

SUMMARY STATEMENT
Eldridge v. Agar Livestock, LLC
Dkt. No. 49570

This expedited appeal arose out of the Idaho Industrial Commission's ("Commission") order deeming Agar Livestock, LLC ("Agar") a category one statutory employer of Jason Eldridge under Idaho's Worker's Compensation Act. In January 2018, Eldridge was injured while loading cattle from a chute into a trailer. At that time, Eldridge's direct employer, Meissen Trucking, was not carrying worker's compensation insurance. The load that Meissen had hired Eldridge to haul was dispatched by Agar to Meissen. After a hearing, the Commission found that Agar had contracted for services from Meissen, thus, Agar was a category one statutory employer of Eldridge and liable to Eldridge for worker's compensation benefits. Agar timely appealed, arguing it was merely a "broker" who did not contract for services from Meissen.

The Idaho Supreme Court affirmed the decision of the Commission. The Court explained that the record showed Agar had, in its contractual arrangement with Meissen, agreed to provide dispatcher services to Meissen, but Agar had also hired Meissen as a carrier that "transport[ed] livestock for [Agar]." Thus, the Commission's finding that Agar had contracted for services *from* Meissen was supported by substantial and competent evidence, and that finding would not be disturbed on appeal.

*****This summary constitutes no part of the opinion of the Court but has been prepared by court staff for the convenience of the public.*****