UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICER

January 25, 2024

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	
Complainant,)	
)	8 U.S.C. § 1324a Proceeding
V.)	OCAHO Case No. 2023A00053
)	
ECO BRITE LINENS, LLC)	
D/B/A ECOBRITE LINEN,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

Appearances: Geoffrey Gilpin, Esq., for Complainant Ritika Narayanan, Esq., for Respondent

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO DISMISS

This case arises under the employer sanctions provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as amended, 8 U.S.C. § 1234a.

On March 29, 2023, Complainant, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, filed a complaint against Respondent, Eco Brite Linens, LLC d/b/a EcoBrite Linen, alleging violations of §§ 1324a(a)(1)(A)–(B).

On May 26, 2023, Respondent filed its Answer.

On August 14, 2023, the Court referred this case to OCAHO's Settlement Officer Program for 60 days, and later extended the parties' time in the Program following a request to do so.

On December 19, 2023, the Court held a prehearing conference, in which the parties confirmed they were finalizing a settlement agreement. The Court offered guidance on approvable settlement terms. *See United States v. Eco Brite Linens, LLC*, 18 OCAHO no. 1485b, 2-3 (2023).

On January 24, 2024, the parties filed a Joint Motion to Dismiss with Prejudice. The parties have "signed a Settlement Agreement detailing the terms of settlement, including payment plans,

amount of settlement, etc." and "the language contained in the Settlement Agreement complies with . . . approvable settlement terms [consistent with guidance provided by the Court]". Joint Mot. Dismiss 4; see *United States v. Eco Brite Linens, LLC*, 18 OCAHO no. 1485b, 2-3 (2023). The parties requested dismissal with prejudice pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 68.14(a)(2). *Id.* at 5.

Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 68.14(a)(2), where parties have entered into a settlement agreement, they shall "[n]otify the Administrative Law Judge that the parties have reached a full settlement and have agreed to dismissal of the action. Dismissal of the action shall be subject to the approval of the Administrative Law Judge, who may require the filing of the settlement agreement."

The parties' January 24, 2024, motion provides notice of settlement that comports with 28 C.F.R. § 68.14(a)(2). While the Court may require the filing of a settlement agreement, it declines to do so here.

The parties' Joint Motion to Dismiss is GRANTED, and the case is hereby DISMISSED with prejudice.

This is a Final Order.¹

SO ORDERED.

Dated and entered on January 25, 2024.

Honorable Andrea R. Carroll-Tipton Administrative Law Judge

¹ See 28 C.F.R. § 68.2 (A "[f]inal order is an order by an Administrative Law Judge that disposes of a particular proceeding . . . thereby concluding the jurisdiction of the Administrative Law Judge over that proceeding[.]").

Appeal Information

This order shall become the final agency order unless modified, vacated, or remanded by the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer (CAHO) or the Attorney General.

Provisions governing administrative reviews by the CAHO are set forth at 8 U.S.C. § 1324a(e)(7) and 28 C.F.R. pt. 68. Note in particular that a request for administrative review must be filed with the CAHO within ten (10) days of the date of this order, pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 68.54(a)(1).

Provisions governing the Attorney General's review of this order, or any CAHO order modifying or vacating this order, are set forth at 8 U.S.C. § 1324a(e)(7) and 28 C.F.R. pt. 68. Within thirty (30) days of the entry of a final order by the CAHO, or within sixty (60) days of the entry of an Administrative Law Judge's final order if the CAHO does not modify or vacate such order, the Attorney General may direct the CAHO to refer any final order to the Attorney General for review, pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 68.55.

A petition to review the final agency order may be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit within forty-five (45) days after the date of the final agency order pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1324a(e)(8) and 28 C.F.R. § 68.56.