

APPEAL NO. 020310
FILED MARCH 14, 2002

This appeal arises pursuant to the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, TEX. LAB. CODE ANN. § 401.001 *et seq.* (1989 Act). A contested case hearing was held on December 11, 2001. The hearing officer resolved the disputed issues by deciding that the appellant (claimant) reached maximum medical improvement (MMI) on November 23, 1999, and had a four percent impairment rating (IR), per the designated doctor's opinion. The claimant appealed the hearing officer's determinations on sufficiency grounds and the respondent (carrier) responded, seeking affirmance.

DECISION

We affirm.

The MMI and IR report of the designated doctor chosen by the Texas Workers' Compensation Commission (Commission) has presumptive weight and the Commission shall base its determination of MMI and IR on that report unless the great weight of the medical evidence is to the contrary. Sections 408.122(c) and 408.125(e). The hearing officer considered the medical evidence and decided that the great weight of the medical evidence was not contrary to the opinion of the designated doctor that the claimant reached MMI on November 23, 1999, and that her IR was four percent. The hearing officer is the sole judge of the weight and credibility of the evidence. Section 410.165(a). The hearing officer reviewed the record and resolved what facts were established. We conclude that the hearing officer's determinations are sufficiently supported by the record and are not so against the great weight and preponderance of the evidence as to be clearly wrong or manifestly unjust. Cain v. Bain, 709 S.W.2d 175, 176 (Tex. 1986).

We affirm the decision and order of the hearing officer.

The true corporate name of the insurance carrier is **TWIN CITY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY** and the name and address of its registered agent for service of process is

**CT CORPORATION
350 NORTH ST. PAUL
DALLAS, TEXAS 75201.**

Michael B. McShane
Appeals Judge

CONCUR:

Gary L. Kilgore
Appeals Judge

Robert W. Potts
Appeals Judge