

STATE OF MINNESOTA Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals

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March 25, 2024

Senator Jennifer A. McEwen Chair of the Labor Committee Minnesota Senate 3217 Minnesota Senate Building St. Paul, NN 55155

Dear Chair McEwen and Committee Members:

Please accept this cover letter with its dual function: First, to submit a short profile of the Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals, and second; to introduce the five judges seeking confirmation to their appointed positions by the state Senate.

The Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals (WCCA) is an executive branch court under Minnesota Statute Chapter 175A created by the legislature in 1981. The WCCA consists of 5 judges, all of whom are appointed by the sitting governor for 6-year terms, and whose appointment is to be confirmed by the Senate.

The mission of the WCCA is to provide accessible, fair, and timely appellate review of disputed workers' compensation claims in all matters of fact and law from the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH), the Department of Labor & Industry (DLI) and Union Workers' Compensation Arbitration. We also decide petitions to reopen settlements and awards of benefits. Any party who is dissatisfied with our decision may seek final review by the Minnesota Supreme Court.

The WCCA consists of five judges who sit as panels of three or five in every decision under this court. We have a proven track record of being open to all points of view, recognizing any bias or prejudice, and making informed and fair decisions.

Attached for your review are the resumes for each judge. We believe we bring to the WCCA the unique combination of experience and a dedication to public service. We seek the Minnesota state senate's confirmation to continue this important work.

Respectfully,

Chief Judge Milun Judge Sundquist Judge Quinn Judge Christenson Judge Carlson