



Agenda Item 8a

August 20, 2014

ITEM NAME: Proposed Decision – In the Matter of the Application for Industrial Disability Retirement of SHAHIDA NAZ, Respondent, and DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION (CALIFORNIA STATE PRISON AT CALIPATRIA), Respondent, Case No. 9439

PROGRAM: Benefit Services Division

ITEM TYPE: Action

PARTIES' POSITIONS

Staff argues that the Board of Administration should adopt the Proposed Decision, as modified.

Respondent argues that the Board of Administration should adopt the Proposed Decision.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This item is not a specific product of either the Strategic or Annual Plans. The determination of administrative appeals is a power reserved to the Board of Administration.

PROCEDURAL SUMMARY

Respondent Shahida Naz submitted an application for industrial disability retirement, based on lumbar and cervical conditions, bilateral shoulder pain, hypertension, hypertensive heart disease, diabetes and glaucoma. CalPERS denied the application for industrial disability retirement. Respondent appealed this decision and the matter was heard by the Office of Administrative Hearings on February 18, 2014 and May 6, 2014. A Proposed Decision was issued on June 6, 2014, granting the application for industrial disability retirement, with the caveat that if there is a dispute concerning the industrial origin of Respondent's disability, the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board shall resolve the dispute, per Government Code section 21166.

ALTERNATIVES

- A. For use if the Board decides to adopt the Proposed Decision, as modified, as its own Decision:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System pursuant to Government Code section 11517(c)(2)(C), which authorizes the Board to "make technical or other minor changes in the proposed decision", hereby modifies the Proposed Decision inserting the word "industrial" before the word "disability retirement" on pages one, two, six, eight, ten, fourteen and nineteen of the Proposed Decision and hereby adopts as its own Decision the Proposed Decision dated June 6, 2014, concerning the application of Shahida Naz; RESOLVED FURTHER that this Board Decision shall be effective 30 days following mailing of the Decision.

- B. For use if the Board decides not to adopt the Proposed Decision, and to decide the case upon the record:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System, after consideration of the Proposed Decision dated June 6, 2014, concerning the application of Shahida Naz, hereby rejects the Proposed Decision and determines to decide the matter itself, based upon the record produced before the Administrative Law Judge and such additional evidence and arguments that are presented by the parties and accepted by the Board; RESOLVED FURTHER that the Board's Decision shall be made after notice is given to all parties.

- C. For use if the Board decides to remand the matter back to the Office of Administrative Hearings for the taking of further evidence:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System, after consideration of the Proposed Decision dated June 6, 2014, concerning the application of Shahida Naz, hereby rejects the Proposed Decision and refers the matter back to the Administrative Law Judge for the taking of additional evidence as specified by the Board at its meeting.

- D. Precedential Nature of Decision (two alternatives; either may be used):

1. For use if the Board wants further argument on the issue of whether to designate its Decision as precedential:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System requests the parties in the matter concerning the application of Shahida Naz, as well as interested parties, to submit written argument regarding whether the Board's Decision in this matter should be designated as precedential, and that the Board will consider the issue whether to designate its Decision as precedential at a time to be determined.

2. For use if the Board decides to designate its Decision as precedential, without further argument from the parties.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System, hereby designates as precedential its Decision concerning the application of Shahida Naz.

BUDGET AND FISCAL IMPACTS: Not applicable

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: Proposed Decision
- Attachment B: Staff's Argument
- Attachment C: Respondent(s) Argument(s)

DONNA RAMEL LUM
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Customer Services and Support