U.S. Department of Labor   Office of Administrative Law Judges
St. Tammany Courthouse Annex
428 E. Boston Street, 1st Floor
Covington, LA 70433-2846

(985) 809-5173
(985) 893-7351 (Fax)

Issue Date: 03 October 2007

CASE NO.: **2007-SOX-00062**

RAMONA DENISE BELL,
     Complainant,

     v.

EDWARD JONES INVESTMENTS,
     Respondent

ORDER APPROVING WITHDRAWAL OF COMPLAINANT'S OBJECTION AND REQUEST FOR HEARING

This case arises under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (herein "SOX" or "the Act"), technically known as the Corporate and Criminal Fraud Accountability Act, P.L. 107-204 at 18 U.S.C. § 1514A *et seq.*, and the employee protective provisions promulgated hereunder at 29 C.F.R. Part 1980. Under SOX, the Secretary of Labor is empowered to investigate and determine "whistleblower" complaints filed by employees of publicly traded companies who are allegedly discharged or otherwise discriminated against with regard to their terms and conditions of employment for providing information about fraud against company shareholders to supervisors, federal agencies, or members of Congress.

In March, 2007, Complainant filed a complaint with the Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration (herein "OSHA") under the employee protective provisions of SOX. The Secretary of Labor through her agent, OSHA investigated the March, 2007 complaint, and on May 21, 2007 issued a report dismissing the complaint, finding Respondent was not a company within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 1514(A) and no evidence of a SOX violation. On June 21, 2007, Complainant filed an objection and request for hearing regarding the OSHA determination. The matter was referred to the undersigned for hearing. On

September 24, 2007, Complainant informed the undersigned that she wished to withdraw her objection and request for hearing. There being no objection to Complainant's withdrawal of her objection and request for hearing, I hereby **APPROVE** the withdrawal and, accordingly, dismiss the claim.

A

CLEMENT J. KENNINGTON
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE