



for a similar condition or the same part of the body.<sup>1</sup> The Board finds that, for a full and fair adjudication, OWCP claims pertaining to appellant's neck conditions should be combined pursuant to OWCP procedures.

The case will be remanded to OWCP to combine case file numbers xxxxxx526 and xxxxxx756. Following this and such other development as deemed necessary, OWCP shall issue an appropriate merit decision on appellant's claim.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT** the April 13, 2010 Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' decision be set aside and the case remanded for further proceedings consistent with this order.

Issued: August 12, 2011  
Washington, DC

Richard J. Daschbach, Chief Judge  
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Alec J. Koromilas, Judge  
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Colleen Duffy Kiko, Judge  
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

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<sup>1</sup> Federal (FECA) Procedure Manual, Part 2 -- Claims, *File Maintenance and Management*, Chapter 2.400.8(c) (February 2000).