

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 09-670V

Filed: March 12, 2012

JESSICA JONES,	)	
	)	NOT TO BE PUBLISHED
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
v.	)	Stipulation; influenza (flu) vaccine;
	)	syncope; allergic reaction; orthostatic
SECRETARY OF	)	hypotension
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

David C. Richards, Christensen and Jensen, P.C., Salt Lake City, UT, for Petitioner;  
Heather L. Pearlman, United States Dep't of Justice, Washington, D.C., for Respondent.

### **DECISION**<sup>1</sup>

**LORD**, Special Master.

On March 5, 2012, the parties in the above-captioned case filed a Stipulation memorializing their agreement as to the appropriate amount of compensation in this case. Jessica Jones, Petitioner, alleges that she suffered injuries related to her receipt of the influenza ("flu") vaccine on October 10, 2006, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table, 42 C.F.R § 100.3(a). Specifically, Petitioner alleges that she suffered syncope, allergic reaction, and symptoms of orthostatic hypotension as a result of the October 10, 2006, flu immunization. Petitioner further alleges that she experienced residual effects of these injuries for more than six months. Petitioner seeks compensation related to these injuries pursuant to the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10 to 34.

Respondent denies that the flu vaccine caused Petitioner to suffer syncope, allergic reaction, and symptoms of orthostatic hypotension, or any other injury that was caused-in-fact by the influenza vaccine. Respondent further denies that her current condition is a sequela of any alleged vaccine-related injury. Nonetheless, the parties have agreed informally to resolve this matter.

<sup>1</sup> In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to file a proper motion seeking redaction of medical or other information that satisfies the criteria in 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B). Redactions ordered by the special master, if any, will appear in the document as posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website.

The Court hereby ADOPTS the parties' said Stipulation, attached hereto as Appendix A, and awards compensation in the amount and on the terms set forth therein. Specifically, Petitioners are awarded:

**A lump sum of \$40,000.00, in the form of a check payable to Petitioner, Jessica Jones,** which amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

The Court thanks the parties for their cooperative efforts in resolving this matter. In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC, Appendix B, the Clerk is directed to enter judgment accordingly.<sup>2</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

s/Dee Lord  
Dee Lord  
Special Master

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<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), the parties can expedite entry of judgment by each party filing a notice renouncing the right to seek review by a United States Court of Federal Claims judge.

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

_____	)	
JESSICA JONES,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
v.	)	No. 09-670V
	)	Special Master Sandra Dee Lord
SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND	)	ECF
HUMAN SERVICES	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	
_____	)	

STIPULATION

The parties hereby stipulate to the following matters:

1. Jessica Jones ("petitioner") filed a petition for vaccine compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10 to 34 (the "Vaccine Program"). The petition seeks compensation for injuries allegedly related to her receipt of an influenza vaccine, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the "Table"), 42 C.F.R. § 100.3 (a).
2. Petitioner received her influenza immunization on October 10, 2006.
3. The vaccine was administered within the United States.
4. Petitioner alleges that she suffered syncope, allergic reaction, and symptoms of orthostatic hypotension as a result of her October 10, 2006, influenza vaccination. Petitioner further alleges that she experienced residual effects of these injuries for more than six months.
5. Petitioner represents that there has been no prior award or settlement of a civil action for damages as a result of her condition.
6. Respondent denies that petitioner suffered syncope, allergic reaction, symptoms of

orthostatic hypotension, or any other injury that was caused-in-fact by the influenza vaccine, and denies that her current condition is a sequela of any alleged vaccine-related injury.

7. Maintaining their above-stated positions, the parties nevertheless now agree that the issues between them shall be settled and that a decision should be entered awarding the compensation described in paragraph 8 of this Stipulation.

8. As soon as practicable after an entry of judgment reflecting a decision consistent with the terms of this Stipulation, and after petitioner has filed an election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), the Secretary of Health and Human Services will issue a lump sum payment of \$40,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available to petitioner under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

9. As soon as practicable after the entry of judgment on entitlement in this case, and after petitioner has filed both a proper and timely election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), and an application, the parties will submit to further proceedings before the special master to award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in proceeding upon this petition.

10. Petitioner and her attorney represent that they have identified to respondent all known sources of payment for items or services for which the Program is not primarily liable under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g), including State compensation programs, insurance policies, Federal or State health benefits programs (other than Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.)), or by entities that provide health services on a pre-paid basis.

11. Payment made pursuant to paragraph 8, and any amounts awarded pursuant to

paragraph 9 of this Stipulation will be made in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(i), subject to the availability of sufficient statutory funds.

12. The parties and their attorneys further agree and stipulate that, except for any award for attorneys' fees and litigation costs, the money provided pursuant to this Stipulation will be used solely for the benefit of petitioner as contemplated by a strict construction of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) and (d), and subject to the conditions of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g) and (h).

13. In return for the payments described in paragraphs 8 and 9, petitioner, on her own behalf and on behalf of her heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, does forever irrevocably and unconditionally release, acquit and discharge the United States and the Secretary of Health and Human Services from any and all actions or causes of action (including agreements, judgments, claims, damages, loss of services, expenses and all demands of whatever kind or nature) that have been brought, could have been brought, or could be timely brought in the Court of Federal Claims, under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-10 et seq., on account of, or in any way growing out of, any and all known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected personal injuries to or death of petitioner resulting from, or alleged to have resulted from, the influenza vaccination administered on October 10, 2006, as alleged by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about October 7, 2009, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 09-670V.

14. If petitioner should die prior to entry of judgment, this agreement shall be voidable upon proper notice to the Court on behalf of either or both of the parties.

15. If the special master fails to issue a decision in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation or if the Court of Federal Claims fails to enter judgment in conformity with a

decision that is in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation, then the parties' settlement and this Stipulation shall be voidable at the sole discretion of either party.

16. This Stipulation expresses a full and complete negotiated settlement of liability and damages claimed under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, as amended, except as otherwise noted in paragraph 9 above. There is absolutely no agreement on the part of the parties hereto to make any payment or to do any act or thing other than is herein expressly stated and clearly agreed to. The parties further agree and understand that the award described in this Stipulation may reflect a compromise of the parties' respective positions as to liability and/or amount of damages, and further, that a change in the nature of the injury or condition or in the items of compensation sought, is not grounds to modify or revise this agreement.

17. This Stipulation shall not be construed as an admission by the United States or the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the influenza vaccination caused her syncope, allergic reaction, orthostatic hypotension, or any other alleged injury or current condition.

18. All rights and obligations of petitioner hereunder shall apply equally to petitioner's heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and/or assigns.

END OF STIPULATION

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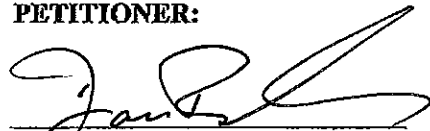
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Respectfully submitted,


**PETITIONER:**

  
JESSICA JONES


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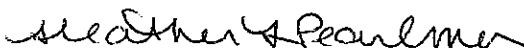
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Dated: 03/05/12