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9  
10 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA**  
11 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA**

12 **ELI DALTON-WEBB**

13 Plaintiff,

14 vs.

15 **INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF**  
16 **ARIZONA**

17 Defendants.

Case No.: **CV2025-035545**

**DEFENDANT INDUSTRIAL**  
**COMMISSION OF ARIZONA'S**  
**ANSWER TO COMPLAINT**

18 COMES NOW Defendant Industrial Commission of Arizona, by and through its  
19 attorney Bobby Wren of Ritsema Law, and hereby submits its Answer to Plaintiff's  
20 Complaint:

- 21
- 22 1. Defendant admits it is a public entity. Defendant denies the remaining  
23 allegations in paragraph 1.
  - 24 2. Defendant admits it administers and regulates Arizona's workers' compensation  
25 program and hears disputes arising out of workers' compensation matters.  
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- Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the remaining allegations in paragraph 2.
3. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 3.
  4. Defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 4.
  5. Defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 5.
  6. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 6.
  7. Paragraph 7 contains recitation of Plaintiff's interpretation of the facts of a separate and unrelated legal matter, and no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 7.
  8. Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 8.
  9. Paragraph 9 contains plaintiff's subjective definitions of terms used in his complaint. To the extent these definitions differ from the legal definition of those terms, Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph 9. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the remaining allegations paragraph 9.
  10. Defendant accepts the commonly understood shorthand "ALJ" to mean administrative law judge.

- 1 11. Defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 11.
- 2 12. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
- 3 truth of the allegations in paragraph 12.
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- 5 13. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
- 6 truth of the allegations in paragraph 13.
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- 8 14. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
- 9 truth of the allegations in paragraph 14.
- 10 15. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
- 11 truth of the allegations in paragraph 15.
- 12 16. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
- 13 truth of the allegations in paragraph 16.
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- 15 17. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
- 16 truth of the allegations in paragraph 17.
- 17 18. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
- 18 truth of the allegations in paragraph 18.
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- 20 19. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
- 21 truth of the allegations in paragraph 19.
- 22 20. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
- 23 truth of the allegations in paragraph 20.
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- 1 21. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
2 truth of the allegations in paragraph 21.
- 3  
4 22. Defendant admits it is an administrative agency, admits that it assigns claim  
5 numbers for reported injuries, admits applicants can allege bad faith and/or  
6 unfair claims handling by filing a request for investigation, and admits applicants  
7 can request hearings to resolve disputes. Defendant admits it is not a court of  
8 law. Defendant lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about  
9 the truth of the remaining allegations in paragraph 22.
- 10  
11 23. Defendant admits no ALJ is assigned to a case until a request for hearing is filed.  
12 Defendant admits it has exclusive jurisdiction to investigate claims of bad faith  
13 and unfair claims handling practices as required by A.R.S. § 23-930. Defendant  
14 denies the remaining allegations in paragraph 23.
- 15  
16 24. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 24.
- 17 25. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 25.
- 18 26. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 26.
- 19 27. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 27.
- 20 28. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 28.
- 21  
22 29. Defendant admits A.R.S. § 39-121.02 allows a party who believes they were  
23 wrongfully denied access to public records to file a special action in Superior  
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Court. Defendant admits A.R.S. § 39-121.01 refers to both public records and “other matters.” Defendant denies the remaining allegations in paragraph 29.

30. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 30.

31. Defendant admits the allegations in paragraph 31.

32. Defendant admits Plaintiff submitted a public records request on or about August 26, 2025. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the remaining allegations in paragraph 32.

33. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 33.

34. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 34.

35. Defendant admits A.R.S. § 39-121.02 allows a party who believes they were wrongfully denied access to public records to file a special action in Superior Court. Defendant denies the remaining allegations in paragraph 35.

36. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 36.

37. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 37.

38. Paragraph 38 contains Plaintiff’s interpretation of an unpublished Arizona Court of Appeals case, and legal conclusions drawn therefrom, to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies the allegations

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to the extent they misstate and misinterpret the applicable law and legal standards. Otherwise, Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 38.

