July 10, 2014

CBCA 3801-RELO

In the Matter of FRANK E. SOTO

Frank E. Soto, Fort Worth, TX, Claimant.

Alvin C. W. Ellis, Logistics Activity, Army Corps of Engineers, Millington, TN, appearing for Department of the Army.

VERGILIO, Board Judge.

The claimant disputes the agency's classification of and refusal to pay for the relocation and storage of a travel trailer (camper). By definition, the camper is excluded from household goods. The agency correctly has determined that it cannot pay for the shipment, transportation, or storage of the item.

Pursuant to permanent change of station orders, the claimant, Frank E. Soto, a civilian employee of the Army, is relocating within the contiguous United States, with a reporting date of August 20, 2014. He takes issue with the agency not authorizing payment for the shipment, transportation, or storage of what he describes as a travel trailer used for camping only, and as a fifth wheel travel trailer. This is a non-self-propelled recreational vehicle pulled by or attached to a motor vehicle.

The current Federal Travel Regulation (FTR) and the Joint Travel Regulations (JTR) define household goods (HHG) as including all personal effects belonging to an employee, but specifically excluding mobile homes and camper trailers. 48 CFR 300-3.1 (2013); JTR app. A1. Because the claimant's non-self-propelled item is excluded from the definition of household goods, the claimant lacks entitlement under statute, 5 U.S.C. § 5724 (2012), and regulation, to payment for the shipment, transportation, or storage of the item.

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The Board upholds the agency's determination and denies the claimant's requested relief.

JOSEPH A. VERGILIO

Board Judge