



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
 DEFENSE LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY
 DEFENSE OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS
 APPEAL BOARD
 POST OFFICE BOX 3656
 ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22203
 (703) 696-4759**

Date: October 22, 2024

_____)
 In the matter of:)
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)
 Applicant for Security Clearance)
 _____)

ISCR Case No. 23-01308

APPEAL BOARD DECISION

APPEARANCES

FOR GOVERNMENT

Andrea M. Corrales, Esq., Deputy Chief Department Counsel

FOR APPLICANT

Pro se

The Department of Defense (DoD) declined to grant Applicant a security clearance. On September 6, 2023, DoD issued a Statement of Reasons (SOR) advising Applicant of the basis of that decision – security concerns raised under Guideline F (Financial Considerations) of the National Security Adjudicative Guidelines in Appendix A of Security Executive Agent Directive 4 (effective June 8, 2017) and DoD Directive 5220.6 (Jan. 2, 1992, as amended) (Directive). On August 27, 2024, Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Administrative Judge Carol G. Ricciardello denied Applicant security clearance eligibility. Applicant appealed pursuant to Directive ¶¶ E3.1.28 and E3.1.30.

On appeal, Applicant makes no allegation that the Judge erred, but instead presents additional information about the circumstances that led to her financial issues and her ongoing efforts to resolve them. The Appeal Board does not review cases *de novo* and is prohibited from considering new evidence on appeal. Directive ¶ E3.1.29. The Board’s authority to review a case is limited to cases in which the appealing party has alleged the judge committed harmful error. Because Applicant has not made such an allegation of error, the decision of the Judge denying Applicant a security clearance is sustainable.

Order

The decision in ISCR Case No. 23-01308 is **AFFIRMED**.

Signed: Moira Modzelewski

Moira Modzelewski
Administrative Judge
Chair, Appeal Board

Signed: Allison Marie

Allison Marie
Administrative Judge
Member, Appeal Board

Signed: Gregg A. Cervi

Gregg A. Cervi
Administrative Judge
Member, Appeal Board