39. Paragraph 39 contains Plaintiff's beliefs concerning what laws are applicable to this matter, and no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies the allegations to the extent they misstate and misinterpret the applicable law and legal standards. Otherwise, Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 39.

40. Paragraph 40 contains Plaintiff's beliefs concerning what laws are applicable to this matter, and no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendant denies the allegations to the extent they misstate and misinterpret the applicable law and legal standards. Otherwise, Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 40.

41. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 41.

42. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 42.

43. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 43.

- 1 44. Paragraph 44 contains Plaintiff's wishes and demands, to which no response is  
2 required. To the extent a response is required, Defendant lacks knowledge or  
3 information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in  
4 paragraph 44.  
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- 6 45. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
7 truth of the allegations in paragraph 45.  
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- 9 46. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
10 truth of the allegations in paragraph 46.
- 11 47. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
12 truth of the allegations in paragraph 47.  
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- 14 48. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
15 truth of the allegations in paragraph 48.
- 16 49. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
17 truth of the allegations in paragraph 49.  
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- 19 50. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
20 truth of the allegations in paragraph 50.
- 21 51. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
22 truth of the allegations in paragraph 51.  
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- 24 52. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
25 truth of the allegations in paragraph 52.  
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- 1 53. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
2 truth of the allegations in paragraph 53.
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4 54. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 54 concerning Administrative Law  
5 Judges. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief  
6 about the truth of the remaining allegations in paragraph 54.
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8 55. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 55 to the extent they misstate or  
9 misinterpret applicable law and legal principals. Defendant otherwise lacks  
10 knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the  
11 allegations in paragraph 55.
- 12 56. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 56.
- 13  
14 57. Defendant denies any unlawful activity occurred in Plaintiff's personal workers'  
15 compensation matter. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to  
16 form a belief about the truth of the remaining allegations in paragraph 57.
- 17  
18 58. Defendant denies any unlawful activity occurred in Plaintiff's personal workers'  
19 compensation matter. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to  
20 form a belief about the truth of the remaining allegations in paragraph 58.
- 21  
22 59. Defendant denies any unlawful activity occurred in Plaintiff's personal workers'  
23 compensation matter. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to  
24 form a belief about the truth of the remaining allegations in paragraph 59.
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- 1 60. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
2 truth of the allegations in paragraph 60.  
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4 61. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
5 truth of the allegations in paragraph 61.  
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7 62. Defendant lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the  
8 truth of the allegations in paragraph 62.  
9  
10 63. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 63 to the extent it misstates the  
11 applicable burden of proof.  
12  
13 64. Defendant admits a plaintiff may seek damages under A.R.S. § 39-121.02.  
14 Defendant admits Plaintiff requested information relating to hearing dates and  
15 times. Defendant denies violation of any rights. Defendant lacks knowledge or  
16 information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the remaining  
17 allegations in paragraph 64.  
18  
19 65. Defendant denies the allegations in paragraph 65.  
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21 66. Paragraphs 66-72 contain Plaintiff's request for relief, to which no response is  
22 entitled to any relief sought.

#### **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

- 23  
24 1. The complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.  
25 2. Plaintiff's claims may be barred by the statute of limitations.  
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WHEREFORE, having fully answered Plaintiff’s Complaint, Defendant prays that the same be dismissed, that Plaintiffs take nothing thereby, for Defendant’s costs incurred herein, and for such other and further relief, as the Court deems just and equitable in the premises.

DATED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025.

RITSEMA LAW  
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*Attorney for Defendant*

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025, true and correct copies of the foregoing **DEFENDANT INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF ARIZONA'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT** were served upon the following parties by email/facsimile/U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the following:

VIA EMAIL: dw4az@proton.me

Eli Dalton-Webb

VIA EFILE: AZ Turbo Court

Superior Court of the State of Arizona

County of Maricopa

/s/ Darla Banks