

The present appeal involves appellant's August 13, 2008 occupational disease claim in File No. xxxxxx305, in which she alleged that she sustained an aggravation of her fibromyalgia condition as a result of the above-referenced July 10, 2007 work-related "slip and fall" incident. In a March 29, 2010 decision, OWCP denied the claim on the grounds that the evidence failed to establish a causal relationship between appellant's diagnosed fibromyalgia and her federal duties. By decision dated September 29, 2010, OWCP's hearing representative affirmed the March 29, 2010 decision.

As the condition of fibromyalgia is at issue in both cases, medical evidence contained in File No. xxxxxx180 will necessarily bear directly on appellant's claim for compensation in the instant case. Further, it appears that appellant's August 13, 2008 claim may be duplicative of the December 8, 2007 claim. Because it is essential for the Board to review the medical evidence contained in File No. xxxxxx180 in order to render a full and fair adjudication of the present appeal, this case will be remanded for OWCP to consolidate File Nos. xxxxxx180 and xxxxxx305, and issue an appropriate merit decision on her claim.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' September 29, 2010 decision be set aside and the case remanded for further development consistent with this order of the Board.

Issued: August 12, 2011
Washington, DC

Richard J. Daschbach, Chief Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Alec J. Koromilas, Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Colleen Duffy Kiko, Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board