**Section 1848.17 Disqualification of Hearing Officer**

a) A hearing officer, on his own motion or that of a party, may be disqualified in a proceeding due to bias or conflict of interest.

b) A motion for disqualification filed pursuant to this Section shall:

1) Be in writing;

2) Contain a statement of supporting grounds; and

3) Be filed with the Director and served upon all parties.

c) Unless the Director orders otherwise, the hearing officer and any party to a proceeding in which a motion is filed under this Section shall have ten (10) days from service of the motion to file a response.

d) The Director shall rule on all motions filed pursuant to this Section as expeditiously as possible. If a motion filed under this Section is granted, the Director shall appoint a new hearing officer for the proceeding.