

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:

Each Case Pending Before the USDA
Office of Administrative Law Judges

**BLANKET ORDER EXTENDING FILING DEADLINES OCCURRING
DURING FURLOUGH IN ALL CASES PENDING BEFORE
USDA ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES**

The United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”) Office of Administrative Law Judges (“OALJ”), including the undersigned and the Office of the Hearing Clerk, are on furlough due to a funding lapse. It is not known when funding and activities will resume.

For these reasons, it is appropriate to extend all deadlines for the filing of any document required to be filed with the Office of the Hearing Clerk in cases pending before the OALJ that occur during this period of furlough to ten (10) business days after the end of the furlough period.¹ This extension pertains only to filing deadlines. Other procedural dates, such as, but not limited to, scheduled hearings, will be addressed case-by-case for each docket as needed.

WHEREFORE, through this Order I extend all deadlines for filing any document required to be filed with the Office of the Hearing Clerk in cases pending before the OALJ that occur during this period of furlough to **ten (10) days after the end of the furlough period.**

¹ Note that the blanket extension provided in this Order applies only to cases currently pending before USDA Administrative Law Judges. It does not apply to any other USDA proceedings or any court proceedings. For instance, the extension provided in this order does not apply to proceedings before the USDA Judicial Officer. It does not apply to any court appeals of USDA Judicial Officer/Administrative Law Judge decisions. It does not apply to cases with the USDA National Appeals Division. Parties intending to rely on the extension provided in this order are advised to be very careful to assure that it applies to their case.

This Order shall be posted as soon as possible to the OALJ website as an effort to make the extension provided herein as widely known as possible and may be sent to parties in individual cases. Because employees are furloughed, it is impractical to send this Order to every party in every case, at least of this time.

Done at Washington, D.C., this 1st day of October 2025

Channing D. Strother
Chief Administrative Law Judge

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