville, Tennessee, pro se.

Matthew Edward Bradley, Washington, D.C., for the agency.

BEFORE

Susan Tsui Grundmann, Chairman
Anne M. Wagner, Vice Chairman
Mark A. Robbins, Member

Chairman Grundmann has recused herself from this case.
Vice Chairman Wagner has recused herself from this case.
Member Robbins has recused himself from this case.

ORDER

This case is before the Board by petition for review of the initial decision of the administrative law judge, which dismissed the appellant's individual right of action appeal for lack of jurisdiction. The three Board members have recused themselves from considering this matter. Therefore, the administrative law judge's initial decision now becomes the final decision of the Merit Systems Protection Board in this appeal. Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations,

section 1200.3(b) ([5 C.F.R. § 1200.3\(b\)](#)). This decision shall not be considered as precedent by the Board in any other case. [5 C.F.R. § 1200.3\(d\)](#).

**NOTICE TO THE APPELLANT REGARDING
YOUR FURTHER REVIEW RIGHTS**

You have the right to request review of this final decision by the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

The court must receive your request for review no later than 60 calendar days after the date of this order. *See* [5 U.S.C. § 7703\(b\)\(1\)\(A\)](#) (as rev. eff. Dec. 27, 2012). If you choose to file, be very careful to file on time. The court has held that normally it does not have the authority to waive this statutory deadline and that filings that do not comply with the deadline must be dismissed. *See Pinat v. Office of Personnel Management*, [931 F.2d 1544](#) (Fed. Cir. 1991).

If you want to request review of the Board's decision concerning your claims of prohibited personnel practices under [5 U.S.C. § 2302\(b\)\(8\)](#), (b)(9)(A)(i), (b)(9)(B), (b)(9)(C), or (b)(9)(D), but you do not want to challenge the Board's disposition of any other claims of prohibited personnel practices, you may request review of this final decision by the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or any court of appeals of competent jurisdiction. The court of appeals must receive your petition for review within 60 days after the date of this order. *See* [5 U.S.C. § 7703\(b\)\(1\)\(B\)](#) (as rev. eff. Dec. 27, 2012). If you choose to file, be very careful to file on time. You may choose to request review of the Board's decision in the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or any other court of appeals of competent jurisdiction, but not both. Once you choose to seek review in one court of appeals, you may be precluded from seeking review in any other court.

If you need further information about your right to appeal this decision to court, you should refer to the federal law that gives you this right. It is found in Title 5 of the United States Code, section 7703 ([5 U.S.C. § 7703](#)) (as rev. eff. Dec. 27, 2012). You may read this law as well as other sections of the United

States Code, at our website, <http://www.mspb.gov/appeals/uscode.htm>. Additional information about the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit is available at the court's website, www.cafc.uscourts.gov. Of particular relevance is the court's "Guide for Pro Se Petitioners and Appellants," which is contained within the court's Rules of Practice, and Forms 5, 6, and 11. Additional information about other courts of appeals can be found at their respective websites, which can be accessed through http://www.uscourts.gov/Court_Locator/CourtWebsites.aspx.

If you are interested in securing pro bono representation for an appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, you may visit our website at <http://www.mspb.gov/probono> for a list of attorneys who have expressed interest in providing pro bono representation for Merit Systems Protection Board appellants before the Federal Circuit. The Merit Systems Protection Board neither endorses the services provided by any attorney nor warrants that any attorney will accept representation in a given case.

FOR THE BOARD:

William D. Spencer
Clerk of the Board

Washington, D.C.