

KEYWORD: Guideline F

DIGEST: Applicant’s appeal brief raises no allegation of harmful error on the part of the Judge. Adverse decision affirmed.

CASENO: 16-03184.a1

DATE: 05/23/2018

DATE: May 23, 2018

In Re:)	
)	
-----)	ISCR Case No.16-03184
)	
Applicant for Security Clearance)	
)	

APPEAL BOARD DECISION

APPEARANCES

FOR GOVERNMENT

James B. Norman, Esq., Chief Department Counsel

FOR APPLICANT

Pro se

The Department of Defense (DoD) declined to grant Applicant a security clearance. On November 15, 2016, DoD issued a statement of reasons (SOR) advising Applicant of the basis for that decision—security concerns raised under Guideline F (Financial Considerations) of Department of Defense Directive 5220.6 (Jan. 2, 1992, as amended) (Directive). Applicant requested a decision on the written record. On March 9, 2018, after considering the record, Administrative Judge Wilford H. Ross denied Applicant’s request for a security clearance. Applicant appealed pursuant to Directive ¶¶ E3.1.28 and E3.1.30.

Applicant’s appeal brief raises no allegation of harmful error on the part of the Judge. Rather, it contains a narrative statement about his efforts to resolve the debts. It also contains new evidence that the Appeal Board cannot consider. Directive ¶ E3.1.29. Additionally, Applicant noted that losing his security clearance has had a negative impact on him and his family. However, the adverse impact that an unfavorable decision may have on an applicant is not a relevant or material consideration in evaluating security clearance eligibility. *See, e.g.*, ISCR Case No. 14-04202 at 4 (App. Bd. Dec. 24, 2015).

The Board does not review cases *de novo*. The Appeal 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 **AFFIRMED**.

Signed: Michael Ra’anan
Michael Ra’anan
Administrative Judge
Chairperson, Appeal Board

Signed: Charles C. Hale
Charles C. Hale
Administrative Judge
Member, Appeal Board

Signed: James F. Duffy
James F. Duffy
Administrative Judge
Member, Appeal Board