

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of VANESSA E. ALEXANDER and U.S. POSTAL SERVICE,
POST OFFICE, Kansas City, Mo.

*Docket No. 97-1591; Submitted on the Record;
Issued March 15, 1999*

DECISION and ORDER

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, MICHAEL E. GROOM,
BRADLEY T. KNOTT

The issues are: (1) whether appellant had any disability or medical residuals on or after December 12, 1995, causally related to her March 2, 1994 accepted left hip contusion injury; and (2) whether appellant has established that she sustained a recurrence of disability on September 28, 1995,¹ causally related to her March 2, 1994 accepted left hip contusion injury.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issues involved, the contentions of appellant on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the February 25, 1997 and July 3, 1996 decisions of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' hearing representative are in accordance with the facts and the law in this case, and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.

The Board notes that the only injury or condition accepted by the Office as occurring as a result of, or as being related to appellant's March 2, 1994 employment incident was that of left hip contusion.² The Board also notes that there is no medical evidence of record to establish that appellant sustained a recurrence of disability on or after September 28, 1995, causally related to her March 2, 1994 accepted left hip contusion injury. The Board additionally notes that there is no medical evidence of record to support that appellant had any disability or medical residuals on or after December 12, 1995, causally related to her March 2, 1994 accepted left hip contusion.

¹ Appellant filed an earlier claim for recurrence of disability commencing July 15, 1994, which was not adjudicated by the Office, and therefore, is not before the Board on this appeal; *see* 20 C.F.R. § 501.2(c).

² Other injuries and conditions noted in the record which have not been accepted as being related to the March 2, 1994 incident include left hip/leg tendinitis, left trochanteric bursitis, left hip strain, left hip tissue necrosis, herniated nucleus pulposus at L4-5, sciatic nerve and peroneal nerve damage and depression. Disability due to any of these conditions is therefore not compensable under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act. Further, the medical evidence of record is insufficiently rationalized to establish by the weight of reliable, probative and substantial evidence, that any of these conditions are causally related either to the March 2, 1994 employment incident or to the accepted left hip contusion.

The Board further notes that the weight of the probative and rationalized medical evidence of record is constituted by the impartial medical examination of Dr. Bansal, which supported that appellant had no disability or medical residuals as of September 14, 1995, causally related to her March 2, 1994 left hip contusion, and that any residuals of the March 2, 1994 left hip contusion should have resolved within about three weeks following the injury.

Accordingly, the decisions of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated February 25, 1997 and July 3, 1996 are hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C.
March 15, 1999

George E. Rivers
Member

Michael E. Groom
Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott
Alternate Member