

description for appellant's current position of a customer care agent. On April 24, 2013 OWCP requested that appellant submit additional factual and medical evidence in support of his claim. In an attached questionnaire for appellant's completion, it wrote, "Send a copy of the information below, concerning job activities you believe contributed to your condition, to your employer for concurrence. Send the original written statement to OWCP, along with any information requested below." There were no questions or requests for information appearing on the page below this statement.

The Board finds that OWCP insufficiently developed the factual elements of appellant's claim, such that the Board cannot render a fully informed adjudication based upon the current case record. In particular, OWCP did not send a development letter to the employing establishment requesting an employment history or a description of the duties of the position appellant alleged to cause his medical conditions. The employing establishment sent a position description for appellant's current position of a customer care agent, but did not send a position description for the relevant position of a letter carrier. OWCP's procedures indicate that a chronological employment history should be obtained from the employing establishment in occupational disease claims.² As OWCP did not seek to obtain this evidence by sending a development letter to the employing establishment, the case record is incomplete and the Board cannot render a fully informed adjudication.

As this evidence pertaining to appellant's claim is necessary for complete consideration and adjudication of the issue raised on appeal, the Board, therefore, finds that the appeal docketed as No. 14-1556 is not in posture for decision. The June 4, 2014 decision is set aside and remanded for proper development of appellant's work history and duties as a letter carrier, and, following any necessary further development, the issuance of an appropriate merit decision.

² Federal (FECA) Procedure Manual, Part 2 -- Claims, *Initial Development of Claims*, Chapter 2.800.7(b)(3) (June 2011).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the June 4, 2014 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is set aside and the case remanded for further action consistent with this order of the Board.

Issued: December 10, 2014
Washington, DC

Christopher J. Godfrey, Chief Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Patricia Howard Fitzgerald, Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Michael E. Groom, Alternate Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board