U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of KEITH T. STEWART <u>and DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS</u>, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, Philadelphia, PA

Docket No. 99-179; Submitted on the Record; Issued September 7, 2000

DECISION and ORDER

Before MICHAEL J. WALSH, DAVID S. GERSON, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS

The issue is whether appellant sustained an injury in the performance of duty on March 14, 1997, as alleged.

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 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' hearing representative, dated and finalized on July 9, 1998, 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 July 9, 1998 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. September 7, 2000

> Michael J. Walsh Chairman

David S. Gerson Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Member