

APPEAL NO. 020464  
FILED APRIL 24, 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 January 25, 2002. With respect to the disputed issues, the appellant (claimant) appealed the hearing officer's determination that the claimant's compensable injury does not extend to and include an injury to the claimant's left knee. The respondent (carrier) responds, urging affirmance.

DECISION

The hearing officer's decision is affirmed.

The issue before the hearing officer regarded the extent of the compensable injury. We have held that the question of the extent of an injury is a question of fact for the hearing officer. Texas Workers' Compensation Commission Appeal No. 93613, decided August 24, 1993. The hearing officer is the sole judge of the weight and credibility of the evidence. Section 410.165(a). As the finder of fact, the hearing officer resolves the conflicts in the evidence and determines what facts have been established from the evidence presented. When reviewing a hearing officer's decision for factual sufficiency of the evidence we should reverse such decision only if it is so contrary to the overwhelming weight of the evidence as to be clearly wrong and unjust. Cain v. Bain, 709 S.W.2d 175, 176 (Tex. 1986); Pool v. Ford Motor Co., 715 S.W.2d 629, 635 (Tex. 1986). This is so even though another fact finder might draw other inferences and reach other conclusions. Salazar, et al. v. Hill, 551 S.W.2d 518 (Tex. Civ. App.-Corpus Christi 1977, writ ref'd n.r.e.). We have also on numerous occasions held that the Appeals Panel should not set aside the decision of a hearing officer because the hearing officer may have drawn inferences and conclusions different than those the Appeals Panel deems most reasonable, even though the record contains evidence of inconsistent inferences. Garza v. Commercial Insurance Co. of Newark, New Jersey, 508 S.W.2d 701 (Tex. Civ. App.-Amarillo 1974, no writ); Texas Workers' Compensation Commission Appeal No. 93334, decided June 14, 1993; Texas Workers' Compensation Commission Appeal No. 93053, decided March 1, 1993; Texas Workers' Compensation Commission Appeal No. 92539, decided November 25, 1992.

The hearing officer's decision and order are affirmed.

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

**MR. RUSSELL R. OLIVER, PRESIDENT  
221 WESTR 6TH STREET  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701.**

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Gary L. Kilgore  
Appeals Judge

CONCUR:

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Robert E. Lang  
Appeals Panel  
Manager/Judge

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Robert W. Potts  
Appeals Judge