UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER

February 7, 2024

ZAJI OBATALA ZAJRADHARA, Complainant,)
V.)
RANNI'S CORPORATION, Respondent.))

8 U.S.C. § 1324b Proceeding OCAHO Case No. 2022B00020

Appearances: Zaji Obatala Zajradhara, pro se Complainant Colin Thompson, Esq., for Respondent

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR HEARING TRANSCRIPT

This case arises under the employment discrimination provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as amended by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, 8 U.S.C. § 1324b. On September 11–13, 2023, the Court held an in-person hearing in the above-captioned case pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 68.39.¹ Following receipt of post-hearing evidence on damages, the Court closed the record on November 21, 2023. Order Closing Record 2.

On January 25, 2024, the Court provided the parties with instructions to obtain a copy of the hearing transcript from the court reporting service. *Zajradhara v. Ranni's Corp.*, 16 OCAHO no. 1426f (2024).²

¹ OCAHO Rules of Practice and Procedure, 28 C.F.R. pt. 68 (2022).

² Citations to OCAHO precedents reprinted in bound Volumes 1 through 8 reflect the volume number and the case number of the particular decision, followed by the specific page in that volume where the decision begins; the pinpoint citations which follow are thus to the pages, seriatim, of the specific entire volume. Pinpoint citations to OCAHO precedents subsequent to Volume 8, where the decision has not yet been reprinted in a bound volume, are to pages within the original issuances; the beginning page number of an unbound case will always be 1, and is accordingly omitted from the citation. Published decisions may be accessed in the Westlaw

The Court informed the parties that, pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 68.48(b), the parties shall have an opportunity to review and submit any motions for corrections to the transcript. *Id.* at 2 (citing 28 C.F.R. § 68.48(b) ("Corrections of the official transcript will be permitted when errors of substance are involved and only upon approval of the [ALJ.]")).

On January 27, 2024, Complainant filed a "Laymans' Motion for Court Transcripts Due to Indigency." Complainant, who has appeared pro se in these proceedings, states he is "severely indigent," and requests the Court provide him with a copy of the hearing transcript.

OCAHO's Rules of Practice and Procedure provide that "[a]ny fees in connection [with obtaining a transcript] shall be the responsibility of the parties." 28 C.F.R. § 68.48(a). However, this Complainant has demonstrated that, at present, he is indigent. He provides sufficient evidence that, among other data points, he presently receives means-tested public benefits. The Court elects to exercise discretion in this instance and shall provide Complainant with a copy of the hearing transcript. A PDF copy of the hearing transcript is included with this Order.

The Court also revises the deadline by which the parties must file motions for corrections to the transcript. These motions are now due by March 1, 2024 and may be filed electronically consistent with prior orders and guidance. The Court reminds parties that once the transcript is certified as final, the parties will be provided a post-hearing briefing schedule. *See* 28 C.F.R. § 68.52.

SO ORDERED.

Dated and entered on February 7, 2024.

Honorable Andrea R. Carroll-Tipton Administrative Law Judge

database "FIMOCAHO," or in the LexisNexis database "OCAHO," or on the website at http://www.justice.gov/eoir/OcahoMain/ocahosibpage.htm#PubDecOrders.