

ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION

February 2021 Minutes

The Arkansas State Claims Commission (the “Claims Commission”) held hearings on February 11, 2021. These hearings were held via Zoom in keeping with the Governor’s guidance regarding gatherings. The following members of the Claims Commission were present:

Courtney Baird
Paul Morris, Chair
Sylvester Smith

The following claims were heard:

Vincenzo E. Valachi v. Arkansas Division of Correction, Claim No. 17-0714-CC. Claimant filed his claim contesting Respondent’s actions in returning his hobby craft materials to the supplier. At the hearing on Respondent’s motion for summary judgment, Claimant proceeded *pro se*, and Respondent was represented by Thomas Burns. Based on the pleadings, argument of the parties, and the law of the State of Arkansas, the Claims Commission DENIED Respondent’s motion for summary judgment and advised that a hearing on the claim will be scheduled.

Ronald A. McClure v. Arkansas Division of Correction, Claim No. 180573. Claimant filed his claim related to the loss of his hobby craft property. At the hearing, Claimant proceeded *pro se*, and Respondent was represented by Thomas Burns. At the beginning of the hearing, Respondent offered Claimant \$200.00 to resolve the matter, and Claimant accepted that amount. The Claims Commission approved the settlement agreement and AWARDED Claimant \$200.00.

Lance Mitchell Owens v. Arkansas Division of Correction, Claim No. 190011. Claimant filed his claim related to the loss of his hobby craft property. At the hearing, Claimant proceeded *pro se*, and Respondent was represented by Thomas Burns. Based on the pleadings, testimony, argument of the parties, and the law of the State of Arkansas, the Claims Commission found that Respondent’s actions in destroying the hobby craft property to be negligent and AWARDED Claimant \$400.00 in damages.

This completed all of the business on the February 2021 Claims Commission docket.



Kathryn Irby, Director

Date: March 10, 2021