

management, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, (EEOC) but asserted that there was no action taken by these entities, which she felt was erroneous. She also attributed her condition to the actions of C.W., a friend of R.V. and a pharmacist, who retaliated by requiring her to repeatedly replicate medications, by blaming her for missing notes, reporting her for intoxication at work, and for mistakes in entering patient information.

On October 21, 2020 the employing establishment advised that appellant's contentions might be duplicative of her allegations made under OWCP File Nos. xxxxxx784 and xxxxxx787.

By decision dated March 2, 2022, OWCP denied appellant's emotional condition claim, finding that the evidence of record was insufficient to establish that she experienced the employment factors alleged to have caused the injury. It concluded therefore that the requirements had not been met to establish an injury as defined by FECA.

On May 9, 2022 appellant, through counsel, requested reconsideration and submitted additional factual and medical evidence.

By decision dated July 27, 2022, OWCP denied modification of its March 2, 2022 decision.

The Board has duly considered this matter and concludes that the case is not in posture for decision.

OWCP's procedures provide that cases should be administratively combined when a new injury is reported for an employee who previously filed a claim for a similar injury, and further indicates that the cases should be administratively combined as soon as the need to do so becomes apparent.²

Herein, appellant's claim under OWCP File No. xxxxxx784 also involves an emotional condition, based on allegations that she developed stress due in part to sexual harassment by R.V. Appellant also filed an occupational disease claim in OWCP File No. xxxxxx787 alleging that she developed stress due to the actions of her supervisor, and she most recently filed a traumatic injury claim in OWCP File No. xxxxxx581 alleging sexual harassment by another coworker, M.M. Therefore, for full and fair adjudication, this case must be remanded to OWCP to administratively combine OWCP File Nos. xxxxxx581, xxxxxx784, xxxxxx787, and xxxxxx840. This will allow OWCP to consider all the relevant claim files and accompanying evidence in developing appellant's current compensation claim. Following this and other such further development as deemed necessary, OWCP shall issue a *de novo* decision regarding her emotional condition claim.

² Federal (FECA) Procedure Manual, Part 2 -- Claims, *File Maintenance and Management*, Chapter 2.400.8(c)(1) (February 2000); *see Order Remanding Case, J.W.*, Docket Nos. 21-0588 & 21-0599 (issued January 21, 2022); *Order Remanding Case, R.R.*, Docket No. 20-0911 (issued October 30, 2020); *Raymond W. Thomas*, Docket No. 01-545 (issued June 25, 2002).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the July 27, 2022 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: December 5, 2023
Washington, DC

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

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

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