

UNITED STATES COURT OF VETERANS APPEALS

Misc. No. 7-91

IN RE: PRELIMINARY COPY OF BOARD OF VETERANS' APPEALS DECISION

Before NEBEKER, Chief Judge, and KRAMER, FARLEY, MANKIN,
HOLDAWAY, IVERS, and STEINBERG, Associate Judges.

O R D E R

This Court's Interim General Rule 3(d) provided that, upon receipt of the Notice of Appeal, the Secretary shall forthwith transmit to the Clerk a copy of the decision of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, with the date of mailing to the appellant indicated thereon. The Court's Rules of Practice and Procedure, effective May 1, 1991, eliminated that requirement at the urging of the Secretary.

The Court notes that pro se appellants have not diminished in number and generally are unable effectively to comply with Rule 6 (filing statement of issues), and that delays by the Secretary in designating the record have increased in frequency and length. These factors deprive the Court of essential information about the nature and urgency of the appeal. Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that in each appeal before the Court the Secretary shall, within 30 days after the Clerk mails acknowledgement of receipt of the Notice of Appeal, transmit to the Clerk a copy of the decision of the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Extensions of time to meet this requirement will not be granted, absent a showing of extraordinary circumstances. Department workload is not such a circumstance.

DATED: SEP 16 1991

BY THE COURT:



FRANK Q. NEBEKER
Chief Judge