U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of ELIZABETH VERSIC <u>and</u> U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, ROME POST OFFICE, Rome, NY

Docket No. 98-235; Submitted on the Record; Issued August 13, 1999

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before DAVID S. GERSON, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, BRADLEY T. KNOTT

The issue is whether appellant has met her burden of proof to establish that she sustained a back injury while in the performance of duty on July 23, 1996.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of appellant on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated September 27, 1997 affirming the Office's January 21, 1997 decision finding the evidence of record insufficient to establish that appellant sustained an injury as alleged is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.

The September 27 and January 21, 1997 decisions of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs are hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. August 13, 1999

> David S. Gerson Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott Alternate Member