Silberman Law Orange Susan Silberman (714) 453-0345 svs@silbermanlaw.org

SILBERMAN LAW OFFICES, LLP

8792

POLANCO (SAMUEL) V. WEST COAST DRYWALL & PAINT

Proof of Service

WCAB #: ADJ8067791 Claim #: E2805003 SSN #: 604-18-3300

I am employed in the County of Orange, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business address is 150 N. Feldner, Orange CA 92868.

Finding & Order Opinion on Decision

On 3/14/2014 I served the foregoing document(s) on the interested parties in this action by placing a true copy thereon enclosed in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid in the United States mail at 150 N. Feldner, Orange California, addressed as follows:

Amy Suehiro LOS ANGELES COUNTY DA OFFICE

201 North Figueroa Street 15 floor

Los Angeles CA 90012-

Scott Adam

CHIROPRACTOR

23341 Golden Springs Dr

Diamond Bar CA 91766-

John Blakely

WEST COAST PAINTING & DRYWALL

1611 Seventh Street

Riverside CA 92507

Rami Pathi

MEDICAL OFFICES

18145 Us Hway 18 #D

Apple Valley CA 92307-

JAM MEDICAL

6404 Wilshire Blvd. #104B

Los Angeles CA 90048-

QUALTIY INTERPRETING INC.

4601 Wilshire Blvd. 3rd Floor

Los Angeles CA 90010-

NONINVASIVE THERAPEUTICS INC.

4601 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 300

Los Angeles CA 90010-

PROEX DIAGNOSTICS

1146 N. Central Ave. #106

Glendale CA 91202-

Diane Milne

CNA CLAIMS PLUS INC.

P.O. Box 8317

Chicago II 60680

Samuel Polanco

P&C

14422 Savanna St.

Adelanto CA 92371

Louis Bermeo

BERMEO & MERLUZA

1146 N Central Ave # 525

Glendale CA 91202-

MEDILOGIC INCORPORATED

P.O. Box 1334

Redondo Beahc CA 90279-0

MARQUEE INTERPRETERING LLC

4601 Wilshire Blvd 3rd floor

Los Angeles CA 90010-

TRANSLATING SOLUTIONS

2801 Ocean Park Blvd Ste 393

Santa Ana CA 90405-

Polanco (Samuel) v. West Coast Drywal

ADJ8067791

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SUPREMECOPY PO Box 2849 Van Nuys CA 91404-2849

Maritza Ochoa LANDMARK MEDICAL RANCHO CUCAMO 9668 Milliken Ave Ste 104-249 Rancho Cucamonga CA 91730-

PHARMA FINANCE LLC 7211 Haven Ave., #E-354 Alta Loma CA 91701-

LAB FOR PHYSICIANS 1535 S. D Street #210 San Bernardino CA 92408-

L.I.N. LEGAL INTERPRETING 1830 N. Berendo Street Los Angeles CA 90027-

Kambiz Hannani MEDICAL OFFICES 1135 S. Sunset Ave. #209 West Covina CA 91790-

CURT'S COMPOUNDING PHARMACY 18134 Mt. Washington Fountain Valley CA 92708HEALTHCARE FINANCE RANCHO CU 7349 Milliken Ave Ste 140 96 Rancho Cucamonga CA 91730-

HEALTH SOLUTIONS MEDICAL GROU 18101 Von Karman Ave Ste 300 Irvine CA 92612-

MEDICAL LIEN MANAGEMENT P.O. Box 6829 Norco CA 92860-

INTEGRATED HEALTH SERVICES 1200 North Tustin #255 Santa Ana CA 92705-

Justin Paquette
MEDICAL OFFICES
8670 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 206
Beverly Hills CA 90211-

ONTARIO HEALTH CLINIC PO Box 76002 Anaheim CA 92809-7602

ESTEVEZ INTERPRETING INC PO Box 1607 Riverside CA 92502-1607

I certify and declare under penalty of perjury that it is my belief that the foregoing is true and correct

Executed on 3/14/2014 at Orange, California.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA Division of Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation Appeals Board

SAMUEL POLANCO,

Case No. ADJ8067791

Applicant,

vs.

FINDINGS AND ORDER

WEST COAST DRYWALL & PAINT, CNA CLAIMS PLUS,

Defendants.

