

Board of Contract Appeals

General Services Administration
Washington, D.C. 20405

May 4, 2006

GSBCA 16814-RELO

In the Matter of DALE B. THOMPSON

Dale B. Thompson, Vail, AZ, Claimant.

Michael D. Snyder, Regional Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Denver, CO, appearing for Department of the Interior.

GOODMAN, Board Judge.

Claimant, Dale B. Thompson, is a retired federal employee. He has asked this Board to review the Department of the Interior's denials of reimbursement of relocation expenses issued in 1985 and 1986.

Factual Background

In 1983, claimant transferred from the United States Postal Service (Postal Service) to the National Park Service (NPS) of the Department of the Interior (Interior) and moved from Oklahoma to Arkansas. Claimant's travel orders authorized reimbursement of relocation expenses. In September 1985, claimant submitted a voucher requesting reimbursement of relocation expenses in the amount of \$4738 that were incurred earlier that year.

In October 1985, the Finance Office of the Interior Field Office for the Southwest Region, relying upon a decision issued by the Comptroller General (58 Comp. Gen. 132 (1978)), determined that regulations in effect at the time of his transfer did not authorize reimbursement by federal agencies for moving expenses incurred by employees of the Postal Service, as the Postal Service was not an agency of the Federal Government. This determination was reiterated in an opinion of the Office of Solicitor of the Interior Field Office for the Southwest Region dated March 7, 1986.

In February 2006, claimant filed a request at this Board to review the agency's denials of reimbursement of relocation expenses.

Discussion

Claimant's claim for reimbursement of relocation expenses accrued when the expenses were incurred in 1985. In 1985 and 1986, when he received written determinations from Interior denying reimbursement, the Comptroller General of the United States was the authority that reviewed agency determinations concerning relocation expenses, and claims cognizable by that official were subject to a six-year statute of limitations. *See Deland L. Broten*, GSBCA 13730-RELO, 97-1 BCA ¶ 28,961; *Lynn D. Jamison*, GSBCA 13642-TRAV, 97-1 BCA ¶ 28,780 (citing 31 U.S.C. § 3702(b)); *Edward M. Jackson*, B-189075 (Aug. 17, 1991). Claimant did not request that the Comptroller General review the agency's determinations during the requisite time period, and his request for review to this Board is therefore untimely.

Decision

This case is dismissed.

ALLAN H. GOODMAN
Board Judge