CONTRERAS V. MILLER BONDED

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JOHN CONTRERAS.

Worker-Appellant,

V.

MILLER BONDED, INC., and MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS OF NEW MEXICO WORKERS' COMPENSATION GROUP FUND,

Employer/Insurer-Appellees.

NO. 29,861

COURT OF APPEALS OF NEW MEXICO

May 18, 2010

APPEAL FROM THE WORKERS' COMEPNSATION ADMINISTRATION, Terry S. Kramer, Workers' Compensation Judge

COUNSEL

John Contreras, Albuquerque, NM, Pro Se Appellant

Maestas & Suggett, P.C., Paul Maestas, Albuquerque, NM, for Appellees

JUDGES

CYNTHIA A. FRY, Chief Judge. WE CONCUR: JAMES J. WECHSLER, Judge, CELIA FOY CASTILLO, Judge

AUTHOR: CYNTHIA A. FRY

MEMORANDUM OPINION

FRY, Chief Judge.

Worker appeals from a compensation order. In this Court's notice of proposed summary disposition, we proposed to affirm. Worker has filed a memorandum in opposition pursuant to two extensions granted by this Court. We have considered Worker's memorandum, and as it does not demonstrate error, we affirm.

Worker raised seven issues in his docketing statement, all of which challenged the sufficiency of the evidence supporting the Workers' Compensation Judge's (WCJ) factual findings. [DS 29-30] "We review workers' compensation orders using the whole record standard of review." *Leonard v. Payday Prof'l*, 2007-NMCA-128, ¶ 10, 142 N.M. 605, 168 P.3d 177. "In applying whole record review, this Court reviews both favorable and unfavorable evidence to determine whether there is evidence that a reasonable mind could accept as adequate to support the conclusions reached by the fact finder." *Levario v. Ysidro Villareal Labor Agency*, 120 N.M. 734, 737, 906 P.2d 266, 269 (Ct. App. 1995). "Where the testimony is conflicting, the issue on appeal is not whether there is evidence to support a contrary result, but rather whether the evidence supports the findings of the trier of fact." *Tom Growney Equip. Co. v. Jouett*, 2005-NMSC-015, ¶ 13, 137 N.M. 497, 113 P.3d 320 (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).

In this Court's notice of proposed summary disposition, we indicated that Worker had not provided the Court with the information needed to evaluate his claims under our standard of review. Worker failed to set out all relevant facts in the docketing statement, including those facts supporting the workers' compensation's decision. See Thornton v. Gamble, 101 N.M. 764, 769, 688 P.2d 1268, 1273 (Ct. App. 1984) (requiring that the docketing statement provide all relevant facts, including those that are contrary to the appellant's position). Accordingly, we proposed to affirm, since Worker had not met his burden of establishing error. See Martinez v. Sw. Landfills, Inc., 115 N.M. 181, 186, 848 P.2d 1108, 1113 (Ct. App. 1993) ("[A]n appellant is bound by the findings of fact made below unless the appellant properly attacks the findings, and . . . the appellant remains bound if he or she fails to properly set forth all the evidence bearing upon the findings.").

In our notice, we explained that in any memorandum in opposition Worker wished to file, Worker should, for each claim of error, explain in detail what evidence was introduced to the WCJ that was relevant to the WCJ's factual finding. We stated that Worker should explain if the evidence was documentary evidence, deposition testimony, or live testimony and that he should describe any relevant evidence introduced by Employer/Insurer, even if Worker believed that the evidence was incorrect, unreliable, or untruthful. We also stated that Worker should make clear how he believes that the claimed errors of the WCJ resulted in an incorrect compensation order.

In Worker's memorandum in opposition, he does not provide any of the information that this Court needs in order to evaluate his claim of error. Accordingly, we conclude that Worker has failed to demonstrate error on appeal. See Hennessy v. Duryea, 1998-NMCA-036, ¶ 24, 124 N.M. 754, 955 P.2d 683 ("Our courts have repeatedly held that, in summary calendar cases, the burden is on the party opposing the proposed disposition to clearly point out errors in fact or law."); see also Bruce v. Lester, 1999-NMCA-051, ¶ 4, 127 N.M. 301, 980 P.2d 84 (stating that although pro se pleadings will be viewed with

a tolerant eye, pro se litigants will not be treated differently than litigants represented by counsel).

Therefore, for the reasons stated in this opinion and the notice of proposed summary disposition, we affirm.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

CYNTHIA A. FRY, Chief Judge

WE CONCUR:

JAMES J. WECHSLER, Judge

CELIA FOY CASTILLO, Judge