

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of WILLIE M. SCOTT and DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE,
AIR TRAINING COMMAND, COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, MS

*Docket No. 98-2166; Submitted on the Record;
Issued January 10, 2000*

DECISION and ORDER

Before MICHAEL E. GROOM, BRADLEY T. KNOTT,
A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant has met his burden of proof in establishing that he sustained a recurrence of disability on March 28, 1997 causally related to the April 11, 1991 employment injury.

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 June 4, 1998 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs hearing representative, finalized June 4, 1998, is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.¹

¹ The only medical report appellant submitted which addresses causation is from his treating physician, Dr. Jeffrey R. Chain, a Board-certified orthopedic surgeon, dated July 1, 1997. The report, however, is vague and speculative in addressing the cause of appellant's left knee condition and therefore is insufficient to establish appellant's claim for a recurrence of disability; *see William S. Wright*, 45 ECAB 498, 503-04.

The decisions of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated June 4, 1998 and August 13, 1997 are hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C.
January 10, 2000

Michael E. Groom
Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott
Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski
Alternate Member