



Instructions Regarding Hearing Postponents

To promote the optimal use of resources and contribute to the expeditiousness of decision-making, the Access to Information Commission encourages parties to take notice of the following instructions regarding hearing postponement requests.

Postponement Requests

Postponement requests must be made in writing and addressed to the President of the Commission in a timely manner and explaining the reasons for the request. New hearing dates must be offered that are confirmed beforehand by the Head of the Commission. The request must be sent to all parties involved and accompanied by supporting documents.

Decision

When the Commission is provided with a request for postponement, the Commission can take into account the seriousness of the reasons stated, the prejudice caused to one or the other parties of the possibility of proceeding in the days preceding or following the first scheduled hearing and the nature and complexity of the case. It may be granted if the ends of justice are better served.

When the Commission grants a postponement, it can set a new hearing date taking into account the dates submitted in the request. .

If the Commission refuses the postponement, the parties must adhere to the originally scheduled hearing date.

Instead of granting a postponement and as circumstances warrant, the Commission may summon the parties to a pre-hearing conference, propose a mediation meeting or take any other measure to minimize disadvantages related to a postponement and to ensure one party's right to be heard.