

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

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In the Matter of RICHARD REIHMAN and U.S. POSTAL SERVICE,  
POST OFFICE, Iowa City, IA

*Docket No. 00-2780; Submitted on the Record;  
Issued July 5, 2001*

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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 heart attack due to factors of his federal employment.

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 July 26, 2000 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' hearing representative, finalized July 27, 2000, is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Appellant attributed his heart attack to stress due to the fear that he would be the next employee harassed or disciplined. The Board notes that the fear of a future injury is not a compensable factor of employment. *Joseph G. Cutrufello*, 46 ECAB 285, 294 (1994). Appellant also attributed his condition to the stress of meeting the time limits inherent in his position. This is a compensable factor of employment. *Georgia F. Kennedy*, 35 ECAB 1151, 1155 (1984); *Joseph A. Antal*, 34 ECAB 608, 612 (1983). The hearing representative then properly considered the medical evidence and concluded that it was not sufficient to meet appellant's burden of proof in establishing a causal relationship between his accepted employment factor and his diagnosed condition.

The July 27, 2000 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is affirmed.

Dated, Washington, DC  
July 5, 2001

Michael E. Groom  
Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott  
Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski  
Alternate Member