

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

STEVE BROWN, *Applicant*

vs.

SUBSEQUENT INJURIES BENEFITS TRUST FUND (SIBTF), *Defendants*

**Adjudication Number: ADJ9068361
Anaheim District Office**

**OPINION AND DECISION
AFTER RECONSIDERATION**

Applicant petitioned for reconsideration of the Findings and Order issued May 21, 2025, by the workers' compensation administrative law judge (WCJ). Therein, the WCJ found that applicant's application for Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund (SIBTF) benefits was not timely filed. Based on this finding, the WCJ ordered that applicant take nothing by way of the SIBTF application.

Defendant filed an answer.

The WCJ prepared a Report and Recommendation on Petition for Reconsideration (Report), recommending that the Petition be denied.

Thereafter, we issued an order granting the petition, pending further review of the entire record.

Subsequently, the parties agreed to participate in our voluntary mediation program to discuss the issues raised.

On April 13, 2026, 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 21, 2025 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 their original decision and any aggrieved person may timely seek reconsideration of 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Decision After Reconsideration of the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board that the WCJ's decision of May 21, 2025 is **RESCINDED** and this matter be **RETURNED** to the workers' compensation administrative law judge to consider the Compromise and Release and for such further proceedings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 A. ZALEWSKI, CHAIR

I CONCUR,

/s/ KATHERINE WILLIAMS DODD, COMMISSIONER

/s/ JOSEPH V. CAPURRO, COMMISSIONER



DATED AND FILED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 17, 2026

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

**LAW OFFICES OF EDWARD J. SINGER, APLC
STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
RELATIONS OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR – LEGAL UNIT**

VC/bp

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