**Section 1.236 Order of Hearing**

a) The Administrative Law Judge shall open the hearing by explaining the procedure to be followed in the hearing. Upon motion of either party or at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge, any or all witnesses may be sequestered.

b) Preliminary matters such as objection to charges, disputes involving discovery, stipulation of facts and documents, and scheduling of witnesses may be resolved.

c) Each party shall be given the opportunity to make a brief opening statement identifying the issues and indicating what is to be proven.

d) All witnesses shall testify under oath or affirmation.

e) Each party may conduct such cross-examination as required for a full and true disclosure of the facts. The Administrative Law Judge may also examine witnesses.

f) Before closing the proceedings, the Administrative Law Judge may allow both parties the opportunity to make brief oral and/or written closing statements.

g) Witnesses may be required to testify via telephone and/or video conference by order of the Administrative Law Judge.

(Source: Amended at 42 Ill. Reg. 16395, effective September 1, 2018)