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Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department, New York

Matter of DONALD McKINNEY, Appellant

US ROOFING CORP, Respondent WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD

Decided May 4, 2017

Facts:

Claimant was found to have a partial disability and directed to produce evidence of a work search and attachment to the labor market. After failing to do so, the carrier requested a suspension of benefits. Subsequently, the claimant was again directed to provide proof of attachment and the claimant objected to this request, and the objection was sustained by the WCLJ and awards were continued. The Board modified the WCLJ's decision by suspending benefits pending further development of the record. Claimant appeals.

Affirmed Holding:

A claimant has an obligation to look for work within his restrictions. Given the claimant's failure to provide such evidence, as well as his failure to comply with the Board's previous directions to do so, the Court concluded that the Board's decision to suspend benefits pending development of the record was justified.

Summary of Appellate Division Cases: May 2017