

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of ARLENE PAZ and U.S. POSTAL SERVICE,
POST OFFICE, Jersey City, NJ

*Docket No. 00-1656; Submitted on the Record;
Issued January 25, 2002*

DECISION and ORDER

Before DAVID S. GERSON, BRADLEY T. KNOTT,
PRISCILLA ANNE SCHWAB

The issue is whether appellant is entitled to more than a five percent permanent impairment to her right upper extremity for which she received a schedule award.

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 January 6, 2000 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs 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 impartial medical specialist, Dr. Ernesto A. Tolentino, a Board-certified orthopedic surgeon, opined that appellant had a five percent permanent impairment to her right upper extremity pursuant to the American Medical Association, *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment* (4th ed. 1994). His opinion was well rationalized and thus constitutes the weight of the evidence. See *Richard L. Rhodes*, 50 ECAB 259, 263 (1999).

The January 6, 2000 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, DC
January 25, 2002

David S. Gerson
Member

Bradley T. Knott
Alternate Member

Priscilla Anne Schwab
Alternate Member