

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

In the Matter of T.L., Appellant

and

**U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, PROCESSING &
DISTRIBUTION CENTER, New Orleans, LA,
Employer**

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**Docket No. 20-0978
Issued: July 13, 2026**

Appearances:

*Vatroslav Jacob Garbin, Esq., for the appellant
Office of Solicitor, for the Director*

Case Submitted on the Record

ORDER DENYING FEE PETITION

Before:

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

On June 17, 2004 counsel for appellant filed a fee petition in the amount of \$1,837.50.¹ The Board notes that all petitions for approval of fees for representatives' services are considered under the Board's statutory authority found at section 8127 of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act² (FECA) and under its *Rules of Procedure* found at section 501.9(e).³

As required by the Board's regulations, appellant has been afforded written notice of the fee requested and provided an opportunity to comment on the fee petition.⁴ No response was received.

¹ FECA (5 U.S.C. § 8127(b)) and its implementing regulations (20 C.F.R. § 501.9) require the Board to review each fee petition on its own merits and with regard to the unique facts and issues of each appeal.

² 5 U.S.C. § 8127.

³ 20 C.F.R. § 501.9(e).

⁴ *Id.*

By order dated May 30, 2025,⁵ the Board denied the fee petition as it failed to distinguish the services performed in connection with the present appeal before the Board from the services performed before the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP). The Board afforded counsel 60 days to resubmit the fee petition.

On July 23, 2025 counsel submitted an updated fee petition for services performed in connection with the present appeal before the Board. The petition identified \$1,837.50 in purported services performed in connection with the present appeal before the Board.

The Board, having duly considered the updated fee petition and supporting documentation, denies the fee petition. Enclosed with the updated fee petition was an itemized statement of services and corresponding fees. The itemized statement, however, still fails to adequately distinguish the services performed in connection with the present appeal before the Board from the services performed before OWCP. Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the fee petition in the amount of \$1,837.50 is denied and may be resubmitted to the Board within 60 days of the date of this order.

Issued: July 13, 2026
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

⁵ *Order Denying Fee Petition*, Docket No. 20-0978 (issued May 30, 2025).