COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

BOARD NO. 000456-94

Regina Morin Brancheau Employee
Bowes, Inc. Employer
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company Insurer

REVIEWING BOARD DECISION

(Judges Fabricant, Horan and Harpin)

The case was heard by Administrative Judge Koziol.

APPEARANCES

Rickie T. Weiner, Esq., for third party claimant,
James N. Ellis & Associates, at hearing
James N. Ellis, Esq., for third party claimant,
James N. Ellis & Associates, on appeal
Richard C. Hyman, Esq., for third party claimant Yellin and Hyman, P.C.
John F. Trefethen, Jr., Esq., third party claimant, pro se
William R. Trainor, Esq., for the employee on appeal

FABRICANT, J. This case is before us on remand from the Massachusetts Appeals Court following our decision in <u>Brancheau</u> v. <u>Bowes, Inc.</u>, 23 Mass. Workers' Comp. Rep. 339 (2009). The claim began as a dispute between three attorneys, Trefethen, Hyman, and Ellis, over the distribution of an attorney's fee resulting from the employee's lump sum settlement with the insurer. <u>Id</u>.

The only remaining issue in dispute is whether Hyman is entitled to the \$5,250 fee awarded to him, or whether any, or all, of that fee should instead be awarded to Ellis. Brancheau's Case, 78 Mass. App. Ct. 1116 (2010) (Memorandum and Order Pursuant to Rule 1:28). Consistent with the decision of the Appeals Court, this case must be recommitted for a quantum meruit analysis of this issue. See Zurawski v. Atlas Box and Crating Co., Inc., 28 Mass. Workers' Comp. Rep. __ (May 16, 2014)(and cases cited).

Regina Morin Brancheau Board No. 000456-94

Because the judge who originally heard this case is now a member of this board, we transfer the case to the senior judge for reassignment to an administrative judge for a hearing consistent with the decision of the Appeals Court.

So ordered.

Bernard W. Fabricant Administrative Law Judge

William C. Harpin Administrative Law Judge

Mark D. Horan Administrative Law Judge

Filed: **August 12, 2014**