U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of VANDUE R. MILES <u>and</u> U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, POST OFFICE, Richmond, Va.

Docket No. 96-2541; Submitted on the Record; Issued July 23, 1998

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DECISION and **ORDER**

Before DAVID S. GERSON, MICHAEL E. GROOM, BRADLEY T. KNOTT

The issue is whether appellant's back condition and disability beginning January 27, 1992 is causally related to his August 31, 1990 accepted employment injury.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions 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 and made final on July 19, 1996 is in accordance with the facts and law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated and finalized on July 19, 1996 is affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. July 23, 1998

> David S. Gerson Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott Alternate Member