

WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ERICA PULIDO, *Applicant*

vs.

**CAPABUNGA, INC.; PROCENTURY INSURANCE
administered by ILLINOIS MIDWEST INSURANCE AGENCY, *Defendants***

**Adjudication Number: ADJ13705745
Santa Rosa District Office**

**OPINION AND DECISION
AFTER RECONSIDERATION**

Defendant has petitioned for reconsideration of the Amended Findings and Award issued April 10, 2023, by the workers' compensation administrative law judge (WCJ). In that decision, the WCJ found that applicant sustained injury to her cervical spine, thoracic spine, bilateral shoulders, and upper extremities, as a machine feeder, while employed by Capabunga. The WCJ further found that applicant's injury caused permanent disability of 71% after apportionment.

Defendant contends, in relevant part, that the WCJ erred in finding permanent disability (PD) of 71% as the record lacks substantial medical evidence in support of same.

Applicant filed an answer. The WCJ issued a report recommending that defendant's Petition for Reconsideration be denied.

On June 15, 2023, we granted reconsideration in order to further study the issues raised in this matter.

Thereafter, the parties agreed to participate in our voluntary mediation program to discuss the issues raised.

On March 10, 2026, the parties advised that a proposed settlement by Compromise and Release (C&R) had been reached and requested return of the matter to the trial level for review of the proposed settlement.

In order to expedite review and approval of the parties' settlement agreement, we will rescind the April 10, 2023 Amended Findings and Award, and return this matter to the WCJ to consider the C&R of the parties. The WCJ may conduct such further proceedings as is deemed

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 settlement, the WCJ 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 by joint agreement, without the need for further action by the Appeals Board.

For the foregoing reasons,

IT IS ORDERED as the Decision After Reconsideration of the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board that the WCJ's decision of April 10, 2023 is **RESCINDED** and this matter be **RETURNED** to the workers' compensation administrative law judge to consider the Compromise and Release and for such further proceedings as is deemed appropriate.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD

/s/ JOSÉ H. RAZO, COMMISSIONER

I CONCUR,

/s/ KATHERINE WILLIAMS DODD, COMMISSIONER

/s/ KATHERINE A. ZALEWSKI, CHAIR



DATED AND FILED AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

MARCH 19, 2026

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

**ERICA PULIDO
KNEISLER & SCHONDEL
LAW OFFICES OF BRADFORD & BARTHEL, LLP**

VC/cs

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

CS