

Confidential Information Redacted Texas  
Labor Code §§402.083 and 402.092

**Order No. 2022-7670**

**Official Order  
of the  
Texas Commissioner of Workers' Compensation**

**Date: 12/8/2022**

**Subject Considered:**

Langford, Wise, and Farahmand Law Firm, PLLC  
13601 Preston Road, Suite E300  
Dallas, Texas 75240  
Consent Order  
DWC Enforcement File No. 30834

**General remarks and official action taken:**

This is a consent order with Langford, Wise, and Farahmand Law Firm, PLLC (Respondent) through its manager and agent, Roger Arash Farahmand. The commissioner of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) considers whether DWC should take disciplinary action against Respondent.

**Waiver**

Respondent acknowledges that the Texas Labor Code and other applicable laws provide certain rights. Respondent waives all of these rights, and any other procedural rights that apply, in consideration of the entry of this consent order.

**Findings of Fact**

1. Respondent is a law firm established in Texas managed through June of 2018 by Roger Arash Farahmand, a licensed attorney in good standing in the State of Texas, Bar Card Number 00793009.
2. Respondent received approval and payment via the Web-Enabled Attorney Fee Processing System (WAFPS) for services allegedly provided under certain bar card

numbers to claimants in the Texas Workers' Compensation System as administered by DWC.

3. Respondent was required to accurately report and certify the time spent working on claimants' matters in WAFPS pursuant to 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 152.3(a).

Failure to Accurately Report Time in WAFPS

4. Between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Respondent certified requests in WAFPS that contained inaccurate billing for clients' matters, which caused the benefits of injured workers to be reduced to overpay for attorney services.
5. Respondent was awarded attorney fees commensurate with the billing information submitted and certified by Respondent.
6. Respondent received Attorney Fee Orders in the amount of [REDACTED] from the benefits awarded to the injured employees represented by Respondent to which Respondent is not entitled.

**Assessment of Sanction**

1. Seeking remuneration for attorneys fees to which one is not entitled results in actual harm to injured workers from whose benefits the fees are subtracted and increases the costs of workers compensation services in Texas.
2. In assessing the sanction for this case, DWC fully considered the following factors in Tex. Lab. Code § 415.021(c) and 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 180.26(e):
  - the seriousness of the violation, including the nature, circumstances, consequences, extent, and gravity of the prohibited act;
  - the history and extent of previous administrative violations;
  - the violator's demonstration of good faith, including actions it took to rectify the consequences of the prohibited act;
  - the penalty necessary to deter future violations;
  - whether the administrative violation had a negative impact on the delivery of benefits to an injured employee;
  - to the extent reasonable, the economic benefit resulting from the prohibited act; and

- other matters that justice may require, including, but not limited to:
    - prompt and earnest actions to prevent future violations;
    - self-report of the violation;
    - the size of the company or practice; and
    - evidence of heightened awareness of the legal duty to comply with the Texas Workers' Compensation Act and DWC rules.
3. DWC found the following factors in Tex. Lab. Code § 415.021(c) and 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 180.26(e) to be aggravating: the seriousness of the violation, including the nature, circumstances, consequences, extent, and gravity of the prohibited act; whether the administrative violation had a negative impact on the delivery of benefits to an injured employee; to the extent reasonable, the economic benefit resulting from the prohibited act; evidence of heightened awareness of the legal duty to comply with the Texas Workers' Compensation Act and DWC rules; and the penalty necessary to deter future violations.
  4. DWC found the following mitigating factors pursuant to Tex. Lab. Code § 415.021(c) and 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 180.26 (e): demonstration of good faith actions taken to rectify the consequences of the prohibited act including refusal of remuneration from WAPFS and dissolution of workers' compensation legal practice.
  5. Respondent acknowledges communicating with DWC about the relevant statute and rule violations alleged; that the facts establish that the administrative violation(s) occurred; and that the proposed sanction is appropriate, including the factors DWC considered under Tex. Lab. Code § 415.021(c), Tex. Lab. Code § 415.023(a) and 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 180.26(e).
  6. Respondent acknowledges that, in assessing the sanction, DWC considered the factors in Tex. Lab. Code § 415.021(c), Tex. Lab. Code § 415.023(a) and 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 180.26(e).

### **Conclusions of Law**

1. The commissioner has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Tex. Lab. Code §§ 402.001, 402.00114, 402.00116, 402.00128, 414.002, and 414.003.

2. The commissioner has the authority to dispose of this case informally pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code § 2001.056, Tex. Lab. Code §§ 401.021 and 402.00128(b)(6)-(7), and 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 180.26(h) and (i).
3. Respondent has knowingly and voluntarily waived all procedural rights to which it may have been entitled regarding the entry of this order, including, but not limited to, issuance and service of notice of intent to institute disciplinary action, notice of hearing, a public hearing, a proposal for decision, a rehearing by the commissioner, and judicial review.
4. Pursuant to Tex. Lab. Code § 415.021, the commissioner may assess an administrative penalty against a person who commits an administrative violation.
5. Pursuant to Tex. Lab. Code § 415.023(b), a person who commits an administrative violation under Section 415.001 as a matter of practice is subject to an applicable rule providing for the restriction, suspension, or revocation of the right to receive reimbursement under this subtitle.
6. Pursuant to Tex. Lab. Code § 415.001(10), a representative of an employee commits an administrative violation each time it violates a DWC statute or rule.
7. Pursuant to 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 152.3(a), an attorney representing any party must submit to the Division a complete and accurate application for attorney fees in the form and manner prescribed by the Division.
8. Pursuant to 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 152.3(b)(8), an application for attorney fees must include a certification that every statement, numerical figure, and calculation in the application for attorney fees submitted to the Division is within the attorney's personal knowledge, is true and correct, and represents services, charges, and expenses provided by the attorney or a legal assistant under the attorney's supervision.
9. Respondent violated Tex. Lab. Code § 415.001(10) and Tex. Admin. Code §§ 152.3(a), and 152.3(b)(8) as a matter of practice when Respondent routinely certified and submitted applications for attorney fees that contained inaccuracies resulting in reducing benefits of injured workers.

Commissioner's Order  
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**Order**

It is ordered that:

1. Langford, Wise, and Farahmand Law Firm PLLC, shall not seek remuneration for and shall release all liens or obligations associated with Attorney Fee Orders issued between July 1, 2017 and August 31, 2019.
2. Langford Wise & Farahmand Law Firm, PLLC, shall not seek, receive, or attempt to seek or receive remuneration for legal services or representation of any participant in the Texas workers' compensation system for a period of Ten (10) Years.
3. Respondent, through its Manager agent Roger Arash Farahmand, must cooperate fully with the Travis County District Attorney's Office investigation and prosecution(s) of Leslie Casaubon and provide complete and truthful testimony when and if called upon to do so in any criminal proceeding.

  
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Jeff Nelson  
Commissioner  
TDI, Division of Workers' Compensation

Approved Form and Content:

  
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Nikki Karr  
Director, Enforcement  
TDI, Division of Workers' Compensation

