

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

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In the Matter of SHARITA D. DUDLEY and DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS,  
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, St. Louis, MO

*Docket No. 98-578; Submitted on the Record;  
Issued December 9, 1999*

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DECISION and ORDER

Before WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, BRADLEY T. KNOTT,  
A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant has met her burden of proof to establish that her medical condition of ulnar neuropathy is causally related to the October 28, 1995 employment injury.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of the parties on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the July 9, 1997 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs hearing representative, finalized on July 9, 1997, is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.<sup>1</sup>

By letter dated July 15, 1997, appellant requested reconsideration of the Office's decision. She submitted additional evidence consisting of a letter she wrote dated July 26, 1997 to the Office's Branch of Hearings and Review explaining the nature of her work and the circumstances of the October 28, 1985 injury, a letter from her attorney dated July 7, 1997 to the Branch responding to the employing establishment's memorandum from Patricia Onanian dated June 12, 1997 in which he addressed some of Ms. Onanian's comments regarding appellant's activities outside work and her work restrictions, and a memorandum from appellant on a government form dated February 7, 1996 describing the patient who struck her and the October 28, 1995 incident.

By decision dated November 25, 1997, the Office denied appellant's request for modification.

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<sup>1</sup> The medical evidence appellant submitted from Dr. J. Visconti and Dr. David C. Crafts, a Board-certified neurological surgeon, did not contain a medical rationale explaining that appellant's ulnar neuropathy was caused by the October 28, 1995 employment injury, particularly when appellant had preexisting ulnar neuropathy; *see Diane Williams*, 47 ECAB 613, 616 (1996).

Appellant did not submit any medical evidence in support of her request for reconsideration and therefore the evidence she submitted was not probative on causal relationship.<sup>2</sup> She therefore did not submit evidence sufficient to establish her claim.

The decisions of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated November 25 and July 9, 1997 are hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C.  
December 9, 1999

Willie T.C. Thomas  
Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott  
Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski  
Alternate Member

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<sup>2</sup> See *Cheryl L. Veale*, 47 ECAB 607, 608 (1996).