U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of THOMAS W. MALDOVAN <u>and</u> U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, POST OFFICE, Smithfield, Pa.

Docket No. 97-2485; Submitted on the Record; Issued June 10, 1999

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, DAVID S. GERSON, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS

The issue is whether appellant has met his burden of proof in establishing that he sustained an occupational disease in the performance of duty.

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 July 19, 1994 decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated July 19, 1994 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. June 10, 1999

> George E. Rivers Member

David S. Gerson Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Alternate Member