

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

ROBERT BROWN, *Applicant*

vs.

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, Legally Uninsured;
STATE COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND, *Defendants***

**Adjudication Numbers: ADJ4698250 (VNO 0548180); ADJ4211582 (VNO 0515892);
ADJ4128894 (VNO 0447635); ADJ2306485 (VNO 0478103); ADJ2205033 (VNO 0451108);
ADJ1950745 (VNO 0478101); ADJ1901291 (VNO 0478102); ADJ7914357**

Van Nuys District Office

**OPINION AND DECISION
AFTER RECONSIDERATION**

Defendant State of California, Department of Transportation petitions for reconsideration of the Joint Findings, Award and Orders issued by the workers' compensation administrative law judge (WCJ) in this matter on April 27, 2023. In that decision, the WCJ found that applicant sustained injuries to his knees, left shoulder, lumbar spine, right elbow and right arm arising out of and in the course of his employment by defendant as highway maintenance worker on April 30, 2001, May 9, 2001, May 15, 2001, March 29, 2002, June 3, 2005, June 5, 2011, and during the periods March 29, 2001 to March 29, 2002 and November 2000 to June 5, 2011, resulting in permanent total disability and need of further medical treatment.

Defendant contends in its petition for reconsideration that the WCJ erred in finding that applicant's injuries combined to cause permanent total disability.

We granted reconsideration to further study the factual and legal issues presented.

Subsequently, the parties participated in a commissioners' settlement conference at our request.

On September 23, 2025, the parties filed a Compromise and Release in these cases.

In order to expedite review and approval of the Compromise and Release, we will rescind the April 27, 2023 Joint Findings, Award and Orders and return this matter to the trial level so that

the WCJ can consider the Compromise and Release. The WCJ may conduct such further proceedings as they deem appropriate.

Our decision should not be construed as a ruling on the merits of the petition for reconsideration. If the WCJ does not approve the Compromise and Release, they can issue an order reinstating the decision and any aggrieved party may timely seek reconsideration from the reinstated decision.

Finally, we commend the parties for successfully resolving this matter without the need of further litigation.

For the foregoing reasons,

IT IS ORDERED as the Decision After Reconsideration of the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board that the Joint Findings, Award and Orders issued on April 27, 2023, be **RESCINDED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this matter be **RETURNED** to the workers' compensation administrative law judge for further proceedings consistent with this opinion.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD

/s/ KATHERINE WILLIAMS DODD, COMMISSIONER

I CONCUR,

/s/ ANNE SCHMITZ, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

/s/ JOSÉ H. RAZO, COMMISSIONER



DATED AND FILED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

October 8, 2025

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

**ROBERT BROWN
LAW OFFICES OF KROPACH & KROPACH
STATE COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND**

DH/ara

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