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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION

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GRANT ORUDZHIAN,
Applicant

vs.
RALPHS GROCERY COMPANY;
Permissibly self-insured,

Defendants.

Case No. PAS 28866
PAS 28867

FINDINGS AND ORDER

Supplemental proceedings having been filed herein; all parties having appeared, and the matter having been regularly submitted for decision, the Honorable RUSSELL G. ZARETT, Workers' Compensation Judge, finds, awards and orders as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

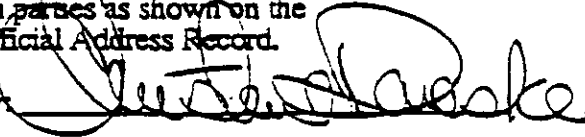
It is found that the lien of Valley Medical Group in the sum of \$5,133.50 is unreasonable and unnecessary except for the sum of \$350.00 for the reasonable value of the medical-legal report of September 7, 1993.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that defendant pay the sum of \$350.00 to Valley Medical Group and that the balance of their lien be, and it is hereby, disallowed.


RUSSELL G. ZARETT
WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE

Filed and Served by mail on: MAY 17 1995
On parties as shown on the
Official Address Record.

By: 

REC'D
MAY 26 1995

A PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION FROM THIS DECISION SHALL BE FILED ONLY AT THE PASADENA DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD.

CASE NO. PAS 28866
PAS 28867

GRANT ORUDZHYYAN

vs. RALPHS GROCERY COMPANY;
Permissibly self-insured,

WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE:

RUSSELL G. ZARETT

DATE OF INJURY:

1/14/91 through 1993 (28866);

OPINION ON DECISION

The issue of the lien of Valley Medical Group in the sum of \$5,133.50 having been submitted for decision on the present record by stipulation of the parties, it will be found that defendant should be liable for the sum of \$350.00 on this lien with the balance being disallowed.

The basis for this finding is that the defendant provided adequate medical treatment for this relatively minor injury of the right hand, and that the self-procured medical treatment provided by Valley Medical Group was unreasonable and unnecessary based upon the medical opinion of the Agreed Medical Examiner, Dr. Charles S. Lane, as stated on page 8 of his report dated February 21, 1994. Dr. Lane states: "The treatment he has had, that is, massage and exercise for four months, I feel served no purpose whatsoever in resolving his disability or hastening his convalescence." Therefore, the only portion of this lien that is allowable is the sum of \$350.00 for the reasonable value of the medical-legal report of September 7, 1993. It should also be noted that Dr. Cortes (D.C.), the treating chiropractor for Valley Medical Group, diagnoses and recommended treatment for neck, back and right knee injuries which there is not medical evidence of in the first report of injury of Dr. Brian Stanford, dated May 11, 1993. Therefore, the value of Dr. Cortes' final report, which gives a work restriction for the applicant's back, even if considered a medical-legal report, is minimal at best.



RUSSELL G. ZARETT
WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE

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