

**BEFORE THE ARKANSAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
CLAIM NO.: G703536**

SHEILA SANDERS, Employee CLAIMANT

LEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, Self-Insured Employer RESPONDENT

ARKANSAS SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION
WORKERS' COMPENSATION TRUST, Carrier/TPA RESPONDENT

OPINION AND ORDER FILED APRIL 27, 2021

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

Counsel for the Claimant: Honorable Andy L. Caldwell, Attorney at Law, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Counsel for the Respondents: Honorable Carol L. Worley and Honorable Melissa Wood; Attorneys at Law, Little Rock, Arkansas.

The above-captioned matter came on for a hearing on April 22, 2021, with respect to the parties' Joint Motion to Dismiss filed with the Commission on March 31, 2021. The Commission's file in the above-captioned matter is deemed incorporated by reference into the record and for purposes of this Opinion and Order.

During the hearing, Respondents' Exhibit No. 1 was introduced without objection. (TR 4-5) Neither the Claimant nor her Counsel were present when the hall was sounded (TR 4), nor did they appear during the ensuing proceedings.

However, it is noted and is clear from Respondents' Exhibit No. 1 and the Commission's file that the Claimant and her Counsel waived their appearance at the scheduled hearing by way of an electronic communication from the latter dated April 21, 2021. (RX 1 at 7) Accordingly, and given that the present Motion is a joint one between the parties with no objection thereto, I find that dismissal of the above-captioned matter without prejudice is appropriate pursuant to Commission Rule 099.13 and Ark. Code §11-9-702, and that the parties' Joint Motion for such

Sanders -- G703536

should be, and hereby is, granted effective April 22, 2021.

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