

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of ERIC J. KIDD and U.S. POSTAL SERVICE,
POST OFFICE, Akron, OH

*Docket No. 01-1325; Submitted on the Record;
Issued January 11, 2002*

DECISION and ORDER

Before WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, BRADLEY T. KNOTT,
PRISCILLA ANNE SCHWAB

The issue is whether appellant met his burden of proof to establish that he sustained a hip, knee or ankle injury in the performance of duty.

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 decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated and finalized March 13, 2001 is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.¹

¹ Appellant did not submit sufficient medical evidence to establish that he sustained an employment-related hip, knee or ankle injury in the performance of duty. He submitted a November 29, 2000 report in which Dr. Christopher J. Klonk, an attending Board-certified orthopedic surgeon, indicated that he should have a job which did not require as much weight to be placed on his ankle. This report, however, is of limited probative value on the relevant issue in this case because it does not contain a clear opinion on the cause of appellant's condition; *see Charles H. Tomaszewski*, 39 ECAB 461, 467-68 (1988) (finding that medical evidence which does not offer any opinion regarding the cause of an employee's condition is of limited probative value on the issue of causal relationship).

The March 13, 2001 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is affirmed.

Dated, Washington, DC
January 11, 2002

Willie T.C. Thomas
Member

Bradley T. Knott
Alternate Member

Priscilla Anne Schwab
Alternate Member