

No. 2024-8818

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

**Date:** 9/14/2024

**Subject Considered:**

Hassan Chahadeh, M.D.  
5225 Katy Freeway, Suite 150,  
Houston, Texas 77007-2265

Consent Order  
DWC Enforcement File No. 34075

**General remarks and official action taken:**

This is a consent order with Hassan Chahadeh, M.D. (Respondent). 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 health care provider operating in the Texas workers' compensation system.
2. Respondent was not selected to be tiered in any Performance Based Oversight (PBO) assessment.

Failure to Timely Comply with a DWC Order to Produce Documents

3. On [REDACTED], DWC ordered Respondent to produce legible, single-sided copies of documents pertaining to a Medical Quality Review (MQR) Plan-Based-Audit, identified as MQR 24-0005.
4. Specifically, DWC ordered Respondent to produce documents related to the identified injured employee(s), including the following:
  - (a) Initial evaluation, all progress notes, consults/referral notes and all procedure/operative notes, psychological testing/referrals, etc.
  - (b) Results of all diagnostic studies to include drug and laboratory testing results, neurological testing, reports of MRIs, CT Scan, X-Rays, etc.
  - (c) History of prescriptions for all pharmaceuticals.
  - (d) Preauthorization requests along with supporting documentation.
  - (e) Rehabilitation documentation (e.g., physical/occupational therapy, functional restoration program notes, etc.).
5. On [REDACTED], Respondent received the order at his practice address. The deadline to produce the documents was [REDACTED].
6. Respondent ultimately complied with the Commissioner's Order for Production of Documents on [REDACTED].
7. Prior to resolution, this matter was set at the State Office of Administrative Hearings under Docket No. 454-24-24563.C1.

**Assessment of Sanction**

1. Timely submitting information to DWC and complying with DWC orders is imperative to DWC's ability to implement and enforce the Texas Workers' Compensation Act. Refusal to comply with a regulatory investigation is perceived as a knowing attempt to conceal facts and subvert the agency's statutory goal of providing high quality medical care to injured employees in the Texas workers' compensation system.
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;
  - the history of compliance with electronic data interchange requirements;
  - to the extent reasonable, the economic benefit resulting from the prohibited act; and
  - other matters that justice may require, including, but not limited to:
    - PBO assessments;
    - prompt and earnest actions to prevent future violations;
    - self-report of the violation;
    - the size of the company or practice;
    - the effect of a sanction on the availability of health care; 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; the violator's lack of good faith; the penalty necessary to deter future violations; the history and extent of previous administrative violations; and other matters that justice may require, including evidence of heightened awareness of the legal duty to comply with the Texas Workers' Compensation Act and DWC rules and continued non-compliance. Further, DWC contacted Respondent's office several times to gather the records to no avail. Thus, Respondent's conduct is considered intentional.
4. DWC is aware of no mitigating factors pursuant to Tex. Lab. Code § 415.021(c) and 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 180.26(e).
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) 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) 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 §§ 415.0035(e) and 415.021(a), a person regulated by DWC under this title commits an administrative violation if they violate the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, a DWC rule, or a commissioner's order or decision.
6. Pursuant to 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 102.9, DWC requires those subject to the Texas Workers' Compensation Act to provide information as necessary. DWC may follow up on a request for information by issuing an order to produce information.
7. Respondent violated Tex. Lab. Code §§ 415.0035(e); 415.021(a); and 28 Tex. Admin. Code § 102.9 by failing to comply with a DWC order to produce documents.

**Order**

It is ordered that Hassan Chahadeh, M.D. must pay an administrative penalty of \$750 within 30 days from the date the Commissioner signs the order.

After receiving an invoice, Hassan Chahadeh, M.D. must pay the administrative penalty by electronic transfer using the State Invoice Payment Service, company check, cashier's check, or money order and make it payable to the "State of Texas." Mail the administrative penalty to the Texas Department of Insurance, Attn: DWC Enforcement Section, MC AO-9999, PO Box 12030, Austin, Texas 78711-2030.

  
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Jeff Nelson  
Commissioner  
TDI, Division of Workers' Compensation

Approved Form and Content:

  
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Daniel Garcia  
Staff Attorney, Enforcement  
Compliance and Investigations  
TDI, Division of Workers' Compensation

**Unsworn Declaration**

STATE OF Texas

§

COUNTY OF Harris

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Pursuant to the Tex. Civ. Prac. and Rem. Code § 132.001(a), (b), and (d), my name is:  
Hassan Chahadeh. My license number is:

(First)

(Middle)

(Last)

J6083, which was issued by the Texas Medical Board  
(Licensing agency/board/entity)

My business address is:

5205 Katy Freeway, Houston; Harris Tx, 77007  
(Street) (City) (County) (State) (ZIP Code)

I am executing this declaration as part of my assigned duties and responsibilities. I declare under penalty of perjury that the facts stated in this document are true and correct.



Declarant

Executed on September 3, 2024.