# SPECIAL MEETING OF THE OKLAHOMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

### **APPEALS**

Friday, July 31, 2020 9:00 a.m. Commission Chambers 1915 N. Stiles Ave. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma www.wcc.ok.gov

Interim Guidance on Commission Appellate Proceedings

### **AGENDA**

CALL TO ORDER	Presiding Appellate Officer, Chairman Liotta
ROLL CALL	Presiding Appellate Officer, Chairman Liotta
BUSINESS	Presiding Appellate Officer, Chairman Liotta
*STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE BY CHAIRMAN*	

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Interim Guidance on Commission Appellate Proceedings issued by the Commission on June 30, 2020, and in compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, as amended by SB 661 The Commissioners may recess for lunch.

#### A. MINUTES:

• The drafted Minutes of the Special Appeals Meeting of June 19, 2020, will be considered for approval.

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

# B. <u>Appeal Hearings before the Commission En Banc from Orders Issued by the Commission's Administrative Law Judges</u>

The hearings before the Commission en banc will be conducted pursuant to the authority and jurisdiction of the Administrative Workers' Compensation Act, Title 85A O.S. § 1 et seq., and the Workers' Compensation Commission's Permanent Rules, OAC 810. The Commissioners may recess for lunch.

The procedure for the hearings before the Commission en banc is as follows:

• Each side will be allowed ten (10) minutes for oral arguments.

- The appellant will present first. Appellant may divide his or her ten minutes for argument, allowing a portion of that time for rebuttal.
- Both parties are subject to questioning by Commissioners.

## 1. <u>Verla Thompson v. Bar S. Foods Co. and New Hampshire Insurance Co., File #CM2019-03131K</u>

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Egan. Kent Eldridge is the attorney of record for the Claimant and Heather Fagan is the attorney of record for the Respondent.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action; continuing the matter; affirming the order and decision of the Administrative Law Judge and issuing an order to that effect; or taking preliminary action in the matter to reverse, modify, or remand. If the Commissioners do not fully affirm the order of the Administrative Law Judge, the Commission may instruct Appellate Counsel or staff to draft a proposed order to be considered in further deliberations and at a future Commission meeting.

### 2. <u>James Duggan v. Stan Koch & Son Trucking Inc. and Hartford Accident & Indemnity Co.</u>, File #CM2018-00268J

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Inhofe. Susan H. Jones is the attorney of record for the Claimant and Jennifer A. Sloan is the attorney of record for Respondent.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action; continuing the matter; affirming the order and decision of the Administrative Law Judge and issuing an order to that effect; or taking preliminary action in the matter to reverse, modify, or remand. If the Commissioners do not fully affirm the order of the Administrative Law Judge, the Commission may instruct Appellate Counsel or staff to draft a proposed order to be considered in further deliberations and at a future Commission meeting.

#### 3. William McCaine v. City of Oklahoma City (OWN RISK), File #CM2015-02787A

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Curtin. Jeffrey Cooper is the attorney of record for the Claimant. Charles G. Braun and Laurie D. Judy are the attorneys of record for the Respondent.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action; continuing the matter; affirming the order and decision of the Administrative Law Judge and issuing an order to that effect; or taking preliminary action in the matter to reverse, modify, or remand. If the Commissioners do not fully affirm the order of the Administrative Law Judge, the Commission may instruct Appellate Counsel or staff to draft a proposed order to be considered in further deliberations and at a future Commission meeting.

### 4. Terry Garrett v. Multiple Injury Trust Fund, File #CM2015-04717JMIF

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Curtin. Jack G. Zurawik and Micah Felton are the attorneys of record for the Claimant. Richard Cole is the attorney of record for the Respondent.

#### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action; continuing the matter; affirming the order and decision of the Administrative Law Judge and issuing an order to that effect; or taking preliminary action in the matter to reverse, modify, or remand. If the Commissioners do not fully affirm the order of the Administrative Law Judge, the Commission may instruct Appellate Counsel or staff to draft a proposed order to be considered in further deliberations and at a future Commission meeting.

### 5. <u>Kelvin Brister v. Hamm & Phillips Service Co. Inc. and Superior Energy Services</u> Inc. (OWN RISK), File #CM2016-06160H

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Lawyer. John R. Colbert is the attorney of record for the Claimant and Norman Lemonik is the attorney of record for Respondent.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action; continuing the matter; affirming the order and decision of the Administrative Law Judge and issuing an order to that effect; or taking preliminary action in the matter to reverse, modify, or remand. If the Commissioners do not fully affirm the order of the Administrative Law Judge, the Commission may instruct Appellate Counsel or staff to draft a proposed order to be considered in further deliberations and at a future Commission meeting.

### 6. Clarence Shinault v. Multiple Injury Trust Fund, File #CM2016-06670HMIF

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Egan. Cynthia D'Antonio is the attorney of record for the Claimant and Richard Cole is the attorney of record for Respondent.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action; continuing the matter; affirming the order and decision of the Administrative Law Judge and issuing an order to that effect; or taking preliminary action in the matter to reverse, modify, or remand. If the Commissioners do not fully affirm the order of the Administrative Law Judge, the Commission may instruct Appellate Counsel or staff to draft a proposed order to be considered in further deliberations and at a future Commission meeting.

