U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of LINDA F. BENNION <u>and</u> VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, MEDICAL CENTER, Fayetteville, NC

Docket No. 98-1033; Submitted on the Record; Issued September 24, 1999

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, MICHAEL E. GROOM, A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant established that she sustained a back condition causally related to the performance of her federal employment.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of the parties on appeal and the entire case record.

The Board finds that the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' hearing representative's decision dated November 20, 1997 is in accordance with the facts and the law of the case and hereby adopts the hearing representative's findings and conclusions.

Accordingly, the decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated November 20, 1997 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. September 24, 1999

> George E. Rivers Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski Alternate Member