

Mine Safety Commission Loses Quorum to Decide Cases

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By [Margaret S. Lopez](#)

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The FMSHRC was created by the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977. Commissioners are nominated by the president and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. They serve six-year terms. President Trump nominated

longtime mine safety attorney Marco Rajkovich to serve on the commission in January 2018. His confirmation has been pending in the Senate since that time.

Until the commission has at least one more member, its authority is limited to deciding which cases it will hear on appeal. In the meantime, no appeals can be decided by the commission, and motions to reopen penalties for contest will be decided by the FMSHRC's chief administrative law judge.

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