Law Office of Robert Ozeran By: Robert Ozeran, Esq., Attorneys for Applicant

Silberman Law Offices, LLP By: Susan W. Silberman, Ph.D., Esq., Attorneys for Defendant

An application having been filed herein; all parties having appeared in the above entitled matter having been heard and submitted, the Honorable TRACY L. HUGHES, Workers' Compensation Administrative Law Judge, now decides as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Samuel Polanco, born February 26, 1954, while employed during the period June 19, 2010 through June 10, 2011, by West Coast Drywall and Paint, claims to have sustained injury arising out of and in the course of employment to his back, head, eye, wrist, hand, right shoulder, right elbow, right knee, both feet, heart, and sleep.
- 2. It is found the defendants had a valid post-termination defense pursuant to Labor Code Section 3600(a)(10) and as such the applicant's claim is barred.
 - 3. The applicant did not prove injury AOE/COE.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED having found the applicant's claim barred by Labor Code Section 3600(a)(10) that applicant shall take nothing further by the claim filed herein.

Date: 3/13/2014

TRACY L. HUGHES WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

TH:kh

Dated: 3/13/2014

By: K. Hall

SERVICE:

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Enclosure: Service List

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Division of Workers' Compensation Workers' Compensation Appeals Board

CASE NUMBER: ADJ8067791

SAMUEL POLANCO

-vs.-

WEST COAST DRYWALL & PAINT,

CNA CLAIMS PLUS,

WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

TRACY L. HUGHES

DATE: March 11, 2014

OPINION ON DECISION

The soul issues for trial were limited to:

- 1. Injury AOE/COE;
- 2. Whether the defendant had a valid post-termination defense pursuant to Labor Code Section 3600(a)(10).

INJURY AOE/COE & POST-TERMINATION DEFENSE

Labor Code Section 3600(a) (10) states that no compensation shall be paid for non-psychiatric injuries where the claim for compensation is filed after notice of termination or layoff, including voluntary layoff, and the claim is for an injury occurring prior to the time of notice of termination or layoff, unless the employee can demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that one or more of the following conditions apply:

- the employer has notice of the injury prior to the notice of termination or layoff;
- the employee's medical records, existing prior to the notice of termination or layoff, contain evidence of the injury;
- the date of injury is subsequent to the date of the notice of termination or layoff, but prior to the effective date of the termination or layoff; and/or
- The date of injury is subsequent to the date of the notice of termination or layoff.

In the instant matter, there was no documentation in the medical records provided to me that

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the applicant sought medical treatment for any of the body parts he alleged injured as a result of his employment with the defendant prior to his notice of termination. Likewise, there is no documentary evidence that the applicant alleged or advised his employer of a work injury prior to his notice of termination.

By stipulation of the parties they agreed the applicant's last day of work was June 10, 2011. The applicant was terminated on June 10, 2011. While testifying on direct examination, the applicant stated he did not report a work injury to his employer. The first time the applicant told his employer of a work injury was when he filed an employee claim form on August 28, 2011.

While testifying on cross-examination, the applicant denied that he received medical treatment for any parts of body he alleged injured as a result of his employment with the defendant. Likewise, the applicant did not receive treatment for any body parts alleged injured as a result of his employment prior to his termination with the defendant.

While testifying on direct examination, the applicant stated he believed he was injured at work while removing material off a rack. He experienced pain in his left knee, back and neck. However, he did not report an injury or the pain to his employer. This incident occurred on June 19, 2010.

Based on the forgoing, I find that the defendant has a valid post-termination defense. The applicant presented no medical records which evidenced injury or treatment to any body parts he alleged injured as a result of his employment with the defendant prior to his termination from West Coast Drywall. He provided no evidence that the employer knew of any such injury prior to his termination from employment. I find that any claim of injury to the back, head, eye, wrist, hand, right shoulder, right elbow, right knee, both feet, heart, and sleep is barred by Labor Code Section 3600(a)(10).

Date: 3/13/2014

TRACY L. HUGHES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

TLH:kh

On: 3/13/2014 By: K. Hall

SERVICE:

COPIES OF THIS ORDER WERE SERVED ON PARTIES PER THE CURRENT OFFICIAL ADDRESS RECORD.

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