

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
OKLAHOMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION
COMMISSION

APPEALS

Friday, February 23, 2024
9:00 a.m.
Commission En Banc Courtroom
1915 N. Stiles Ave.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
www.wcc.ok.gov

AGENDA

- CALL TO ORDER**.....Commission’s Chair, Chairman Russell
- ROLL CALL**.....Presiding Appellate Officer, Commissioner Tilly
- BUSINESS**.....Presiding Appellate Officer, Commissioner Tilly

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE BY CHAIRMAN

THE FOLLOWING MATTERS ARE PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION, IF ANY, DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE COMMISSION

A. MINUTES:

- The drafted Minutes of the Regular Appeals Meeting of January 26, 2024 were considered for approval.

Motion: Commissioner Biggs made a motion to approve the Special Appeals Meeting of January 26, 2024, minutes.

Second: Commissioner Tilly

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: MINUTES APPROVED

B. Appeal Hearings before the Commission En Banc from Orders Issued by the Commission's Administrative Law Judges

1. Edith Mosley v. Amazon Fulfillment Services Inc. and American Zurich Insurance Co., File #CM3-2021-01641Q

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Curtin. Daniel M. Davis appeared for the Claimant and Jay L. Jones appeared for the Respondent.

Motion: After reviewing the record, hearing oral arguments, and deliberating, Commissioner Biggs moved to affirm the Administrative Law Judge's order and authorized the Commission's Presiding Appellate Officer to sign and file an order on behalf of the Commission.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ALJ ORDER AFFIRMED

2. Juliette Santos v. The Kaiser Group Inc. DBA Dynamic, CompSource Mutual Insurance Company, Ross Innovative Employment Solutions, and QBE Insurance Corporation, File #CM3A-2021-05456Q

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Inhofe. Anthony F. Gorospe is the attorney of record for the Claimant. Connor Brittingham, Stan Koop, and Nicole S. Bryant appeared for the Respondents.

Motion: After reviewing the record, hearing oral arguments, and deliberating, Commissioner Tilly moved to take preliminary action to reverse the Administrative Law Judge's order in part and reserve the right to request additional briefing from the parties via order of the Chairman.

Second: Commissioner Biggs

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ALJ ORDER AFFIRMED

3. Lewis Buchtel v. Bennett International Group LLC and AIU Insurance Co. (NATIONAL UNION FIRE OF PITTS PA), File #CM3-2023-00209K

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Egan. Pam Cornett appeared for the Claimant and Connie M. Wolfe appeared for the Respondent.

Motion: After reviewing the record, hearing oral arguments, and deliberating, Commissioner Tilly moved to take preliminary action to affirm the order and instruct the Appellate Counsel to draft a proposed order for commission deliberation, to be considered at a later date.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ALJ ORDER AFFIRMED

4. Quintin Del Cavett v. Priority Staffcorp LLC and Compsource Mutual Insurance Company, File #CM3-2023-02428G

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Egan. Daniel J. Talbot appeared for the Claimant and John A. McCaleb appeared for the Respondent.

Motion: After reviewing the record, hearing oral arguments, and deliberating, Commissioner Biggs moved to affirm the Administrative Law Judge's order and authorized the Commission's Presiding Appellate Officer to sign and file an order on behalf of the Commission.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ALJ ORDER AFFIRMED

C. Commission Consideration of Adoption of Final Order in the Following Cases:

1. Allan Hare v. MITF, File #CM3F-2019-04761J

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Curtin. Ray Lahann is the attorney of record for the Claimant and Stefan Wenzel is the attorney of record for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on November 18, 2022. After reviewing the record, hearing oral argument of counsel, and deliberating, the Commission took this case under advisement.

The Commission considered the adoption of the following order in the above referenced case:

This matter comes before the Commission on its *sua sponte* inquiry to determine the need for a stay of appellate proceedings. The instant case involves the same jurisdictional issue raised by the Multiple Injury Trust Fund in *Stricklen v. Multiple Injury Trust Fund*, No. 120,753, which is pending certiorari review by the Oklahoma Supreme Court. In the interest of judicial economy, the Commission finds a stay of appellate proceedings is necessary. It is therefore **ORDERED** that Petitioner's appeal is hereby **STAYED** pending final resolution in *Stricklen* or until further order of the Commission.

Motion: Commissioner Biggs moved to approve the order as circulated.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ORDER APPROVED

2. **Virgil Breeze v. Premium Transportation Group Inc. and XL Insurance America Inc., File #CM3-2021-06787E**

Both parties filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Inhofe. Daniel J. Talbot appeared for the Claimant and R. Jay McAtee appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on April 21, 2023. After reviewing the record, hearing oral argument of counsel, and deliberating, the Commission took this case under advisement.

Motion: Commissioner Biggs moved to approve the order as circulated.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ORDER APPROVED

3. **James Brock v. Starlight Express LLC and Compsource Mutual Ins. Co. (FKA COMPSOURCE OKLAHOMA), File #CM3-2021-04119R**

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Egan. Susan H. Jones appeared for the Claimant and Travis R. Colt appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on September 22, 2023. After reviewing the record, hearing oral arguments, and deliberating, Chairman Russell moved to preliminary action to reverse the order sustaining Respondent's request for dismissal of certain body parts and authorize the Commission's appellate counsel or other staff member to draft a proposed order findings and facts and conclusion of law to be considered for continued action at a future meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Biggs moved to continue this order to the next appeals meeting.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ORDER CONTINUED

4. **Jimmy Mills v. Gary A. Crain Inc. and Imperium Insurance Co., File #CM3-2020-00795Q**

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Curtin. Daniel J. Talbot appeared for the Claimant and R. Jay McAtee appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on September 22, 2023. After reviewing the record, hearing oral arguments, and deliberating, Chairman Russell moved to take this case under advisement.

Motion: Commissioner Biggs moved to continue this order to the next appeals meeting.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ORDER CONTINUED

5. Kevin Power v. Flow Testing Inc. and Compsource Mutual Ins. Co. (FKA COMPSOURCE OKLAHOMA), File #CM3-2020-02016R

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Egan. J. Kord Hammert appeared for the Claimant and David J. Frette appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on September 22, 2023. After reviewing the record, hearing oral arguments, and deliberating, Commissioner Biggs moved to take this case under advisement.

Motion: Commissioner Biggs moved to continue this order to the next appeals meeting.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ORDER CONTINUED

6. Rachel Fritz v. City of Tulsa (OWN RISK #10435), File #CM3-2019-06216R

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Inhofe. Anthony Blair appeared for the Claimant and Jordan S. Ensley appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on December 1, 2023. After reviewing the record, hearing oral arguments, and deliberating, Commissioner Tilly moved to take preliminary action to reverse the Administrative Law Judge's order on the TTD issue.

Motion: Commissioner Biggs moved to continue this order to the next appeals meeting.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ORDER CONTINUED

7. Charles Caul v. Shelton Redi Mix LLC and Ins. Co. of the West, File #CM3-2023-00661K

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Lawyer. Kathryn Black appeared for the Claimant and David Custar appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on January 26, 2024. After reviewing the record, hearing oral arguments, and deliberating, Commissioner Biggs moved to take this case under advisement.

Motion: Commissioner Biggs moved to continue this order to the next appeals meeting.

Second: Chairman Russell

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: ORDER CONTINUED

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Biggs moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:20 a.m.

Second: Chairman Russell.

Those Voting Aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

THE MOTION CARRIED: MEETING ADJOURNED.