



The Board has duly considered the matter and concludes that the case is not in posture for decision. OWCP procedures provide that cases should be doubled when a new injury is reported for an employee who previously filed an injury claim for a similar condition and further indicates that the cases should be doubled as soon as the need to do so becomes apparent.<sup>3</sup> As OWCP has reduced the current award based on a rating she previously received for right carpal tunnel syndrome, it 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 and pertinent to her request for a schedule award for her right shoulder condition, the Board is unable to properly address and adjudicate the current schedule award issue. On remand, OWCP should combine the present case record, File No. xxxxxx728, with File No. xxxxxx112. After combining these two case records, it should consider the evidence contained in the combined case record and, following any necessary further development, issue an appropriate decision. Accordingly, the July 31, 2014 decision affirming the additional impairment of 10 percent for the right upper extremity should be set aside.

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

Issued: April 19, 2016  
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

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<sup>3</sup> Federal (FECA) Procedure Manual, Part 2 -- Claims, *Doubling Case Files*, Chapter 2.400.8(c)(1) (February 2000).