

BEFORE THE IOWA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSIONER

CHRYSTINA WILLIAMS,	:	
	:	
Claimant,	:	
	:	
vs.	:	
	:	File No. 5064110
WORLDWIDE INTEGRATED SUPPLY	:	
CHAIN SOLUTIONS,	:	
	:	A P P E A L
Employer,	:	
	:	D E C I S I O N
and	:	
	:	
DEPOSITORS INSURANCE COMPANY,	:	
	:	
Insurance Carrier,	:	Head Notes: 1402.30; 1801; 1802; 4000.2;
Defendants.	:	2907; 4000.2; 5-9998

Claimant Chrystina Williams appeals from an arbitration decision filed on July 16, 2019. Defendants Worldwide Integrated Supply Chain Solutions, employer, and its insurer, Depositors Insurance Company, respond to the appeal. The case was heard on May 29, 2019, and it was considered fully submitted in front of the deputy workers' compensation commissioner on June 24, 2019.

In the arbitration decision, the deputy commissioner found claimant's stipulated injury, which occurred on April 13, 2018, did not arise out of her employment with defendant-employer because the deputy commissioner found claimant's injury was the result of an idiopathic fall. There is no dispute in this matter that claimant's injury occurred in the course of her employment. Because the deputy commissioner found claimant failed to prove her injury arose out of her employment, the deputy commissioner found all other issues raised in this matter are moot, including claimant's alleged entitlement to temporary and permanent disability benefits, claimant's alleged entitlement to medical benefits, and claimant's alleged entitlement to penalty benefits. The deputy commissioner ordered the parties to pay their own costs of the arbitration proceeding.

Claimant asserts on appeal that the deputy commissioner erred in finding her injury was caused by an idiopathic fall and in finding her injury did not arise out of her employment. Claimant asserts the deputy commissioner erred in finding all other issues raised in this matter are moot, and in finding claimant is not entitled to receive

temporary disability benefits, permanent disability benefits, medical expenses, penalty benefits, and taxation of costs.

Defendants assert on appeal that the arbitration decision should be affirmed in its entirety.

Those portions of the proposed agency decision pertaining to issues not raised on appeal are adopted as a part of this appeal decision.

I have performed a de novo review of the evidentiary record and the detailed arguments of the parties and I reach the same analysis, findings, and conclusions as those reached by the deputy commissioner.

Pursuant to Iowa Code sections 17A.5 and 86.24, I affirm and adopt as the final agency decision those portions of the proposed arbitration decision filed on July 16, 2019, which relate to the issues properly raised on intra-agency appeal.

I find the deputy commissioner provided a well-reasoned analysis of all of the issues raised in the arbitration proceeding. I affirm the deputy commissioner's findings of fact and conclusions of law pertaining to those issues.

I affirm the deputy commissioner's finding that claimant's April 13, 2018, injury did not arise out of her employment with defendant-employer because I affirm the deputy commissioner's finding that claimant's injury was the result of an idiopathic fall. Because I affirm the deputy commissioner's finding that claimant failed to prove her injury arose out of her employment, I affirm the deputy commissioner's finding that all other issues raised in this matter are moot, including claimant's alleged entitlement to temporary and permanent disability benefits, claimant's alleged entitlement to medical benefits, and claimant's alleged entitlement to penalty benefits. I affirm the deputy commissioner's order that the parties pay their own costs of the arbitration proceeding.

Some of the findings by the deputy commissioner in the arbitration decision were based on the deputy commissioner's findings regarding claimant's credibility. The deputy commissioner found claimant's testimony was not credible. While I performed a de novo review, I give considerable deference to findings of fact that are impacted by the credibility findings, expressly or impliedly made, by the deputy commissioner who presided at the arbitration hearing. I find the deputy commissioner correctly assessed the credibility of claimant's testimony. I find nothing in the record in this matter which would cause me to reverse the deputy commissioner's credibility findings.

I affirm the deputy commissioner's findings, conclusions and analysis regarding the above issues.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the arbitration decision filed on July 16, 2019, is affirmed in its entirety.

Claimant shall take nothing from these proceedings.

Pursuant to rule 876 IAC 4.33, the parties shall pay their own costs of the arbitration proceeding, and claimant shall pay the costs of the appeal, including the cost of the hearing transcript.

Pursuant to rule 876 IAC 3.1(2), defendants shall file subsequent reports of injury as required by this agency.

Signed and filed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.

  
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JOSEPH S. CORTESE II  
WORKERS' COMPENSATION  
COMMISSIONER

The parties have been served as follows:

Robert C. Gainer      Via WCES

Deborah Stein        Via WCES