

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

PHYLLIS FELICIT CORONADO, *Applicant*

vs.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES,
permissibly self-insured, administered by
SEDGWICK CLAIMS MANAGEMENT SERVICES, *Defendants***

**Adjudication Number: ADJ8270157
Los Angeles District Office**

**OPINION AND DECISION
AFTER RECONSIDERATION**

Applicant filed a Petition for Reconsideration (Petition) of the Findings of Fact and Order issued by the workers' compensation administrative law judge (WCJ) on May 14, 2024.

In that decision, the WCJ found that the request for authorization (RFA) dated January 18, 2018 by Dr. Ahmed for home health services was not timely denied by Utilization Review (UR) and thus the WCAB retains jurisdiction over the treatment request. The WCJ further found that home health care (HHC) services were reasonable and necessary for the period January 18, 2018 through June 27, 2019, but not on an ongoing basis. The lien of Lucila Alfaro for HHC services provided to applicant for the period March 1, 2018 to February 28, 2022 was disallowed, as were attorney fees for that same period of time.

Petitioner contends that the WCJ erred in finding applicant was entitled to reasonable and necessary home health care per Dr. Ahmed, but yet limited same to the period January 18, 2018 through June 27, 2019, since the RFA was for the HHC to continue indefinitely. Petitioner also asserts that the rationale of *Patterson*¹ applies in this case, and thus the burden is on defendant to prove that home health care services are no longer required at this time. (Petition, pp. 1-2, 4.)

Finally, petitioner alleges that in disallowing the lien of Lucila Alfaro, such lien claimant's due process rights were violated as lien claimants billing was introduced by the Applicant as

¹ *Patterson v. The Oaks Farm* (2014) 79 Cal.Comp.Cases 910 (significant panel decision.)

evidence only for the purpose of showing that “home care was conducted retroactively by a home care provider, to satisfy the reasonableness and necessity.” (Petition, p. 5-7.)

We have received an Answer from defendant. The WCJ prepared a Report and Recommendation on Petition for Reconsideration (Report), recommending that the Petition be denied.

On July 22, 2024, we issued an interim non-final order granting the petition, and encouraged the parties to participate in the Appeals Board’s voluntary mediation program.

Thereafter, the parties agreed to participate in the aforementioned mediation program to discuss the issues raised.

On January 22, 2025, the parties advised that a proposed settlement by Compromise and Release (C&R) had been reached, and requested return of the matter to the trial level for review of the proposed settlement.

In order to expedite review and approval of the parties’ settlement agreement, we will rescind the May 14, 2024 Findings and Order, and return this matter to the WCJ to consider the C&R of the parties. The WCJ may conduct such further proceedings as is deemed appropriate.

Our decision should not be construed as a ruling on the merits of the petition for reconsideration. If the WCJ does not approve the settlement, the WCJ can issue an order reinstating her decision and any aggrieved party may timely seek reconsideration from the reinstated decision.

Finally, we commend the parties for successfully resolving this matter by joint agreement, without the need for further action by the Appeals Board.

For the foregoing reasons,

IT IS ORDERED as the Decision After Reconsideration of the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board that the Findings and Order issued in this matter on May 14, 2024, be **RESCINDED**, and that this matter be **RETURNED** to the workers' compensation administrative law judge to consider the Compromise and Release and for such further proceedings as is deemed appropriate.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD

/s/ KATHERINE WILLIAMS DODD, COMMISSIONER

I CONCUR,

/s/ JOSEPH V. CAPURRO, COMMISSIONER

/s/ CRAIG SNELLINGS, COMMISSIONER



DATED AND FILED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

January 29, 2025

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

**PHYLLIS FELICIT CORONADO
GLAUBER BERENSON VEGO
LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL MANSFIELD**

LAS/bp

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