Sidell

(Applicant)

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Judgment No. 2014-UNAT-489

JUDGE SOPHIA ADINYIRA, PRESIDING.

1. The United Nations Appeals Tribunal (Appeals Tribunal) has before it two applications, one for correction and the other for interpretation, of Judgment No. 2013-UNAT-348, in the case of *Sidell v. United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board*, which was rendered on 21 June 2013. Mrs. Trang Sidell filed her applications on 9 September 2013, and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF or Fund), acting on behalf of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (UNJ SPB), filed comments to the two applications on 26 September 2013. By Order No. 165 (2013), the Appeals Tribunal rejected Mrs. Sidell's motion to file comments on UNJSPF's 26 September 2013 comments.

Background

- 2. Mrs. Sidell challenged the decision taken by the UNJSPB not to pay her a widow's benefit because she had not been reported to the Fund asbeing married to Mr. Sidell at the time of his separation from service in 2002. Mrs. Sidell and Mr. Sidell married in December 2000. After his separation, in October 2003, Mr. Sidell contacted the UNJSPF to report his marriage in 2000. Subsequently, he mailed the marriage certificate to the UNJSPF at the latter's request. Mr. Sidell died on 6 May 2010.
- 3. In Judgment No. 2013-UNAT-348, the Appeals Tribunal reviewed the UNJSPF's relevant Regulations and Administrative Rules and concluded that the UNJSPF's Administrative Rules did not prevent a participant such as Mr. Sidell from changing his record to acknowledge the valid marriage that he had entered into before his separation, and that it was unreasonable to deny Mrs. Sidell a widow's benefit. However, the Appeals Tribunal also concluded that the Sidells were negligent in not reporting their marriage before their respective separations from service and that the negligence on the part of the Sidells caused the UNJSPF to incur additional new obligations. Accordingly, the Appeals Tribunal ordered that the payment of the widow's benefit to Mrs. Sidell should start from 21 June 2013, the date of the Judgment.

Submissions

Mrs. Sidell's Applications fo r Correction and Interpretation

4. Judgment No. 2013-UNAT-348 should be corrected, because it was a mistake to link her and her late husband's repatriation packages at the single rate with their not reporting their

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marriage	before	separation,	and	it	was	а	factual	error	to	say	that	their	not	reporting	their
marriage	marriage before separation amounted to negligen														

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