

WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SHANTE BOSTIC, *Applicant*

vs.

GUITTARD CHOCOLATE COMPANY;
TRAVELERS PROPERTY CASUALTY COMPANY OF AMERICA, *Defendants*

Adjudication Number: ADJ19948405
Oakland District Office

**OPINION AND ORDERS
DISMISSING PETITION
FOR DISQUALIFICATION
AND DISMISSING PETITION
FOR REMOVAL**

On October 31, 2025, the presiding workers' compensation administration law judge (PWCJ) issued an order changing venue of this matter to the Oakland district office. Despite this order, applicant in pro per filed a Petition for Disqualification of the assigned WCJ in the San Francisco district office. In her Report and Recommendation (Report), the San Francisco WCJ explained in relevant part that the issue was now moot because the case was to be transferred to the Oakland district office. As the case is no longer assigned to the San Francisco WCJ, the Petition for Disqualification is moot, and we will dismiss it.

Applicant filed a Petition for Removal on December 1, 2025. Among the issues applicant apparently wishes to have clarified is the WCJ's "rulings." Notably, the sole orders issued by the WCJ were dated September 3, 2025, appointing a replacement qualified medical evaluator panel and taking the matter off calendar. There are 30 days allowed within which to file a petition for removal from a "non-final" decision that has been served by mail upon an address outside of California. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, §§ 10605(a)(1), 10955(a).) This time limit is extended to the next business day if the last day for filing falls on a weekend or holiday. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 10600.) To be timely, however, a petition for removal must be filed with (i.e., received by) the WCAB within the time allowed; proof that the petition was mailed (posted) within that period is

insufficient. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, §§ 10615(b), 10940(a).) The Petition in this matter was filed on December 1, 2025. This was more than 30 days after the service of the WCJ's orders on September 9, 2025 and beyond whatever extension of time, if any, applicant might have been entitled to under WCAB Rule 10600. Thus, we will dismiss the Petition for Removal.

Accordingly, we dismiss the Petition for Disqualification, and we dismiss the Petition for Removal.

For the foregoing reasons,

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

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

JANUARY 16, 2026

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

**SHANTE BOSTIC, IN PRO PER
LAUGHLIN, FALBO, LEVY & MORESI LLP
URIARTE & CARR LLP**

AS/mc

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