

**BEFORE THE PERSONNEL BOARD OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
IN THE MATTER OF THE APPEAL OF  
JENNIFER BELCHER**

**ORDER**

**September 18, 2024**

This matter came before the Board following the Alabama Department of Corrections (“ADOC”) dismissal of the Employee. ADOC dismissed the Employee effective January 26, 2024, following a December 15, 2023, pre-dismissal conference. On January 26, 2024, the Employee timely filed her appeal to the State Personnel Board.

The Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) sent the parties a Scheduling Order and set the date for hearing on March 13, 2024. On March 6, 2024, ADOC requested and the ALJ granted a 14-day continuance. On March 8, 2024, Ashton Ott, Esq. (“Ott”) filed a Notice of Appearance on behalf of the Employee. On March 28, 2024, the ALJ issued an Order resetting the hearing to April 16, 2024. Ott filed a Motion to Withdraw on April 10, 2024. A status call was held with the parties on April 10, 2024, where the Employee stated Eric Sheffer, Esq. (“Sheffer”) would be representing her. A letter was sent to Sheffer the same day to confirm, however, the ALJ did not receive a response to the letter. On July 11, 2024, an email was sent to the Employee requesting an update. The ALJ did not receive a response to the email.

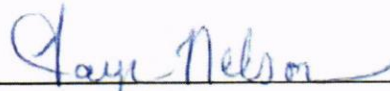
On August 22, 2024, the ALJ issued an Intent to Pursue Order. That Order required the Employee to notify the ALJ in writing of her intent to pursue her

employee dismissal appeal by close of business on Friday, September 6, 2024. The Order provided that, “[f]ailure to comply with this Order will result in the case being recommended for dismissal.” The Employee failed to respond to the August 22, 2024, Order. Therefore, the ALJ recommended the Board dismiss the Employee’s appeal for failure to prosecute.

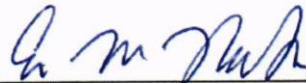
The Board has carefully considered the record before the ALJ and his Recommendation to dismiss with prejudice for failure to prosecute. Therefore, it is the Order of the Board that the appeal is **DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE**.



LAURY B. MORGAN  
SECRETARY

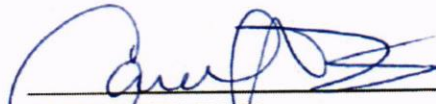


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