

**United States Department of Labor
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board**

S.K., Appellant)	
)	
and)	Docket No. 20-1359
)	Issued: May 27, 2021
U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, RIVERDALE)	
BRANCH, Riverdale, IL, Employer)	
)	

Appearances:
Dr. Rita N. Oganwu, for the appellant¹
Office of Solicitor, for the Director

Case Submitted on the Record

ORDER DISMISSING APPEAL

Before:
ALEC J. KOROMILAS, Chief Judge
PATRICIA H. FITZGERALD, Alternate Judge
VALERIE D. EVANS-HARRELL, Alternate Judge

On June 17, 2020 appellant, through her representative, filed a timely appeal from a February 3, 2020 merit decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP). The Clerk of the Appellate Boards assigned Docket No. 20-1348.

The Board subsequently received a second copy of appellant's June 17, 2020 appeal of OWCP's February 3, 2020 decision. The Clerk of the Appellate Boards inadvertently assigned Docket No. 20-1359.

The Board has duly considered the matter and concludes that, since there are now two docket numbers assigned for a review of the same OWCP decision, one of the docket numbers should be dismissed. Since the Clerk of the Appellate Boards inadvertently assigned Docket No.

¹ In all cases in which a representative has been authorized in a matter before the Board, no claim for a fee for legal or other service performed on appeal before the Board is valid unless approved by the Board. 20 C.F.R. § 501.9(e). No contract for a stipulated fee or on a contingent fee basis will be approved by the Board. *Id.* An attorney or representative's collection of a fee without the Board's approval may constitute a misdemeanor, subject to fine or imprisonment for up to one year or both. *Id.*; *see also* 18 U.S.C. § 292. Demands for payment of fees to a representative, prior to approval by the Board, may be reported to appropriate authorities for investigation.

20-1359 to the copy of appellant's June 17, 2020 appeal request, this docket number should be dismissed. The appeal docketed as No. 20-1348 will go forward. Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the appeal docketed as No. 20-1359 is dismissed.

Issued: May 27, 2021
Washington, DC

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

Patricia H. Fitzgerald, Alternate Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

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