

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

District of Columbia v. Hall

165 U.S. 340 (1897) · No. No. 619 · Decided February 15, 1897

SUMMARY

The District of Columbia v. Hall case involves a contractor who filed a petition under the act of 1880 to recover payment for work done. The contractor initially failed to recover the full amount but was later granted a new trial under the act of 1895 to claim 'board rates' compensation. The court of claims ruled in favor of the contractor, but the judgment was reversed due to inconsistencies with previous cases. The case was remanded for further proceedings.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of the United States
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Peckham
JURISDICTION	Federal
DECIDED	February 15, 1897
DOCKET	No. 619
DISPOSITION	reversed_and_remanded
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appeal from the Court of Claims
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	high
PARTIES	District of Columbia v. Hall

TOPICS

- appellate jurisdiction
- appellate procedure
- government contracts

PRACTICE AREAS

- government contracts
- appellate procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the judgment of the Court of Claims awarding the difference between board rates and certificates should be affirmed.

HOLDINGS

1. The Supreme Court reversed the Court of Claims judgment and remanded the case for further proceedings not inconsistent with its opinion.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The court of claims gave judgment in his favor for that difference between the two rates, and found that under the true intent and meaning of the acts of 1895 and 1880 the sum for which it gave judgment 'became due and payable on the 1st of January, 1877,' which was the date when the plaintiff had completed his work under the contract.” (165 U.S. 340)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Hall performed work as a contractor and was paid only 50% of the face value of certificates, which he accepted at that rate. He later sought the remaining 50% of his contract price and, after an initial suit failed, obtained a judgment for the balance under the act of 1880 and subsequently applied for a new trial under the act of 1895 to claim board rates compensation.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Hall, a contractor, sued under the act of 1880 for payment of the balance of his contract price and later sought additional compensation under the act of 1895. The Court of Claims entered judgment in his favor for the difference between board rates and certificates, but the Supreme Court reversed that judgment and remanded for further proceedings consistent with its opinion.

DISPOSITION

reversed_and_remanded

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

Cause remanded for further proceedings not inconsistent with this opinion.

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