

new injury case is reported for an employee who previously filed an injury claim for a similar condition or the same part of the body, doubling is required.³ In the instant case, appellant filed a timely appeal of a December 4, 2012 decision terminating his compensation under File No. xxxxxx345 on the grounds that he no longer was disabled or had residuals due to his work-related left knee contusion, *inter alia*. Previously, he filed an occupational disease claim, assigned File No. xxxxxx382, for a condition affecting the same part of the body. In her December 4, 2012 decision, the hearing representative considered evidence from File No. xxxxxx382 and directed combining the files. In the instant appeal, for a full and fair adjudication, these two OWCP claims should be combined consistent with OWCP procedures.

On remand OWCP shall combine File Nos. xxxxxx345 and xxxxxx382 and, following this and other development deemed necessary, issue an appropriate decision.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the December 4, 2012 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs be remanded for further action consistent with this order of the Board.

Issued: August 12, 2013
Washington, DC

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

Colleen Duffy Kiko, Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Patricia Howard Fitzgerald, Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

³ *Id.* at Chapter 2.400.8(c)(1).