



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD
844 NORTH RUSH STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611-2092

MAR 07 2003

BUREAU OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

Mr. Martin Sussman
Regulations Officer
Social Security Administration
Office of Regulations
100 Altmeyer Building
6401 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21235-6401

Dear Mr. Sussman:

I have completed my review of your final regulations concerning the use of video teleconferencing to conduct hearings before Administrative Law Judges.

As I indicated when the regulations were published in proposed form, I would like to explore the use of SSA's facilities by hearings officers of the Railroad Retirement Board. Perhaps as a start the RRB could conduct a few hearings as test cases. This would involve using your facilities in Chicago and at another site or sites. It would also involve use of SSA personnel for set up. If the test proves successful, I would recommend to the three-member Board that they pursue formal discussions with the Commissioner's office for sharing of the facilities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (312) 751-4513. Thank you for your co-operation.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Sadler
Director of Hearings and Appeals

