

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE**

In re:	)	AWG Docket No. 10-0314
	)	
Christopher Richardson,	)	
	)	
Petitioner	)	<b>Dismissal of Petition</b>

Pursuant to a Hearing Notice and Prehearing Order, I scheduled a hearing by telephone for June 22, 2011, 12:00 P.M. Eastern Time. Respondent's representative, Mary Kimball, made herself available to participate, but Petitioner did not. The Prehearing Order instructed Petitioner to immediately contact my secretary and provide a telephone number where he could be reached for the scheduled June 16, 2011 hearing by telephone. The only telephone number Petitioner had provided was one he gave when he filed his Petition that belonged to an attorney who Petitioner represented could explain why he did not owe the debt that is the subject of the administrative garnishment proceeding instituted against him on behalf of USDA-Rural Development. Petitioner did not respond to the Hearing Order; did not provide a different telephone number from the one shown on the Petition; and he did not provide any of the financial information or other data that he was directed by the Notice to provide. My secretary called the attorney at the listed phone number on the day before the scheduled hearing day, who told her he was not representing Petitioner in this proceeding. Petitioner did not make himself available at the time of the hearing. He also did not call to explain why he was unavailable.

Accordingly, the petition is hereby **DISMISSED**, and the proceeding to garnish Petitioner's wages may be resumed at the applicable percentage rate of his disposable income allowed by Federal regulations.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Victor W. Palmer  
Administrative Law Judge