BEFORE THE ARKANSAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION CLAIM NO.: H104258

VICTORIA RYLES, Employee

CLAIMANT

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF ARK., INC., Self-Insured Employer

RESPONDENT

ATA WORKERS' COMPENSATION SELF-INSURED TRUST, Carrier

RESPONDENT

RISK MANAGEMENT RESOURCES, TPA

RESPONDENT

OPINION AND ORDER FILED JUNE 30, 2022

Hearing conducted before ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE TERRY DON LUCY, in Pulaski County, Arkansas.

Counsel for the Claimant: pro se.

<u>Counsel for the Respondents:</u> HONORABLE CAROL L. WORLEY AND HONORABLE JARROD S. PARRISH, Attorney at Law, Little Rock, Arkansas.

The above-captioned matter came on for a hearing on June 28, 2022, before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge with respect to the Respondents' Motion to Dismiss filed on February 28, 2022, subsequently deemed renewed by the undersigned Administrative Law Judge on May 23, 2022. When the hall was sounded at the appointed time for the hearing, the Claimant was not present for such, nor did she appear during the ensuing proceedings. The Respondents appeared through one of their counsels, the Honorable Jarrod S. Parrish. During the proceedings, the Commission's file in this matter was deemed incorporated by reference into the record without objection for purposes of this Opinion and Order. Respondents' Exhibit No. 1 was likewise admitted into the record without objection.

Both the Commission's file and Respondents' Exhibit No. 1 reflect that the Claimant advised the Commission by way of correspondence dated and filed May 18, 2022, that "no hearing from Judge Lucy is necessary have a good day." (See Commission file and RX 1 at 19)

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The Commission's file further reflects that notice of the scheduled hearing was sent by

the Commission to the parties via first-class and certified mail dated May 24, 2022. Also

according to the Commission's file, and according to records provided to the Commission by the

United States' Postal Service, such notice was received at the Claimant's last known address on

June 11, 2022.

Given the Claimant's express indication that no hearing was necessary, presumably with

respect to the merits of her claim, and her corresponding failure to appear at the hearing held on

June 28, 2022, despite obvious receipt of notice of such, I specifically find that the Claimant has

failed to prosecute her claim in a timely manner and that dismissal thereof without prejudice is

warranted pursuant to Commission Rule 099.13, and hereby grant the Respondents' Motion.

The above-captioned matter is respectfully dismissed without prejudice effective June 28,

2022, and the Respondents are ordered and directed to pay the court reporter's fee within thirty

days of billing for such.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

TERRY DON LUCY

Administrative Law Judge

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