

In the United States Court of Federal Claims
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS
No. 13-73V
(Not to be published)

██████████,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

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Filed: January 14, 2015

Decision by Stipulation; Damages;
Influenza (“Flu”) Vaccine;
Guillain-Barré Syndrome (“GBS”)

Isaiah Richard Kalinowski, Maglio Christopher and Toale, PA (DC), for Petitioner.

Claudia Barnes Gangi, U.S. Dep’t of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

On January 29, 2013, Petitioner ██████████ filed a petition seeking compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (“the Vaccine Program”).² Petitioner

¹ Because this decision contains a reasoned explanation for my action in this case, I will post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, § 205, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (codified as amended at 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2006)). As provided by 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B), however, the parties may object to the posted decision’s inclusion of certain kinds of confidential information. Specifically, under Vaccine Rule 18(b), each party has 14 days within which to request redaction “of any information furnished by that party: (1) that is a trade secret or commercial or financial in substance and is privileged or confidential; or (2) that includes medical files or similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy.” Vaccine Rule 18(b). Otherwise, the whole decision will be available to the public. (*Id.*)

² The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program is set forth in Part 2 of the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755, codified as amended, 42 U.S.C.A. § 300aa-10-§ 300aa-34 (West 1991 & Supp. 2002). All citations in this decision to individual sections of the Vaccine Act are to 42 U.S.C.A. § 300aa.

alleges that he suffered Guillain-Barré syndrome (“GBS”) and related complications as a result of receiving an influenza (“flu”) vaccine.

Respondent denies that Petitioner’s GBS and any related medical problems were caused by the receipt of the flu vaccine. Nonetheless both parties, while maintaining their above-stated positions, agreed in a stipulation filed January 13, 2015 that the issues before them can be settled and that a decision should be entered awarding Petitioner compensation.

I have reviewed the file, and based upon that review, I conclude that the parties’ stipulation is reasonable. I therefore adopt it as my decision in awarding damages on the terms set forth therein.

The stipulation awards:

- a. A lump sum of \$234,501.30 in the form of a check payable to petitioner. This amount represents compensation for first year life care expenses (\$75,740.00), pain and suffering (\$150,000.00), and past unreimbursable expenses (\$8,761.30); and
- b. An amount sufficient to purchase the annuity contract (which beginning on the first anniversary of the date of judgment will pay an annual amount of \$49,640.00 to the Petitioner for the remainder of Petitioner’s life, increasing at the rate of three percent (3%), compounded annually from the date of judgment), paid to the life insurance company from which the annuity will be purchased.

Stipulation ¶¶ 8 and 10.

I approve a Vaccine Program award in the requested amount set forth above to be made to Petitioner. In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC Appendix B, the clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment herewith.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/ Brian H. Corcoran
Brian H. Corcoran
Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), the parties may expedite entry of judgment by jointly filing notice renouncing their right to seek review.