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Issue Date: 10 June 2011

Case No.: 2010-STA-00062

In the matter of:

NATHANIEL BARRON, Complainant, V.

R & L TRANSFER, INC. and R & L CARRIERS SHARED SERVICES LLC, Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT AND DISMISSING CASE

This proceeding arises from a complaint filed by Nathaniel Barron against R & L Transfer, Inc. and R & L Carriers Shared Services, LLC, and the resultant appeal of the Secretary's Findings and Dismissal of the complaint. This proceeding arises under Section 31105 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) of 1982 (49 U.S.C. § 31105), as amended by the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007, Pub. L. No. 110-53.

The Act and implementing regulations provide that a proceeding under the Act may be ended prior to entry of a final order by a settlement agreement between the parties. 49 U.S.C. §311105(b)(2)(C); 29 C.F.R. § 1978.111(d)(2). The Administrative Law Judge's role in reviewing the parties' settlement agreement is limited to ascertaining whether the terms of the agreement fairly, adequately and reasonably settle the Complainant's allegations that the Respondent violated the Act. <u>Ass't Sec'y & Zurenda v. Corporate Express Delivery Systems</u>, Inc., ARB No. 00-04 1, OALJ No. 1999-STA-30 (ARB March 31, 2000) (<u>Zurenda</u>); <u>Champlin v. Florilli Corp.</u>, OALJ No. 1991-STA-7 (Sec'y May 20, 1992).

Pursuant to the requirements of the Act and the implementing regulations, I have carefully reviewed the terms of the parties' Settlement Agreement, and I have determined that it constitutes a fair, adequate and reasonable settlement of the complaint. The signed agreement is made a part of the formal file.

ACCORDINGLY, it is hereby ORDERED that:

- 1. The "Settlement Agreement and Release of All Claims" is **APPROVED** and
- 2. The appeal of Nathaniel Barron is **DISMISSED** with prejudice.

SO ORDERED.

A DANIEL A. SARNO, JR. District Chief Administrative Law Judge

DAS,JR/CCB/ccb Newport News, Virginia