



indicates that the cases should be doubled as soon as the need to do so becomes apparent.<sup>1</sup> As OWCP based the denial of appellant's claim for a schedule award granted under File No. xxxxxx872, the Board concludes that OWCP should have doubled the case files in accordance with its procedures. As the record before the Board does not contain evidence from the prior claim referenced by OWCP, the Board is unable to properly address and adjudicate the schedule award issue. On remand, OWCP should combine the present case record, OWCP File No. xxxxxx929, with OWCP File No. xxxxxx872. After combining these case records, OWCP should consider the evidence contained in the combined case record and, following any necessary further development, issue a *de novo* decision on the issue of whether appellant is entitled to an additional schedule award. Accordingly, the January 31, 2014 decision denying appellant's claim for a schedule award should be set aside.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT** the decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated January 31, 2014 is set aside and the case remanded for further proceedings consistent with this order of the Board.

Issued: August 1, 2014  
Washington, DC

Patricia Howard Fitzgerald, Acting Chief Judge  
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Colleen Duffy Kiko, Judge  
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

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

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<sup>1</sup> Federal (FECA) Procedure Manual, Part 2 -- Claims, *Doubling Case Files*, Chapter 2.400.8(c)(1) (February 2000); *See T.M.*, Docket Nos. 09-1090 & 09-2226 (issued March 8, 2010).