**Section 125.80 Answer**

Any respondent may file a written answer to a complaint prior to, or at the time of, any proceeding or hearing, but shall not be required to file an answer. The failure to file an answer shall not be deemed an admission of any allegation in the complaint nor a consent to the requested relief. An answer may include affirmative defenses and jurisdictional objections. An answer shall be filed with the Hearing Officer, and at least one copy of the same shall be signed by the respondent or his or her attorney and shall contain evidence of service as provided in this Subpart. At least one copy of the answer shall be served upon all other parties to the proceeding, in accordance with Section 125.40, and the General Counsel.

(Source: Amended at 35 Ill. Reg. 2351, effective February 4, 2011)