

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Campbell v. Parkway Surgery Center, LLC, Docket No. 42173

The Idaho Supreme Court affirmed in part and reversed in part the Bingham County district court's decision affirming the magistrate's order granting Michelle Campbell relief on her breach of contract claim. This case stemmed from an employment offer Parkway Surgery Center, LLC (Parkway) made to Campbell, which included assurances that Parkway would "take care of" a loan Campbell had with her previous employer, Bingham Memorial Hospital (BMH). When Parkway refused to pay the obligation as promised, Campbell filed suit for a breach of contract.

The magistrate court ruled in favor of Campbell and awarded her damages in the amount of the loan plus interest. Parkway appealed to the district court, which affirmed the magistrate's order, but remanded to the magistrate to reform the judgment to grant Campbell specific performance instead of damages. Parkway appealed to the Idaho Supreme Court, arguing, among other things, that the district court erred when it (1) affirmed the magistrate court's order; (2) determined Campbell was entitled to specific performance; (3) affirmed the magistrate's award of attorney fees; and (4) awarded attorney fees to Campbell.

The Idaho Supreme Court held that the district court did not err when it affirmed the magistrate's order, but that the district court did err when it reversed the magistrate's award of damages. The Court further held that the district court did not err in affirming the magistrate's award of attorney fees, nor did it err in awarding fees on appeal. The Court remanded the case back to the district court with instructions to reinstate the damage award. The Court awarded attorney fees and costs on appeal to Campbell.