

Langa, a Board-certified orthopedic surgeon, who conducted an additional second opinion examination, following which OWCP asked a new medical adviser to further evaluate the impairment. OWCP did not refer appellant to an impartial medical examiner as instructed by the Board to resolve the conflict in medical opinion evidence.²

Accordingly, there remains an unresolved conflict between appellant's treating physician, Dr. Platto, who after applying the American Medical Association, *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment*, determined that appellant had a 32 percent impairment of the left lower extremity and the opinion of the first OWCP medical adviser, who calculated an impairment rating of 17 percent of the left lower extremity.

Therefore, the Board again remands the case to OWCP to refer appellant for an impartial medical examination in order to resolve the conflict in the medical evidence. Following any necessary further development, OWCP shall issue a *de novo* decision.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated July 3, 2013 is set aside and the case is remanded for further proceedings consistent with this order of the Board.

Issued: August 22, 2014
Washington, DC

Colleen Duffy Kiko, Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Alec J. Koromilas, Alternate Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

James A. Haynes, Alternate Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

² See Federal (FECA) Procedure Manual, Part 3 -- Medical, *OWCP Directed Medical Examinations, Referee Examinations*, Chapter 3.500.4 (July 2003).