

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of JAMES J. CUSATO and U.S. POSTAL SERVICE,
POST OFFICE, Bellmawr, N.J.

*Docket No. 97-1467; Submitted on the Record;
Issued February 3, 1999*

DECISION and ORDER

Before MICHAEL E. GROOM, BRADLEY T. KNOTT,
A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant's back condition and disability commencing on or after August 16, 1993 is causally related to his April 28, 1988 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 Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' hearing representative dated and made final on December 23, 1996 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 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated and finalized on December 23, 1996 is affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C.
February 3, 1999

Michael E. Groom
Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott
Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski
Alternate Member