



## MINUTES

**Claims Panel Hearing  
of the Board of Trustees of the  
State Universities Retirement System  
Friday, May 7, 2021, 8:30 a.m.**

**Via remote access only due to COVID-19 statewide restrictions**

The meeting of the Claims Panel Hearing of the Board of Trustees of the State Universities Retirement System convened on May 7, 2021, at 8:30 a.m., via Zoom (video conference) based on the Executive Order allowing the Open Meetings Act to allow public meetings to be conducted via phone or video conference.

The following Claims Panel members were present: Mr. Daniel Gaumer, Hearing Officer; Ms. Suzanne Mayer, Interim Executive Director, and Mr. Antonio Vasquez, SURS Board of Trustees member.

Others present: Ms. Jennifer Bartell, Senior Claims Manager; Ms. Bianca Green, General Counsel; Mr. Albert Lee, Associate General Counsel; Ms. Heather Kimmons, Associate General Counsel; Ms. Karen Nyi and Ms. Annette Ackerman, Executive Assistants.

Claims Panel roll call attendance was taken. Hearing Officer Daniel Gaumer, present; Interim Executive Director Suzanne Mayer, present; and Trustee Antonio Vasquez, present.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gaumer presented the open minutes from the Claims Panel Hearing of February 26, 2021.

Trustee Vasquez made the following motion:

- That the minutes from the February 26, 2021 Claims Panel Hearing be approved as presented.

Mr. Gaumer seconded and was followed by a roll call vote.

Mr. Gaumer	-	aye
Ms. Mayer	-	aye
Trustee Vasquez	-	aye

**ACCEPTANCE OF WRITTEN CLOSING ARGUMENTS SUBMITTED BY ALL  
PARTIES IN THE MATTER OF, MARVIN TROUTT, deceased**

Mr. Gaumer acknowledged the filing of written closing arguments submitted by all three of the parties consisting of an 18-page closing argument submitted by Mr. Carl Draper, attorney for Andrew Troutt; an 11-page closing argument submitted by Mr. Robert Shaw, attorney for Helen Troutt; and an 8-page SURS staff closing argument submitted by Ms. Bianca Green, General Counsel for SURS. Mr. Gaumer directed these documents and the verbatim transcript from the hearing to be added to the record in this case and the same were admitted into evidence.

**CLAIMS PANEL DELIBERATIONS**

Upon motion by Mr. Gaumer, a second by Trustee Vasquez and unanimous roll call vote, the Claims Panel went into closed session pursuant to §2(c)(4) of the Open Meetings Act to consider evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing as authorized by law.

Mr. Gaumer	-	aye
Ms. Mayer	-	aye
Trustee Vasquez	-	aye

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Upon completion of the deliberation, Mr. Gaumer recommended the Claims Panel resume its meeting in open session. All claims panel members were in agreement. Open Session resumed at approximately 8:59 am.

Mr. Gaumer made the following motion:

- That the Claims Panel affirm the SURS staff decision, finding that Andrew Troutt has not satisfied his burden of proving he is eligible to receive survivor's benefits as a dependent, disabled adult following the death of his father, Marvin Troutt, with a written decision of factual findings and conclusions to be drafted by the Hearing Officer and signed by all members of the Claims Panel voting in favor.

Trustee Vasquez seconded the motion which passed by the following roll call vote:

Mr. Gaumer	-	aye
Ms. Mayer	-	aye
Trustee Vasquez	-	aye

Mr. Gaumer confirmed he will prepare a written Order to reflect the Claims Panel's findings and conclusions of law. The Order will be signed by all members of the claims panel and then it will be filed with SURS and circulated to all parties.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

There was no further business before the Claims Panel and Ms. Mayer moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Trustee Vasquez and carried with all present voting in favor.

Mr. Gaumer	-	aye
Ms. Mayer	-	aye
Trustee Vasquez	-	aye

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel L. Gaumer  
Hearing Officer

dlg:aa