**Section 681.740 Ex Parte Communications**

a) Except in the disposition of matters they are authorized by law to entertain or dispose of on an ex parte basis, the hearing officer and the Director shall not communicate, directly or indirectly, in connection with any issue of fact, with any person or party, including the Advisory Board, except upon notice and opportunity for all the parties to participate.

b) Communications regarding procedure, including but not limited to format of pleadings, number of copies required, manner of service, status of proceedings and continuances, are not considered to be ex parte communications.

(Source: Added at 41 Ill. Reg. 14182, effective November 13, 2017)