

September 17, 2013

CBCA 3399-RELO

In the Matter of MATTHEW C. HAWK

Matthew C. Hawk, Aguadilla, PR, Claimant.

Johnny Morales, Director, Air Operations, Caribbean Air and Marine Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, Aguadilla, PR, appearing for Department of Homeland Security.

WALTERS, Board Judge.

The Board, by decision issued on September 10, 2013, ruled against two claimants, Wilberto M. Sanchez (under CBCA 3397-RELO) and Matthew C. Hawk (under CBCA 3399-RELO). Mr. Hawk has asked that the Board reconsider our ruling, insofar as it pertains to his claim for return travel reimbursement. That claim we dismissed as premature, since Mr. Hawk has yet to complete his service with the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, and has yet to incur actual costs in returning to his home of residence in Tennessee. See Charles Wright, CBCA 3484-RELO (Aug. 22, 2013). Mr. Hawk, nonetheless, as part of his motion for reconsideration, seeks an advance ruling as to that claim. Although the Board has jurisdiction to provide an advance ruling on a claim for travel or relocation expenses at the request of an agency, 31 U.S.C. § 3529 (2006); Linda S. Hall, CBCA 2703-RELO, 12-1 BCA ¶ 35,011, we do not have authority to provide such a ruling at the request of a claimant. As of this time, the agency has not sought an advance ruling on return travel for Mr. Hawk. If and when the claim for return travel is properly put before us for review, i.e., either after Mr. Hawk completes his service and moves from Puerto Rico back to Tennessee or upon receipt of a request from the agency for an advance ruling, we will consider that claim.

Decision

Claimant's motion for reconsideration is denied.

RICHARD C. WALTERS Board Judge