

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION**

**WCC NO. H003431**

<b>DALE BAKER, Employee</b>	<b>CLAIMANT</b>
<b>NORTHWEST ARKANSAS NEWSPAPERS, LLC, Employer</b>	<b>RESPONDENT</b>
<b>GALLAGHER BASSETT SERVICES, INC., Carrier/TPA</b>	<b>RESPONDENT</b>

**OPINION/ORDER FILED AUGUST 16, 2021**

Hearing before ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE ERIC PAUL WELLS, in Springdale, Washington County, Arkansas.

Claimant appearing *pro se*.

Respondents represented by RICK BEHRING, JR., Attorney at Law, Little Rock, Arkansas.

**OPINION/ORDER**

This case comes on for review following a hearing on respondents' Motion to Dismiss.

Claimant filed a Form AR-C in this matter on June 11, 2020 alleging an injury to his left knee on August 18, 2019. The respondents initially accepted the claim as a compensable medical only claim, but subsequently denied the claim in its entirety. Claimant retained an attorney, and on December 10, 2020 Attorney Kinder filed an additional Form AR-C. No hearing was requested, and at claimant's request Attorney Kinder filed a motion to withdraw as counsel which was granted by Order of the Commission dated May 26, 2021. On June 14, 2021, the respondents filed a Motion to Dismiss this claim and a hearing was scheduled for August 10, 2021. Claimant appeared at the hearing on respondents' motion and indicated that he objected to a dismissal of his claim, and requested a hearing on his entitlement to medical treatment.

After my review of respondents' Motion to Dismiss, the claimant's response thereto wherein he objected to said dismissal and requested a hearing on his entitlement to medical benefits, and all other

matters properly before the Commission, I find that respondents' Motion to Dismiss this claim should be and hereby is denied.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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**HONORABLE ERIC PAUL WELLS  
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE**