

## **Administrative Actions.**

You may have heard the phrase “administrative action.” This is a type of litigation which involves disputes of regulatory matters controlled by a government agency. It is similar to civil litigation but differs in that the judicial body created to hear the dispute is typically an agency board, administrative law judge, or referee. While these boards and judges are hired by the agencies, they are to act as impartial hearing officers and render a fair decision based upon the evidence presented. Examples of administrative actions include Unemployment Compensation, Workers Compensation, and Liquor Control. There are hundreds of state and federal agencies which have their own internal dispute resolution programs, including social security, environmental protection, and veteran’s administration, to name a few.

Each government agency is charged with carrying out a program created by the legislative body. Congress creates federal programs and the Pennsylvania legislature creates state programs. While the legislative bodies create the agency, they typically leave the drafting of detailed rules and regulations to the experts appointed to those agencies. Each agency then publishes its rules and regulations in a set of Code books: the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for federal agencies and the Pennsylvania Code for state agencies.

Parties having a dispute with one of these regulatory agencies should be familiar with the agency rules and regulations before entering the administrative process. There are also state statutes on Administrative Law and Procedure. An **attorney** who has experience with administrative agencies can be a great resource when navigating the many rules and regulations of a government agency.

My office has represented clients before several different government agencies. If you need assistance with an **administrative law** matter, please contact my office for a consultation. We have experience before many boards but can make referrals to other attorneys in certain cases, if necessary.

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