

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

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ANA ALVAREZ, *Applicant*

vs.

**SANTA MARIA BONITA SCHOOL DISTRICT, permissibly self-insured;
administered by WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADMINISTRATORS, *Defendants***

**Adjudication Number: ADJ20093698
Santa Barbara District Office**

**OPINION AND ORDER
DISMISSING PETITION
FOR REMOVAL**

On March 26, 2025, a workers' compensation administrative law judge (WCJ) issued an order setting this matter for trial.

On April 7, 2025, applicant filed a Petition for Removal in response to the order contending that the order caused significant prejudice and irreparable harm. We note that when a party raises an issue at a mandatory settlement conference, but the case is set for trial, the party will have the opportunity to raise that issue at trial, so that under those circumstances, there is likely no significant prejudice or irreparable harm.

On May 14, 2025, the parties proceeded to trial.

Yet, we have not received notice from applicant that the petition is withdrawn. This lack of action on applicant's part causes delays and wastes the resources of the Appeals Board. In the future, applicant is reminded that the Appeals Board must be notified, and the petition for removal should be immediately withdrawn when the parties have proceeded to trial.

Accordingly, the petition for removal is now moot, and we will dismiss the petition.

For the foregoing reasons,

IT IS ORDERED that the Petition for Removal is **DISMISSED**.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD

/s/ JOSEPH V. CAPURRO, COMMISSIONER

I CONCUR,

/s/ ANNE SCHMITZ, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

/s/ PAUL F. KELLY, COMMISSIONER



DATED AND FILED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

September 10, 2025

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

**ANA ALVAREZ
STRAUSSNER SHERMAN LONNE TREGER HELQUIST
GOLDMAN MAGDALIN STRAATSMA, LLP**

AS/mc

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