

support his claim for disability. However, by its September 21, 2016 decision, OWCP denied appellant's disability claim for the period beginning June 13, 2016 and continuing after analyzing Dr. Lackey's reports and without addressing the period of disability claimed for the year prior, *i.e.*, commencing June 13, 2015. Moreover, there is no indication in the record that it was either further developing that portion of appellant's claim, or that it planned to further develop that portion of appellant's claim.

The Board finds that by adjudicating only a portion of appellant's claim for disability, commencing June 13, 2016, as opposed to June 13, 2015, would result in piecemeal adjudication of appellant's claim. To consider appellant's appeal in piecemeal fashion, as presented to the Board, could result in further inconsistent results.¹ It is the Board's policy to avoid such an outcome.² In order to avoid piecemeal adjudication and inconsistent results, the Board will set aside OWCP's September 21, 2016 decision and remand the case to OWCP to adjudicate appellant's claim for compensation for disability commencing June 13, 2015 and continuing. Following such further development as deemed necessary, OWCP shall issue a *de novo* decision on appellant's claim for total disability. Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the September 21, 2016 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is set aside and the case is remanded for further proceedings consistent with this order of the Board.

Issued: August 15, 2018
Washington, DC

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

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

Valerie D. Evans-Harrell, Alternate Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

¹ See *A.B.*, Docket No. 17-1480 (issued June 8, 2018).

² *Id.*; see also *William T. McCracken*, 33 ECAB 1197 (1982).