

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

ELIAS GALDAMEZ, *Applicant*

vs.

**COMMERCIAL SHEET METAL WORKS;
HARTFORD CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY, A SUBSIDIARY OF THE
HARTFORD; INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE WEST, *Defendants***

**Adjudication Numbers: ADJ8818515, ADJ8562723
Los Angeles District Office**

**OPINION AND ORDER
DENYING PETITION
FOR REMOVAL**

Applicant has filed a petition for removal from the order of continuance issued on April 8, 2026, by the workers' compensation administrative law judge (WCJ).

Applicant contends that the matter is ready to proceed to trial.

We have not received an Answer from defendant. The WCJ filed a Report and Recommendation on Petition for Removal (Report) recommending that we deny removal.

We have considered the allegations of the Petition for Removal and the contents of the WCJ's Report. Based on our review of the record and based upon the WCJ's analysis of the merits of petitioner's arguments in the WCJ's Report, we will deny removal.

Removal is an extraordinary remedy rarely exercised by the Appeals Board. (*Cortez v. Workers' Comp. Appeals Bd.* (2006) 136 Cal.App.4th 596, 599, fn. 5 [71 Cal.Comp.Cases 155]; *Kleemann v. Workers' Comp. Appeals Bd.* (2005) 127 Cal.App.4th 274, 280, fn. 2 [70 Cal.Comp.Cases 133].) The Appeals Board will grant removal only if the petitioner shows that substantial prejudice or irreparable harm will result if removal is not granted. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, 10955(a); see also *Cortez, supra*; *Kleemann, supra*.) Also, the petitioner must demonstrate that reconsideration will not be an adequate remedy if a final decision adverse to the petitioner ultimately issues. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 10955(a).) Here, based upon the WCJ's analysis of the

merits of petitioner's arguments, we are not persuaded that substantial prejudice or irreparable harm will result if removal is denied and/or that reconsideration will not be an adequate remedy if the matter ultimately proceeds to a final decision adverse to petitioner.

Accordingly, we deny removal.

For the foregoing reasons,

IT IS ORDERED that applicant's Petition for Removal from the order of continuance issued on April 8, 2026, by the WCJ is **DENIED**.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD

/s/ ANNE SCHMITZ, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

I CONCUR,

/s/ CRAIG L. SNELLINGS, COMMISSIONER

/s/ KATHERINE WILLIAMS DODD, COMMISSIONER



DATED AND FILED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 30, 2026

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

**ELIAS GALDAMEZ
MOORE & ASSOCIATES
BRADFORD BARTHEL
TROVILLION INVEISS**

EDL/mt

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