

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	8 U.S.C. § 1324a Proceeding
v.	)	
	)	OCAHO Case No. 2024A00030
RITALKA, INC.,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

Appearances: Kenneth Knapp, Esq., for Complainant
Kayla Ruikkie, Esq., for Respondent

ORDER GRANTING RESPONDENT'S UNCONTESTED MOTION AND
RESCHEDULING SECOND PREHEARING CONFERENCE

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On January 3, 2024, Complainant, the United States Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, filed a complaint with the Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer (OCAHO) alleging that Respondent, RITALKA, Inc., violated the employer sanctions provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as amended by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, 8 U.S.C. § 1324a. On February 15, 2024, Respondent filed Respondent's Answer to Complainant's Complaint.

On June 17, 2026, the Court issued an Order Scheduling Second Prehearing Conference. Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 68.13,¹ the Court set the conference with the parties in this matter for June 25, 2026. June 17, 2026, Order Scheduling Second Prehr'g Conf. 4. On June 18, 2026, Respondent filed Respondent's Uncontested Motion to Reschedule Telephonic Prehearing Conference.

¹ Proceedings in this case will generally be governed by OCAHO's Rules of Practice and Procedure for Administrative Hearings, being the provisions contained in 28 C.F.R. part 68 (2026). OCAHO's Rules are available in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations. See <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-28/chapter-I/part-68>.

II. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Through Respondent's Uncontested Motion to Reschedule Telephonic Prehearing Conference, Respondent moves the Court to "reschedule the second prehearing conference to a date after July 3, 2026, or to a date that works for the court." Mot. to Reschedule 1. Respondent's counsel represents that she will be out of the office and that Complainant's counsel does not oppose her request to reschedule the prehearing conference. *Id.*

Under OCAHO's Rules of Practice and Procedure for Administrative Hearings, "[c]ontinuances shall only be granted in cases where the requester has a prior judicial commitment or can demonstrate undue hardship, or a showing of other good cause." 28 C.F.R. § 68.27(a). When considering whether to grant a party's request to reschedule a prehearing conference, this Court has "consider[ed] the agreed nature of the requests ... the length of the extension of time ... being sought," and whether the "requested extensions are reasonable and appropriate[.]" *United States v. Muniz Concrete & Contracting, Inc.*, 19 OCAHO no. 1535b, 5 (2024).²

On June 24, 2026, in accordance with 28 C.F.R. § 68.27(d), the Court notified the parties that it had reviewed Respondent's motion and would reschedule the second prehearing conference. The Court now formally grants Respondent's motion to move the prehearing conference to a date after July 3, 2026, or a date of the Court's choosing. *See* Mot. to Reschedule 1. The Court finds that good cause exists to postpone the date of the prehearing conference given that Respondent's counsel is out of the office. *See id.* The Court is persuaded by Complainant's lack of opposition to the request, the fact that this is the parties' second request to reschedule a setting in this matter, the relatively limited amount of additional time sought, and the timeliness of the request which was made at least two business days in advance of the prehearing conference as instructed by the Court. *See* June 17, 2026, Order Scheduling Second Prehr'g Conf. 3 n.3. The Court finds that the requested

² Citations to OCAHO precedents reprinted in bound Volumes 1 through 8 reflect the volume number and the case number of the particular decision followed by the specific page in that volume where the decision begins; the pinpoint citations which follow are thus to the pages, seriatim, of the specific entire volume. Pinpoint citations to OCAHO precedents after Volume 8, where the decision has not yet been reprinted in a bound volume, are to pages within the original issuances; the beginning page number of an unbound case will always be 1 and is accordingly omitted from the citation. Published decisions may be accessed in the Westlaw database "FIM-OCAHO," the LexisNexis database "OCAHO," or on OCAHO's homepage on the United States Department of Justice's website at <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/office-of-the-chief-administrative-hearing-officer-decisions>.

continuance of the second prehearing conference will not unnecessarily delay these proceedings.

III. SECOND PREHEARING CONFERENCE

The Court now reschedules the second telephonic prehearing conference in this case for Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time³ to develop a case schedule, including dates for the completion of discovery, the filing of motions, and a hearing in this matter. *See* 28 C.F.R. § 68.13. The Court also may schedule dates for the submission of a proposed final pretrial order and final pretrial conference.

At the conference, the parties should be fully prepared and have authority to discuss any questions regarding the case, including questions raised by the pleadings, jurisdiction, pending motions, motions contemplated to be filed, the probable length of time needed for discovery, and the possibility of settlement of the case. The parties will have the opportunity to discuss any problems confronting them, including the need for time in which to prepare for a hearing. The parties shall be prepared at the conference to tell the Court their preferred location for a hearing, should one be required in this matter.⁴

IV. ORDERS

IT IS SO ORDERED that Respondent's Uncontested Motion to Reschedule Telephonic Prehearing Conference is GRANTED; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 68.13, a telephonic prehearing conference in this matter will be held on Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time. Both parties shall attend the prehearing conference by calling

³ If the parties need to reschedule the second prehearing conference, at least three business days in advance of the date set for the prehearing conference, they shall provide the Court with a joint written notice of a minimum of three proposed agreed dates and times in Eastern Time for the rescheduled conference. The Court will confirm the date and time for the rescheduled conference either telephonically or in writing as soon thereafter as practicable.

⁴ Sections 274A(e)(3)(B) and 274C(d)(2)(B) of the INA dictate that hearings be held "at the nearest practicable place to the place where the person or entity resides or to the place where the alleged violation occurred." 28 C.F.R. § 68.5(b).

telephone number [x-xxx-xxx-xxxx] and entering the meeting number ([xxxx xxxx]) and password ([xxxx]).

SO ORDERED.

Dated June 25, 2026.

Honorable Carol A. Bell
Chief Administrative Law Judge