#### U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

# Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

## In the Matter of BARBARA FITZGERALD <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, BROOKLYN VETERANS MEDICAL CENTER, Brooklyn, NY

Docket No. 97-2510; Submitted on the Record; Issued August 9, 1999

#### **DECISION** and **ORDER**

## Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, MICHAEL E. GROOM

The issues are: (1) whether the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs properly terminated appellant's compensation benefits effective January 15, 1997; and (2) whether appellant met her burden of proof to establish that she had any disability after January 15, 1997 causally related to her employment injuries.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issues 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 dated May 8, 1997 and finalized May 9, 1997 is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office's hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated May 8, 1997 and finalized May 9, 1997 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. August 9, 1999

> George E. Rivers Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Alternate Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member