U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of CHESTER A. JOHNSON <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, Brecksville, OH

Docket No. 99-140; Submitted on the Record; Issued April 17, 2000

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before DAVID S. GERSON, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, BRADLEY T. KNOTT

The issue is whether appellant has established that he sustained a recurrence of disability on September 15, 1997 based on his September 9, 1992 work-related back sprain and left shoulder and elbow sprain.

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 August 25, 1998 decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.

The decisions of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated August 25, 1998 and October 23, 1997 are hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. April 17, 2000

> David S. Gerson Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott Alternate Member