## U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

## Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

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In the Matter of MELINDA R. HINKLE <u>and</u> U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, POST OFFICE, Greensboro, N.C.

Docket No. 97-1525; Submitted on the Record; Issued February 22, 1999

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

## Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, DAVID S. GERSON, A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant has established that her recurrence of disability beginning June 24, 1994 was causally related to her January 19, 1993 employment-related injury.

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 and made final on January 8, 1997 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 January 8, 1997 is affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. February 22, 1999

George E. Rivers Member

David S. Gerson Member

A. Peter Kanjorski Alternate Member