

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

CAROL BRANDT, *
 *
 Petitioner, *
 *
 v. *
 *
 SECRETARY OF HEALTH *
 AND HUMAN SERVICES, *
 *
 Respondent. *

No. 07-697V
Special Master Christian J. Moran
Filed: September 20, 2010
Stipulation; trivalent influenza vaccine; Guillain-Barré Syndrome

UNPUBLISHED DECISION¹

Scott W. Rooney, Esq., Nemes Rooney and McKindles, Farmington Hills, MI, for Petitioner;
Ryan D. Pyles, Esq., U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., for Respondent.

On September 15, 2010, the parties filed a joint stipulation concerning the petition for compensation filed by Carol Brandt on September 27, 2007. In her petition, Ms. Brandt alleged that the trivalent influenza (“flu”) vaccine, which is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table, 42 C.F.R. §100.3(a), and which Ms. Brandt received on or about November 7, 2006, caused her to develop Guillain-Barré Syndrome (“GBS”), the effects of which have occurred for more than six months.

Respondent denies that the flu immunization is the cause of petitioner’s alleged GBS and/or any other injury.

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the special master's action in this case, the special master intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims's website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (Dec. 17, 2002).

All decisions of the special masters will be made available to the public unless they contain trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged and confidential, or medical or similar information whose disclosure would clearly be an unwarranted invasion of privacy. When such a decision or designated substantive order is filed, the person submitting the information has 14 days to identify and to move to delete such information before the document’s disclosure. If the special master agrees that the identified material fits within the categories listed above, the special master shall redact such material from public access. 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B); Vaccine Rule 18(b).

Nevertheless, the parties agree to the joint stipulation, attached hereto as Appendix A. The undersigned finds said stipulation reasonable and adopts it as the decision of the Court in awarding damages, on the terms set forth therein.

Damages awarded in that stipulation include:

- A. **A lump sum payment of \$650,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner. Except as provided in paragraph (B) below, this amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. §300aa-15(a);**

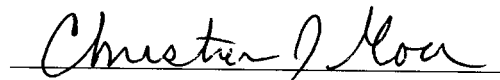
- B. **A lump sum payment of \$119,899.08, which represents compensation for reimbursement of the state's Medicaid lien, in the form of a check payable jointly to petitioner and State of Michigan, Michigan Department of Community Health, P.O. Box 30053, Lansing, Michigan 48909, ATTN: Amanda George; and**

- C. **A lump sum payment of \$17,676.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner and petitioner's attorney, Scott Rooney, Esq., for attorneys' fees and costs available under 42 U.S.C. §300aa-15(e). In compliance with General Order #9, petitioner incurred no out-of-pocket litigation expenses in proceeding on the petition.**

In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC, Appendix B, the clerk is directed to enter judgment in case 07-697V according to this decision and the attached stipulation.

Any questions may be directed to my law clerk, Jennifer C. Chapman, at (202) 357-6358.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Christian J. Moran

Special Master

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

CAROL BRANDT,)
)
Petitioner,)
)
v.)
)
SECRETARY OF HEALTH)
AND HUMAN SERVICES,)
)
Respondent.)
_____)

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U.S. COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

No. 07-697V
Special Master Christian J. Moran

STIPULATION

The parties hereby stipulate to the following matters:

1. Petitioner Carol Brandt (“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 petitioner’s receipt of the trivalent influenza (“flu”) vaccine, which vaccine is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the “Table”), 42 C.F.R. § 100.3 (a).
2. Petitioner received a flu vaccine on or about November 7, 2006.
3. The vaccine was administered within the United States.
4. Petitioner alleges that the flu vaccine caused her to develop Guillain-Barré Syndrome (“GBS”) and that she experienced residual effects of this injury 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 flu immunization is the cause of petitioner’s alleged GBS

and/or any other 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 the following vaccine compensation payments:

a. A lump sum of **\$650,000.00** in the form of a check payable to petitioner. Except as provided in paragraph 8(b) below, this amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. §300aa-15(a);

b. A lump sum of **\$119,899.08**, which amount represents compensation for reimbursement of the state's Medicaid lien, in the form of a check payable jointly to petitioner and State of Michigan, Michigan Department of Community Health, P.O. Box 30053, Lansing, Michigan 48909, ATTN: Amanda George; and

c. A lump sum of **\$17,676.00** in the form of a check payable to petitioner and petitioner's attorney, Scott Rooney, Esq., for attorneys' fees and costs available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(e). In compliance with General Order #9, petitioner incurred no out-of-pocket litigation expenses in proceeding on the petition.

9. 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 entities that provide health services on a pre-paid basis.

10. Payments made pursuant to paragraph 8 of this Stipulation will be made in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(i), subject to the availability of sufficient statutory funds.

11. The parties and their attorneys further agree and stipulate that, except for any award for attorneys' fees and litigation costs and past unreimbursable expenses, 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).

12. In return for the payments described in paragraph 8, petitioner, on behalf of herself and 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. § 300 aa-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 flu vaccination administered on November 7, 2006, as alleged by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about September 27, 2007, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 07-697V.

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

14. 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.

15. 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. 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.

16. This Stipulation shall not be construed as an admission by the United States or the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the flu vaccine caused petitioner's alleged GBS and/or any other injury.

17. 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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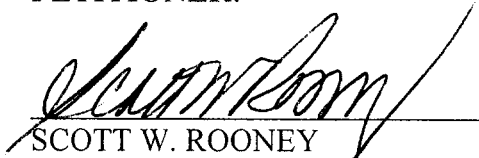
Respectfully submitted,

PETITIONER:



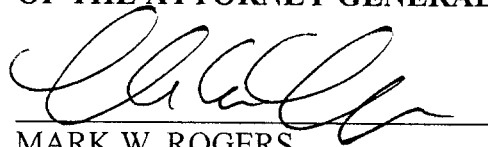
CAROL BRANDT

**ATTORNEY OF RECORD FOR
PETITIONER:**



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DATED: September 15, 2010