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**GAO**

United States General Accounting Office  
Washington, DC 20548

Office of  
General Counsel

In Reply  
Refer to: B-199468 (MRV)

August 11, 1980

Mr. Shelby W. Hollin  
Attorney at Law  
7710 Stagecoach  
San Antonio, Texas 78227

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Dear Mr. Hollin:

Reference is made to your recent letters requesting reconsideration of our Claims Division's denial of the claim of Ms. Mary K. Hatler for attorney fees (Claim No. Z-2822004). Since your request constitutes an appeal from a prior determination by our Claims Division, this case has been referred to this Office for review.

This claim is for attorney fees under the authority of the Back Pay Act of 1966, 5 U.S.C. § 5596, as amended by the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) recently issued proposed regulations to implement these amendments to the Back Pay Act, and these proposed regulations appear in 45 Fed. Reg. 7263 (February 1, 1980). Since this claim appears to fall within the scope of these regulations, we intend to hold this claim in abeyance until final regulations are issued by OPM. At that time we will consider the matter further and advise you of our decision as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,



Michael R. Volpe  
Attorney-Adviser

