U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of WALTER E. PETERSON <u>and</u> U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, POST OFFICE, Tulsa, OK

Docket No. 99-1693; Submitted on the Record; Issued August 1, 2000

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before DAVID S. GERSON, MICHAEL E. GROOM, A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant has established that he sustained a recurrence of disability as of April 19, 1996 causally related to his accepted January 3, 1995 cervical and lower back strain.

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 February 26, 1999 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' hearing representative is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated February 26, 1999 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. August 1, 2000

> David S. Gerson Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski Alternate Member