

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

In the Matter of:

James Buford,

Petitioner.

19-VH-0086-AG-019

721013986

September 16, 2019

ORDER OF DISMISSAL


24 C.F.R. § 26.4 (c) provides that “If a party refuses or fails to comply with an order of the hearing officer, including an order compelling discovery, the hearing officer may enter any appropriate order necessary to the disposition of the hearing *including a determination against the noncomplying party...*” Further, under 24 C.F.R. § 26.4 (d), it provides, “If a party fails to prosecute *or defend an action brought under subpart A of this part, the hearing officer may dismiss the action* or may issue an initial decision against the non-prosecuting or defending party. (Emphasis added).

To date, Petitioner has failed to offer sufficient evidence that refutes the Secretary’s claim or further supports Petitioner’s position that the subject debt was paid in full or is unenforceable, despite the Court ordering Petitioner to do so in compliance with the regulations noted above. The *Order to Show Cause* issued on July 29, 2019 by the Court specifically stated, “**Failure to comply with this Order shall result in sanctions being imposed by the Court pursuant to 24 C.F.R. § 26.4 (c) and (d), including judgment being entered on behalf of the opposing party.**” (Emphasis in original).

Consistent with the provisions of 24 C.F.R. §§ 26.4 (c) and (d), Petitioner’s appeal is **DISMISSED** *sua sponte*. It is hereby

ORDERED that this matter be **DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE** and the stay of proceeding issued by *Notice of Docketing* on March 25, 2019 is VACATED.

SO ORDERED



Vanessa L. Hall
Administrative Judge