



claims pertaining to appellant's hearing loss should be combined. This will allow the Board to consider all relevant evidence in deciding appellant's claim.

The case will be remanded to OWCP to combine case files for claim numbers xxxxxx709 and xxxxxx181. Following this and such other development as deemed necessary, OWCP shall issue an appropriate merit decision on appellant's claim.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT** the October 31, 2014 decision be set aside and the matter remanded to OWCP for further proceedings consistent with this order.

Issued: July 13, 2015  
Washington, DC

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

Patricia H. Fitzgerald, Deputy Chief Judge  
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

Colleen Duffy Kiko, Judge  
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board