

COURT OF APPEALS OF ARKANSAS, DIVISION IV

**Harding Logistics Inc. v. Director**

2026 Ark. App. 355 · No. No. E-26-42 · Decided May 20, 2026

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SUMMARY

The Arkansas Court of Appeals dismissed Harding Logistics Inc.'s appeal from a Board of Review decision granting unemployment benefits to the claimant. The court held that the corporation's petition was null and void because it was signed and filed by the company's president, who was not a licensed attorney, leaving the court without jurisdiction.

OPINION

Harding Logistics Inc. v. Director 2026 Ark. App. 355

PER CURIAM.

Cite as 2026 Ark. App. 355

ARKANSAS COURT OF APPEALS

DIVISION IV

No. E-26-42 HARDING LOGISTICS INC. Opinion Delivered May 20, 2026

APPEAL FROM THE ARKANSAS

APPELLANT BOARD OF REVIEW

V. [NO. 2026-BR-00026]

DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF

WORKFORCE SERVICES DISMISSED

APPELLEE

WAYMOND M. BROWN, Judge The claimant, Michael Kirkham, timely appealed to the Appeal Tribunal an Agency determination denying his application for unemployment benefits because he had quit his last job without good cause connected to the work. The Tribunal affirmed the denial of benefits, so Kirkham appealed that decision to the Board of Review. On February 19, 2026, the Board issued its decision reversing the Tribunal's decision and granted Kirkham, the claimant, unemployment benefits. The employer, Harding Logistics Inc., timely appealed that decision to this court. We dismiss for lack of jurisdiction. On March 16, 2026, Harding Logistics filed its petition with this court. This petition was signed by Randy Harding, the president of the company, who is not a licensed attorney. Our supreme court has held that when a party not licensed to practice law in this state attempts to represent the interests of others by submitting to the jurisdiction of a court, those actions, such as the filing of pleadings, are rendered a nullity. 1 Additionally, Harding indicated in the petition that Harding Logistics, a corporation, was not represented by an attorney. Because he is not an attorney, he cannot represent Harding Logistics in

this case.<sup>2</sup> It is well settled that invoking the process of a court of law constitutes the practice of law.<sup>3</sup> Therefore, since Harding is not an attorney and was practicing law when he signed the petition, the petition is null and void.<sup>4</sup> As a result, we lack jurisdiction and dismiss this appeal. Dismissed. ABRAMSON and MURPHY, JJ., agree. Randy Harding, pro se appellant. Cynthia L. Uhrynowycz, for appellee. 1 Nirvana Med. Spa v. Dir., 2024 Ark. App. 284 (citing IHOP #1914 v. Dir., 2023 Ark. App. 102 (holding that corporations must be represented by licensed attorneys)). 2 Id. 3 Super 8 Motel v. Dir., 2019 Ark. App. 555. 4 Id. 2