

1400.7300 RULES OF EVIDENCE.

Subpart 1. **Admissible evidence.** The judge may admit all evidence which possesses probative value, including hearsay, if it is the type of evidence on which reasonable, prudent persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of their serious affairs. The judge shall give effect to the rules of privilege recognized by law. Evidence which is incompetent, irrelevant, immaterial, or unduly repetitious shall be excluded.

Subp. 2. **Evidence part of record.** All evidence to be considered in the case, including all records and documents in the possession of the agency or a true and accurate photocopy, shall be offered and made a part of the record in the case. No other factual information or evidence shall be considered in the determination of the case.

Subp. 3. **Documents.** Documentary evidence in the form of copies or excerpts may be received or incorporated by reference in the discretion of the judge or upon agreement of the parties. Copies of a document shall be received to the same extent as the original document unless a genuine question is raised as to the accuracy or authenticity of the copy or, under the circumstances, it would be unfair to admit the copy in lieu of the original.

Subp. 4. **Official notice of facts.** The judge may take notice of judicially cognizable facts but shall do so on the record and with the opportunity for any party to contest the facts so noticed.

Subp. 5. **Burden of proof.** The party proposing that certain action be taken must prove the facts at issue by a preponderance of the evidence, unless the substantive law provides a different burden or standard. A party asserting an affirmative defense shall have the burden of proving the existence of the defense by a preponderance of the evidence. In employee disciplinary actions, the agency or political subdivision initiating the disciplinary action shall have the burden of proof.

Subp. 6. **Examination of adverse party.** A party may call an adverse party or a managing agent, or employees or an officer, director, managing agent, or employee of the state or any political subdivision thereof or of a public or private corporation or of a partnership or association or body politic which is an adverse party, and interrogate that party by leading questions and contradict and impeach that party on material matters in all respects as if that party had been called by the adverse party. The adverse party may be examined by that party's counsel upon the subject matter of that party's examination in chief under the rules applicable to direct examination, and may be cross-examined, contradicted, and impeached by any other party adversely affected by the testimony.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 14.06; 14.131; 14.51; 363.06; 363A.28*

History: *9 SR 2276*

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