



part as he failed to address the reports of Drs. Valentino and Kirkpatrick. It further found that reports from Dr. Fried did not overcome the weight of other physicians from the prior claim who found no upper extremity diagnosis other than the previously accepted bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome. Cases should be combined when correct adjudication of the issues depends on frequent cross-reference between files. OWCP procedures provide for the doubling of a claim when correct adjudication of the issues depends on frequent cross-reference between files.<sup>2</sup> As assembled, the case record now before the Board does not contain the complete case file for File No. xxxxxx320. Therefore, for a full and fair adjudication, appellant's claims should be doubled. On remand OWCP shall combine File Nos. xxxxxx320 and xxxxxx446 and, following this and such other development as deemed necessary, issue an appropriate decision on her claim for compensation.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT** the May 9, 2011 Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' decision be set aside and the case remanded to OWCP for further proceedings consistent with this order of the Board.

Issued: June 12, 2012  
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>2</sup> Federal (FECA) Procedure Manual, Part 2 -- Claims, *File Maintenance & Management*, Chapter 2.400.8(c) (February 2000).