

rendering its final decision. Pursuant to its procedures, OWCP has determined that cases should be combined where correct adjudication depends on cross-referencing between files.¹

Because it is essential for the Board to review the medical evidence contained in File No. xxxxxx594 in order to render a full and fair adjudication of the present appeal, this case will be remanded for OWCP to consolidate case File No. xxxxxx594 with File No. xxxxxx130. Reconstruction of the record will be followed by a *de novo* decision on the merits of the claim, in order to protect appellant's appeal rights.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs May 1, 2012 decision be set aside and the case remanded for further development consistent with this order.

Issued: February 27, 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

¹ Federal (FECA) Procedure Manual, Part 2 -- Claims, *File Maintenance and Management*, Chapter 2.400.8(c) (February 2000); *D.R.*, Docket No. 12-696 (issued July 25, 2012).