

NOT DESIGNATED FOR PUBLICATION

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

CLAIM NO. G905274

FRANKLIN M. BLOWERS, EMPLOYEE	CLAIMANT
GERDAU MACSTEEL, EMPLOYER	RESPONDENT
GALLAGHER BASSETT, INSURANCE CARRIER/TPA	RESPONDENT

OPINION FILED OCTOBER 8, 2021

Upon review before the FULL COMMISSION in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas.

Claimant represented by the HONORABLE LAURA BETH YORK, Attorney at Law, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Respondents represented by the HONORABLE LEE J. MULDROW, Attorney at Law, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Decision of Administrative Law Judge: Affirmed and Adopted.

OPINION AND ORDER

Respondents appeal an opinion and order of the Administrative Law Judge filed May 4, 2021. In said order, the Administrative Law Judge made the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

1. The stipulations agreed to by the parties at a pre-hearing conference conducted on December 16, 2020 and contained in a pre-hearing order filed that same date are hereby accepted as fact.
2. Claimant has met his burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that he is entitled to payment of permanent partial disability benefits in an

amount equal to 11% to the body as a whole for permanent impairment resulting from his compensable injury.

3. Respondent has controverted claimant's entitlement to permanent partial disability benefits.

We have carefully conducted a *de novo* review of the entire record herein and it is our opinion that the Administrative Law Judge's decision is supported by a preponderance of the credible evidence, correctly applies the law, and should be affirmed. Specifically, we find from a preponderance of the evidence that the findings of fact made by the Administrative Law Judge are correct and they are, therefore, adopted by the Full Commission.

All accrued benefits shall be paid in a lump sum without discount and with interest thereon at the lawful rate from the date of the Administrative Law Judge's decision in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 11-9-809 (Repl. 2012).

For prevailing on this appeal before the Full Commission, claimant's attorney is entitled to fees for legal services in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 11-9-715 (Repl. 2012). For prevailing on appeal to the Full Commission, the claimant's attorney is entitled to an additional fee of five hundred dollars (\$500), pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §11-9-715(b)(Repl. 2012).

Therefore, we affirm and adopt the May 4, 2021 decision of the Administrative Law Judge, including all findings and conclusions therein, as the decision of the Full Commission on appeal.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

SCOTTY DALE DOUTHIT, Chairman

CHRISTOPHER L. PALMER, Commissioner

M. SCOTT WILLHITE, Commissioner