

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

ANTHONY REYES, *Applicant*

vs.

**XPO LOGISTICS SUPPLY CHAIN, INC.;
EVEREST NATIONAL INSURANCE, administered by CORVEL, *Defendants***

**Adjudication Number: ADJ16334598
Pomona District Office**

**OPINION AND ORDER
GRANTING PETITION
FOR REMOVAL
AND DECISION
AFTER REMOVAL**

Applicant has filed a petition for removal from the order taking the matter off calendar issued on April 24, 2025, by the workers' compensation administrative law judge (WCJ).

Applicant contends that the issue of additional panels is ripe for adjudication.

We have not received an Answer from defendant. The WCJ filed a Report and Recommendation on Petition for Removal (Report) recommending that we deny removal.

We have considered the allegations of the Petition for Removal and the contents of the WCJ's Report. Based on our review of the record we will grant removal and as our Decision After Removal, we will rescind the April 24, 2025 order taking the matter off calendar and return this matter to the trial level to create a record.

Removal is an extraordinary remedy rarely exercised by the Appeals Board. (*Cortez v. Workers' Comp. Appeals Bd.* (2006) 136 Cal.App.4th 596, 599, fn. 5 [71 Cal.Comp.Cases 155]; *Kleemann v. Workers' Comp. Appeals Bd.* (2005) 127 Cal.App.4th 274, 280, fn. 2 [70 Cal.Comp.Cases 133].) The Appeals Board will grant removal only if the petitioner shows that substantial prejudice or irreparable harm will result if removal is not granted. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, 10955(a); see also *Cortez, supra*; *Kleemann, supra*.) Also, the petitioner must demonstrate that reconsideration will not be an adequate remedy if a final decision adverse to the petitioner

ultimately issues. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 10955(a).) Here, the WCJ ordered the matter off and deferred the issue of additional panels. The trial judge issued this order without creating a record or explaining the need for further discovery on the issue of additional panels, the order violates the parties right to due process, which constitutes irreparable harm. Thus, removal is proper in this case.

Decisions of the Appeals Board “must be based on admitted evidence in the record.” (*Hamilton v. Lockheed Corporation (Hamilton)* (2001) 66 Cal.Comp.Cases 473, 476 (Appeals Board en banc).) Furthermore, decisions of the Appeals Board must be supported by substantial evidence. (Lab. Code, §§ 5903, 5952(d); *Lamb v. Workmen’s Comp. Appeals Bd.* (1974) 11 Cal.3d 274 [39 Cal.Comp.Cases 310]; *Garza v. Workmen’s Comp. Appeals Bd.* (1970) 3 Cal.3d 312 [35 Cal.Comp.Cases 500]; *LeVesque v. Workmen’s Comp. Appeals Bd.* (1970) 1 Cal.3d 627 [35 Cal.Comp.Cases 16].) An adequate and complete record is necessary to understand the basis for the WCJ’s decision. (Lab. Code, § 5313; see also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 10761.)

Here, applicant has petitioned for an order of additional panels. The WCJ deferred this issue, but no record supports this order. No opinion on decision issued in conjunction with the order. The order is not supported and thus we will rescind the order taking the matter off calendar and return this matter to the trial level so that a record can be created.

We make no judgment at this time whether additional panels are warranted since without a formal record available to review, we have no ability to make this determination.

Accordingly, we grant removal and as our Decision After Removal, we rescind the April 24, 2025 order taking the matter off calendar and return this matter to the trial level to create a record.

For the foregoing reasons,

IT IS ORDERED that applicant’s Petition for Removal from the order taking the matter off calendar issued on April 24, 2025, by the WCJ is **GRANTED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED as the Decision After Removal of the Workers’ Compensation Appeals Board that the order taking the matter off calendar issued on April 24, 2025, by the WCJ is **RESCINDED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this matter is **RETURNED** to the trial level for further proceedings.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD

/s/ KATHERINE WILLIAMS DODD, COMMISSIONER

I CONCUR,

/s/ KATHERINE A. ZALEWSKI, CHAIR

/s/ JOSÉ H. RAZO, COMMISSIONER



DATED AND FILED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

October 13, 2025

SERVICE MADE ON THE ABOVE DATE ON THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW AT THEIR ADDRESSES SHOWN ON THE CURRENT OFFICIAL ADDRESS RECORD.

**ANTHONY REYES
ARNULFO GUTIERREZ LAW PONOMA
DAVID JANE LAW LOS ANGELES**

EDL/mt

*I certify that I affixed the official seal of
the Workers' Compensation Appeals
Board to this original decision on this
date. o.o*