United States Department of Labor
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

M.D., Appellant	)	
and	)	**Docket No. 27-0015**
	)	**Issued: October 19, 2026**
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION, Providence, RI, Employer	)	

Appearances:
Appellant, pro se
Office of Solicitor, for the Director

Case Submitted on the Record

ORDER DISMISSING APPEAL

Before:
PATRICIA H. FITZGERALD, Deputy Chief Judge
JANICE B. ASKIN, Judge
VALERIE D. EVANS-HARRELL, Alternate Judge

On October 5, 2026 appellant filed an appeal from a February 14, 2025 merit decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP). The Clerk of the Appellate Boards docketed the appeal as No. 27-0015.

The Board, having duly considered this matter, notes that the Board has jurisdiction to review final adverse decisions of OWCP issued under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act.[1] For final adverse decisions of OWCP issued on or after November 19, 2008, the Board's review authority is limited to appeals which are filed within 180 days from the date of issuance of OWCP's decision.[2]

The 180th day following the February 14, 2025 decision was August 13, 2025. As appellate did not file an appeal with the Board until October 5, 2026, more than 180 days after the February 14, 2025 OWCP decision, the Board finds that the appeal docketed as No. 27-0015

[1] 5 U.S.C.§ 8101 *et seq*.; 20 C.F.R. §§ 501.2(c) and 501.3(a).

[2] 20 C.F.R. § 501.3(e) provides in pertinent part: "Any notice of appeal must be filed within 180 days from the date of issuance of a decision of the OWCP."

is untimely filed.[3] The Board is without jurisdiction to review the appeal. Appellant has not explained the failure to timely file an appeal with supporting documentation sufficient to establish compelling circumstances. Because there is no final adverse decision issued by OWCP within 180 days of the filing of the instant appeal, the Board concluded that the appeal docketed as No. 27-0015 must be dismissed.[4] Accordingly.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the appeal docketed as No. 27-0015 is dismissed.

Issued: October 19, 2026
Washington, DC

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

Janice B. Askin, Judge
Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

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

[3] 20 C.F.R. § 501.3(f) indicates that a notice of appeal is considered to have been filed only if received by the Clerk of the Appellate Boards.

[4] The Board's decisions and orders are "final upon the expiration of 30 days from the date of their issuance." 20 C.F.R. § 501.6(d).