

FILED
SUPREME COURT
STATE OF WASHINGTON
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No. 98633-9

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

UNEMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT, et al.

Petitioners,

v.

SUZAN LEVINE, COMMISSIONER FOR THE WASHINGTON STATE EMPLOYMENT
SECURITY DEPARTMENT,

Respondent.

DECLARATION OF JEREMY BRADFORD

THE SHERIDAN LAW FIRM, P.S.

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Attorneys for Petitioners

I, JEREMY BRADFORD, declare that the following statement is true and correct:

1. My name is Jeremy Joseph Bradford.
2. I am over the age of eighteen (18) and competent to make this declaration.
3. I am a resident of Seattle in King County, WA.
4. I worked at Millionaire's Club as a Senior Cook.
5. I became unemployed on March 6th, 2020.
6. I applied for unemployment benefits in May 27th, 2020 for benefits starting in March.
7. I submitted my ID, DD 214 and W-2 statement.
8. On the 10th of June, I submitted my social security card after I contacted a previous employer for a copy.
9. I received a Monetary Determination that I was denied regular unemployment but that I was eligible for the \$235 for thirteen weeks under the CARES Act, with an additional \$600 every week through the end of July upon approval. I've been filing weekly.
10. Since then, my account says "pending." Nothing has changed. I am still eligible for the same amount, and my account says, "Nothing needs to be done at this time."

11. I have taken the following actions to address this issue with ESD: I have called ESD every day for the last three weeks. I will call five minutes before 7AM, 5 minutes before 8AM, and then I will try for 20 minutes. I will also try throughout the day till 5 o'clock. I've never talked to a single person—this is the most dispiriting part about it. You never talk to anyone and are left in limbo. I've clicked on the link to send a message, and a notification pops up that tells me that ESD taking too many messages at this time and can't help me. I have called all the employers that I've worked for to see if they've received something from ESD to track ESD's progress. Only the Millionaire's Club has responded, stating they have sent the appropriate paperwork in. I've even tried to click the link on the website about hiring 1,000 individuals to help with the call center, but with no luck. Every day, I get on YouTube and watch videos about the current developments in Washington State, but it doesn't help, because all the money is being routing through ESD, who I can't get into contact with.

12. I have been significantly and adversely affected in the following ways due to my not receiving my unemployment benefits, because I'm applying for a new apartment through the VA, and they've asked me for my income amount—which is zero. I'm living off of food bank food and EBT, food stamps. I can't pay my internet bill, and I just

actually recently went to get an eye exam, but my Apple Care health insurance wouldn't cover my glasses. I have to wait for a supplemental check to get my glasses

13. I'm very stressed out because I'm living in transitional housing and waiting to move into a place near the Sand Point Naval Base, which is farther out, and I'll need transportation. I've told someone that I wanted to buy his car, but I don't have any money now to buy it. I've got to narrow down the jobs that I'm looking for because I don't know if I will have transportation. I can't put things on hold anymore. I was really depressed recently because I was shopping for things that I need on the internet, filling up my shopping cart, but I had to cancel everything because I don't know if I'm going to get my unemployment money. It's just a mess. The hardest part is the lack of transparency or explanation. When you click on anything on the ESD website, it just asks for patience and to keep submitting claims. After 3 weeks of submitting claims and getting the same message, you start to wonder, "Are they actually doing anything?" My biggest concern is that I will go for 5 weeks expecting to get money and then I'll get qualified, because the parameters aren't even listed. I don't even know what the guidelines for getting the pandemic assistance and whether I have enough work hours. I don't even know if I'm eligible. I think that it's vital that ESD contact people with claims for

more than 3 weeks and assure people—at the bare minimum. My employer’s daughter had to wait 2 and a half months. That means that I would have to wait another month and a half. But not knowing—that’s the worst.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

DATED this 19th day of June, 2020 in Seattle, Washington.


JEREMY BRADFORD

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Tony Dondero, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington and the United States that, on June 23, 2020, I served the document to which this Certificate is attached to the party listed below in the manner shown.

ROBERT FERGUSON
Attorney General

Eric D. Peterson, WSBA #35555
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- By United States Mail
- By Legal Messenger
- By Facsimile
- By Overnight Fed Ex Delivery
- By Electronic Mail

Dated this 23rd day of June 2020.

s/Tony Dondero _____
Tony Dondero,
Legal Assistant

THE SHERIDAN LAW FIRM, P.S.

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