

APPEAL NO. 040178
FILED MARCH 10, 2004

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 15, 2003. The hearing officer decided that: (1) the appellant (claimant) did not sustain a compensable repetitive trauma injury on _____; and (2) the claimant did not have disability. The claimant appeals these determinations on sufficiency of the evidence grounds and complains of ineffective assistance of counsel. The respondent (carrier) urges affirmance.

DECISION

Affirmed.

The hearing officer did not err in determining that the claimant did not sustain a compensable injury on _____, and did not have disability. The claimant had the burden of proof on these issues. The hearing officer is the sole judge of the weight and credibility of the evidence (Section 410.165(a)) and, as the trier of fact, resolves the conflicts and inconsistencies in the evidence, including the medical evidence (Texas Employers Insurance Association v. Campos, 666 S.W.2d 286 (Tex. App.-Houston [14th Dist.] 1984, no writ)). In view of the evidence presented, we cannot conclude that the hearing officer's injury determinations are 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). Because the claimant did not sustain a compensable injury, the hearing officer properly concluded that the claimant did not have disability. Section 401.011(16).

As stated above, the claimant complains she received ineffective assistance from her attorney at the hearing below. The Appeals Panel does not review the competency or tactics of a licensed attorney in proceedings before the Texas Workers' Compensation Commission. Texas Workers' Compensation Commission Appeal No. 941271, decided October 31, 1994. We decline to reverse the hearing officer's decision on this basis.

The decision and order of the hearing officer is affirmed.

The true corporate name of the insurance carrier is **STATE OFFICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT (a self-insured governmental entity)** and the name and address of its registered agent for service of process is

For service in person the address is:

**RON JOSSELET, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
STATE OFFICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT
300 W. 15TH STREET
WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, JR. STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 6TH FLOOR
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701.**

For service by mail the address is:

**RON JOSSELET, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
STATE OFFICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT
P.O. BOX 13777
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-3777.**

Edward Vilano
Appeals Judge

CONCUR:

Chris Cowan
Appeals Judge

Margaret L. Turner
Appeals Judge