

**IN THE EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS AUTHORITY
AUCKLAND**

AA 89A/10
5162778

BETWEEN ANGELA-CLAIRE HUNT
 Applicant

AND HALLS PHARMACY
 LIMITED
 Respondent

Member of Authority: Alastair Dumbleton

Submissions Received 12 March 2010, Respondent only

Determination: 5 August 2010

COSTS DETERMINATION OF THE AUTHORITY

[1] In its determination dated 26 February 2010 given under AA89/10, the Authority found that the applicant, Ms Angela-Claire Hunt, did not have a personal grievance. For the reasons given the Authority held that Ms Hunt had not been dismissed by Halls Pharmacy Limited as contended by her and had not had any action taken against her unjustifiably and to her disadvantage.

[2] The Authority reserved the question of costs and allowed 14 days for any application to be made.

[3] A copy of the application that was made in accordance with the Authority's directions was served on Ms Hunt. Despite the requirement for her to provide any reply within 14 days, nothing has been heard from Ms Hunt or any representative.

[4] The matter before the Authority was quite straightforward to investigate and was also one for which Ms Hall, it appears, felt she did not need representation. The meeting itself took no more than half a day, with resolution of the claim turning on the factual issue of what exactly had been said between Mr Hall and Ms Hunt at work the day before she finished her job there.

[5] Costs have been sought on the basis of a reasonable contribution to the employer's actual costs. The amount claimed is a total of \$1,750, being three hours' hearing time and four hours' preparation charged out at \$250 per hour.

[6] Costs are in the discretion of the Authority. Given the relatively simple nature of this claim, I consider that a reasonable contribution to costs is \$1,000.

[7] Pursuant to clause 15 of Schedule 2 of the Employment Relations Act 2000, Ms Angela-Claire Hunt is ordered to pay \$1,000 to Halls Pharmacy Limited.

A Dumbleton
Member of the Employment Relations Authority