### 7. <u>Terry Dixon v. Johns Tractor Works & Equipment Inc. and Sentry Insurance A</u> Mutual Co., File #CM2019-02104K

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Lawyer. Michael R. Green is the attorney of record for the Claimant and Patrick S. Parr is the attorney of record for Respondent.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action; continuing the matter; affirming the order and decision of the Administrative Law Judge and issuing an order to that effect; or taking preliminary action in the matter to reverse, modify, or remand. If the Commissioners do not fully affirm the order of the Administrative Law Judge, the Commission may instruct Appellate Counsel or staff to draft a proposed order to be considered in further deliberations and at a future Commission meeting.

### 8. Michelle Franze v. Waffle House Oklahoma City and Waffle House Inc. (OWN RISK #16206), File #CM2019-04928Q

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Egan. John R. Colbert is the attorney of record for the Claimant and John D. Valentine is the attorney of record for Respondent.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action; continuing the matter; affirming the order and decision of the Administrative Law Judge and issuing an order to that effect; or taking preliminary action in the matter to reverse, modify, or remand. If the Commissioners do not fully affirm the order of the Administrative Law Judge, the Commission may instruct Appellate Counsel or staff to draft a proposed order to be considered in further deliberations and at a future Commission meeting.

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

# 1. Glenn Stonebridge v. American Airlines Inc. and New Hampshire Insurance Co., File #CM2018-00189L

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Inhofe. Pam Cornett represented the Claimant. Lee Endicott represented for Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on February 21, 2020. After reviewing the record, hearing oral argument of counsel, and deliberating, the Commission took this case under advisement.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action, adopting an order as proposed or as modified at the hearing, or continuing the matter.

# 2. <u>Arthur Monsebais Jr. v. Bryan Lynn Farms and Compsource Mutual Ins. Co. (FKA Compsource Oklahoma) #CM2018-00584L</u>

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Lawyer. Brandon J. Burton appeared for the Claimant and Michael Fagan appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on May 22, 2020. After reviewing the record, hearing oral argument of counsel, and deliberating, the Commission took this case under advisement.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action, adopting an order as proposed or as modified at the hearing, or continuing the matter.

# 3. <u>Diana Burbank v. Tropical Plant Design Inc. and Compsource Mutual Ins. Co. (FKA Compsource Oklahoma)</u>, File #CM2017-01135Q

Claimant and Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Inhofe. Edward Grimes appeared for the Claimant and Cynthia J. Braly appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on June 19, 2020. After reviewing the record, hearing oral argument of counsel, and deliberating, the Commission took this case under advisement.

#### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action, adopting an order as proposed or as modified at the hearing, or continuing the matter.

### 4. Warren Scott Gibson v. City of Tulsa (OWN RISK #10435), File #CM2016-03318A

Respondent filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Inhofe. Michael R. Green appeared for the Claimant. Travis R. Colt appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on May 22, 2020. After reviewing the record, hearing oral argument of counsel, and deliberating, the Commission took this case under advisement.

#### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action, adopting an order as proposed or as modified at the hearing, or continuing the matter.

# 5. <u>Selene Castro v. Cameron International Corp. and Travelers Indemnity Co. of America, File #CM2019-00763Y</u>

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Egan. James G. Devinney appeared for the Claimant. Steven K. Bunting appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on June 19, 2020. After reviewing the record, hearing oral argument of counsel, and deliberating, the Commission took this case under advisement.

### **Possible Action:**

Possible action may include, but is not limited to: taking no action, adopting an order as proposed or as modified at the hearing, or continuing the matter.

# 6. <u>Bennie Herring v. City of Tulsa and Tulsa Fire Department (OWN RISK #10435),</u> File #CM2016-05263A

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Inhofe. Kathryn Black appeared for the Claimant and Travis R. Colt appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on June 19, 2020. After reviewing the record, hearing oral argument of counsel, and deliberating, the Commission took preliminary action to affirm the decision of the Administrative Law Judge with modifications as stipulated by the parties.

### 7. Gail Ross v. Multiple Injury Trust Fund, File #CM2015-03929AMIF

Claimant filed an appeal from the order issued by Administrative Law Judge Egan. Laura Beth Murphy appeared for the Claimant and Jon Derouen appeared for the Respondent.

This case came on for Oral Argument on June 19, 2020. After reviewing the record, hearing oral argument of counsel, and deliberating, the Commission took preliminary action to reverse the Administrative Law Judge's order and instructed Appellate Counsel or other staff member to draft a proposed order to be considered at a future meeting.

#### **D.** Announcements

The Commission's next Dual SIGFB meeting is Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. The Commission's next regular business meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. The Commission's next regular appeals meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 21, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

### ADJOURNMENT......Presiding Appellate Officer, Chairman Liotta